

- Joshua 3:1 And Joshua rose early in the morning; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.
- 2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host;
- And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.
- Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed *this* way heretofore.
- And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.
- And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people. And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people.

Joshua 3:14 And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;

- 15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,)
 16 That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.
- 17 And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

I. 3:1-13 **WE NEED TO EXAMINE A MESSAGE**

A. V. 3-4 It Involved A Challenge

Josh. 3:3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.

4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed *this* way heretofore.

B. V. 5 It Involved A Command

<u>Josh. 3:5</u> And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

Gal. 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Heb. 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

- 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?
- **8** But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.
- **9** Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?
- **10** For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure; but he for *our* profit, that *we* might be partakers of his holiness.
- **11** Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

1 Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

C. V. 9-13 It Involved A Commitment

Joshua 3:9 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God.

- **10** And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and *that* he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.
- **11** Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.
- **12** Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man.
- **13** And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, *that* the waters of Jordan shall be cut off *from* the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.

Matt. 6:34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.

- Matt. 6:25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye
- **27** Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

not much better than they?

- **28** And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:
- **29** And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
- **30** Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

- **31** Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?
- **32** (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.
- **33** But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Phil. 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Heb. 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

<u>Phil. 4:6</u> Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

"The just shall live by faith", Rom. 1:17;

"Whatsoever is not of faith is sin", Rom 14:23;

"Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith", Matt. 8:26.

II. 3:14-17 WE NEED TO EXPECT A MIRACLE

A. V. 15b There Was A Problem -

<u>Josh. 3:15</u> And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,)

B. V. 15 There Was A Plan -

Eph. 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

C. V. 16-17 There Was A Performance

Josh. 3:16 That the waters which came down from above stood *and* rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that *is* beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, *even* the salt sea, failed, *and* were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.

17 And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

III. 4:1-24 WE NEED TO ERECT A MEMORIAL

A. V, 6-7; 21-24 The Purpose Of The Memorial

Josh. 4:6 That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?

7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

<u>Josh. 4:21</u> And he spake unto the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What *mean* these stones?

- **22** Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land.
- 23 For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over:
- **24** That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the LORD, that it *is* mighty: that ye might fear the LORD your God for ever.

B. V. 9, 20 The Picture In The Memorial

<u>Josh. 4:9</u> And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood: and they are there unto this day.

<u>Josh 4:20</u> And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal.

1. V. 20 A Picture Of The Faithfulness Of God

2. V. 9 A Picture Of The Faith Of The People