I've known people that thought that somehow they had walked beyond God's grace. It's a wonderful thing to know that He reaches us no matter where we go and His love reaches for us. His hand is extended.
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Prayer Study #506

JOSHUA: A TYPE OF THE ENDTIME MIGHTY WARRIOR

BACKGROUND

1. We first meet Joshua at the Battle of the Israelites against the Amalekites. Exodus 17:9-10a: *And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand. So Joshua did as Moses said to him and fought with Amalek.* Joshua has been called the first soldier consecrated or commissioned by the Lord. As a military leader, he knew how to plan campaigns and discipline and get ready his forces, but at the same time pray and trust in God. Amalek represents the flesh nature, and Joshua defeated Amalek or the flesh nature.
   The Application: We need Joshua's today who can lead the Body of Christ and its individual members and win in warfare the battle against the flesh nature.

2. Joshua was born a slave in Egypt but became a conqueror in Canaan. His name was Hoshea, which means *salvation,* but Moses changed his name to Yehoshua or *Yahweh is salvation.* This in the Hebrew became Joshua and in the Greek Jesous or, as we know Him, Jesus. Thus, Joshua is a type of Christ as the Captain of the Lord's Host or Mighty Warrior. Hebrews 2:9-10: *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captian of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*
   The Application: There is salvation in no other name except Jesus. All other ways are false. Acts 4:10-12: … *let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead by Him this man stands here before you whole. This is the stone which*

was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone. Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. He came to set the captives free (Luke 4:18) from slavery of all kinds and made us more than conquerors (Romans 8:37).

3. As a servant, Joshua had unswerving loyalty and devotion to Moses, God's appointed leader, and he stayed and waited for 40 days at the foot of the mountain when Moses went up to receive the 10 commandments and all the instructions of the tabernacle, the priests' clothing, and the Law. Joshua is called *"the servant of God."*
   The Application: The Lord prepares you for His service and most of the time this involves submitting yourself to and watching the leadership.

4. Joshua replaces Moses. Deuteronomy 34:9: *Now Joshua, the son of Nunm was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him: so the children of Israel heeded to him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.*
   The Application: The impartation of many spiritual gifts-in this case the spirit of wisdom-comes through the laying on of hands by the leadership or the elders.

5. But Joshua is *commissioned* by God. Joshua 1:1-3: *After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua, the son of Nun, Moses assistant, saying, "Moses, My servant, is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and ll this people, in the land which I am giving to them-the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.*
   The Application: You are not "*Mama called* or *Baptist bred."* God Himself is the One who calls and commissions you for divine service.

ARE YOU CONTENT TO STAY IN SHITTIM OR DO YOU WANT TO FOLLOW JOSHUA TO GILGAL?

Joshua 3:1-16: ***3*** *Joshua rose early in the morning and they removed from Shittim and came to the Jordan, he and all the Israelites, and lodged there before passing over.*
2 *After three days the officers went through the camp,*
3 *Commanding the people: When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God being borne by the Levitical priests, set out from where you are and follow it.*
4 *Yet a space must be kept between you and it, about 2,000 cubits by measure; come not near it, that you may [be able to see the ark and] know the way you must go, for you have not passed this way before.*
5 *And Joshua said to the people, Sanctify yourselves [that is, separate yourselves for a special holy purpose], for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.*
6 *Joshua said to the priests, Take up the ark of the covenant and pass over before the people. And they took it up and went on before the people.*
7 *The Lord said to Joshua, This day I will begin to magnify you in the sight of all Israel, so they may know that as I was with Moses, so I will be with you.*
8 *You shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.*
9 *Joshua said to the Israelites, Come near, hear the words of the Lord your God.*

10 *Joshua said, Hereby you shall know that the living God is among you and that He will surely drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites.*
11 *Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is passing over before you into the Jordan!*
12 *So now take twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe.*
13 *When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the Lord of all the earth shall rest in the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan coming down from above shall be cut off and they shall stand in one heap.*
14 *So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan, with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people,*
15 *And when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were in the brink of the water—for the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest—*
16 *Then the waters which came down from above stood and rose up in a heap far off, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt [Dead] Sea, were wholly cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho.*

FOUR TYPES OF BELIEVERS BASED ON THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL IN EXODUS AND JOSHUA

1. **<u>THOSE WHO WANT TO GO BACK TO EGYPT:</u>**
   "I am the LORD thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage." Deuteronomy 5:6 KJV

   The Israelites said to them [Moses and Aaron] *"If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."* Exodus 16:3 NIV

2. **<u>THOSE STILL WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS:</u>**
   A trip that should have taken a few weeks took 40 years plus the lives of an entire generation (with the exception of Joshua and Caleb) because of murmuring and complaining, rebellion against authority, and lack of faith and unbelief.
   - **A. Murmuring and Complaining:** *And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD and the LORD heard it, and His anger kindled; and the fire of the LORD burned among them and consumed those who were in the farthest part of the camp.* Numbers 11:1
     1. Bitter waters of Marah: Moses threw the tree into the waters making them sweet.
     2. Hunger: God sent manna.
     3. Water: Moses smites the rock.
     4. God's time was not the people's time: Moses did not immediately come back from Sinai so Aaron made a golden calf for the people to worship.
     5. People wanted flesh to eat. God sent quail.
     6. Aaron and Miriam spoke against Moses because he had married an Ethiopian: Moses' sister Miriam

was inflicted with leprosy but later forgiven and restored.

B. Rebelling against Authority:

1. The people disobeyed Moses and left the Manna for the morning, and it bred worms and became odious and the sun melted it. Manna types the Word. You cannot live on past experiences with Jesus, and you must be daily Bible readers.
2. God speaks the 10 commandments through Moses before the tablets of stone were given and then specifically tells them, "You shall not make anything to be with Me-gods of silver or gods of gold you shall not make for yourselves" (Exodus 20:23). Aaron, the high priest, at the people's urging made the golden calf.
3. Korah, Dathan, and Abiram did not like the way Moses was doing things and felt they were entitled to be leaders. The Lord swallowed, in the earth, them and all the men who followed the (Numbers 16).

C. Lacking in Faith and Walking in Unbelief: Ten spies walked in fear and wanted to stone the leaders because the leaders were urging them to go in and possess the land. God had repeatedly told the Israelites to go in and possess the land. Only Caleb and Joshua walked by faith and said, "We can do it with the Lord on our side." The Lord is so angry that He threatens to destroy the people, but Moses intercedes and begs for mercy. The Lord pardons but says all those 20 years or older will not go into the Promised Land except for Caleb and Joshua.

4. <u>THOSE WHO WILL RECEIVE THEIR INHERITANCE ON THE WILDERNESS SIDE OF THE JORDAN:</u> These represent

Carnal Christians who are not open to the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

A. Reubenites: Reuben was the first born and should have had the birthright inheritance, but he committed adultery with his father's concubine. Thus, his problem was LUST. This kept him out of the Promised Land.

B. Gadites: Gad was always fighting and striving. Thus, his problem was DISUNITY.

C. ½ Manasseh's tribe: They were half Hebrew and half Egyptian. These are lukewarm Christians. Their problem was COMPROMISE with the world. They believe in Jesus, but many of them typically don't believe Jesus is the only way, and they don't believe in the inerrancy of the scripture and have little devotional life, rarely praying or reading the Word or fellowshipping with believers.

5. **<u>THOSE WHO HAVE OR WILL CROSS THE JORDAN:</u>**

The Jordan River types a division between the Carnal Christian life and the Spirit-filled Christian life, between wandering with murmuring and complaining in the Wilderness, where we are so vulnerable to the temptations of the enemy, to entering a new way of living in a land flowing with milk (foundational truths of the Word of God) and honey (sweet revelation from the Word-Psalm 119:7-11 and Revelations 10:9-10). As you recall, it is with the Word of God (the Rhema of Ephesians 6:17, i.e. the individual scripture which the Spirit brings to our remembrance for use in time of need) that we defeat the power of the enemy and live in victory over the kingdom of darkness.

The first act of Joshua in the Promised Land after crossing the Jordan was circumcising all the

males. This represents a cutting away of the flesh nature and is painful.

Also, we are called to slay the giants. It becomes a subtle shift between living in defeat because of bondage to sin to becoming a threat to the kingdom of darkness and thus being on the enemy's hit list. The desire to pray and the power in prayer is greatly accelerated when we pray under the leadership and in the power of the Holy Spirit, when we have crossed the Jordan and begin to pray His Word and His Will. Previously, as Carnal Christians, we figuratively fought the enemy with muskets and bayonets. When we have a "Crossing the Jordan" experience, we fight him with atomic bombs, that is, with the Power of the Holy Spirit working in us.

WHAT IS HOLDING US BACK FROM CROSSING THE JORDAN AND GOING ALL THE WAY WITH JESUS?

1. **We are spiritually asleep.** *Therefore, He says, "Awake you who sleep. Arise from the dead And Christ shall give thee light"* (Ephesians 5:14). *And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed* (Romans 13:11). *When He rose up from prayer and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow* (Luke 22:45).
2. **We won't let go of the past**. *Remember not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert* (Isaiah 43:18-19).

And Jesus said to him, ***"No man, having put his hand to the plow and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God"*** (Luke 9:62).

3. **We refuse to forgive.** *Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another. If anyone has a complaint against another, even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do* (Colossians 3:12-13).

   "And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses" (Mark 11:25-26).

HOW DO WE BREAK THESE BARRIERS THAT KEEP US FROM CROSSING THE JORDAN?

1. **We take care of the three areas mentioned above.**
2. **We die-die to our flesh nature, our egos, our pride, and are even willing to die physically to overcome the accuser of the brethren:** *Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation and strength and the kingdom of our God and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death* (Revelation 12:10-11).
3. **We rediscover the power of praise.** Praise is a cycle:
   a. **We put on the garment of praise:** Put on the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness (remember why the disciples were sleeping in the garden?)-*To appoint unto those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes,*

the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they might be called the trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He might be glorified (Isaiah 61:3). *By Him, therefore, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name* (Hebrews 13:15).

b. **He inhabits the praises of His people:** *But you are holy, O You who inhabits the praises of Israel* (Psalm 22:3).
c. **He lives in the praises of His people and in His presence is fullness of joy:** *You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore* (Psalm 16:11).
d. **We experience this joy and it becomes our strength to fight against the power of the wicked one and his demonic hordes:** *…Neither be ye grieved; for the joy of the LORD is your strength* (Nehemiah 8:10b).

4. **We rise up and ask the Lord to clothe us with His glory:** *Arise, shine: For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you* (Isaiah 60:1-2).

When His wounded hands touch mine
When His wounded hands touch mine
He doth strength impart to my fainting heart
When His wounded hands touch mine.