

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries 5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

# Joshua Lesson 3 – Spiritual rest

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Moses represents the Law. Joshua represents the Spirit. The Law cannot get you into spiritual rest (Hebrews 4:1). The Law can govern you; it can control you; it can curb your appetites, emotions – it cannot give you rest. It will take Jesus to give you rest.

Turn to Hebrews 3:17-19 But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcases fell in the wilderness? (You understand the context of where we are? God was grieved with this generation that died short of the Promised Land.) 18 And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. Now are they redeemed by blood? Yes. They believed for that. Are they out of Egypt? Yes. They believed for that. But they did not believe for the life of rest. You have to believe that too. Not to get to heaven, but to enjoy the trip.

Chapter Hebrews 4:1-4. Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. 3 For we which have believed do enter into rest... This is not salvation this is something for the believer to enter into. Are you saved resting in the word of God or wrestling against the word of God?

Typical man: "I do not have to keep the ten commandments — I am not under the Law, I do not have to…" "You are fighting. You are striving." The Bible says if you know the Lord love the Lord, His commandments are not grievous. I do not find it a cruel thing for God to tell me *not to commit adultery*. "…let him that stole, steel no more." "Thank you Lord, I appreciate the instruction." I'm not hearing it from anybody else."

The Bible says in verse 3, For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, it they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. God made the way, you just have to lay hold on it. 4 For he spake in a certain place on the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. Has God done anything lately? On that seventh day, did all the animals go hungry, did the sun fall out of the sky, are all things held together by the word of His power, does He feed the beasts every morning, does He attend the funeral of every sparrow? God is not striving in labor; all that He is doing is a perfect delight an enjoyment of what He had made. That is what God wants for us.

It does not matter what job and title you hold if you are in love with the Lord walking with Jesus, you can find pleasure in that labor and that work. If



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you have the best job in the world with the best pay even the best working conditions if your heart is not right with the Lord – it is a curse.

Lucifer had everything except one thing of that he wanted, God's throne. Eve had everything but one thing the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you had the whole world and someone else had one more material thing than you, you would want that too, and still not be satisfied. If you do not believe, peek in on a child daycare see all the toys, hundreds of toys but you will see two children arguing over the same toy. "I want it... I want it..." That is the natural man.

Hebrews 4:5-9. And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest. 6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: 7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. [Now watch.] 8 For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. Do you know what that references to? It is Joshua. Jesus and Joshua are the same name. An Old Testament spelling in the Hebrew language; a New Testament spelling in the Greek language – it is the same name. The book of Hebrews is giving you the spiritual truth from the Old Testament history. Moses and the Law cannot get you into the spiritually minded life. Jesus is going to have to get you there. It will take Jesus Christ to give you rest.

If you are truly in love with Jesus, He could ask anything from you and your replies would be "is there anything else I can do for you Lord?" You watch a church members whose coming to church and reading their Bible because they have to and one whom is doing it because they love their Saviour. The latter is enjoying the experience the first is not. You cannot make any task enjoyable to somebody who despises the boss, despises mom and dad, despises God's commandments; or fun enough, or the reward will be enough...

Carnal Man: "Yeah, I'm serving Jesus... Lookin for that big reward in Heaven where I get a new body and a Mansion cause it is not turning out so good down here..."

Spiritual Man: "Reward? What do you mean reward? He washed my sins away with His precious blood. He is giving me a crown that I get to give back to Him, what do I need a Mansion for? I will take a refrigerator box just so I can be near Him. I am happy to serve."

Stephen is preaching in Acts 7:39-45 They wanted to be back in Egypt. They ask Aaron for a golden calf. They make the calf. Verse 42 *Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices* 



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by the space of forty years in the wilderness? 43 Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon. 44 Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as he had appointed, speaking unto Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had seen. 45 Which also our fathers that came after (after Moses) brought in with <u>Jesus</u> into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drave out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David;

Now who is that? It is Joshua leading the people into the Promised Land and delivering them from their enemies. The Holy Spirit uses the name Jesus so you can get it right from the start. The Lord says I not only want to save you from your sin, I want to give you rest. I want you to fight, struggle, battle, labor, work **without** toil, **without** sweat, **without** hardship, **without** complaint because you are just enjoying my leadership and my control. That is what God wants for us.

The Promised Land in the book of Joshua is not heaven. It's actually being able to keep God's commandments while obeying God's statutes and live by God's word without feeling imposed upon.

Philippians 3:8. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ. That is a great verse. But I do not know if I lost everything that it would not bother me. "Well, they are just things" What if it was your reputation? Paul had quite a reputation — reading Philippians 3 — he was a prominent man amongst the Jews. He gave it all up and said, "I do not miss it a bit. I am getting closer to Jesus."

Philippians 3:9-11, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the Law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: [Now watch.] 10 That I may know him Is not Paul saved? Yes! Now, he knows by virtue of his new birth, he is going to heaven, but he is not content with just going to heaven. He wants an intimate relationship with the one who saved him and he wants it now. "I am going to meet the Lord someday" – how about now? How about a relationship with Him now? That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. What does Paul want? He wants days of heaven upon earth. He wants the resurrection life that is promised him after death delivered to him prior to death. Paul looks at his life and he says, "If that has nothing to do with heaven, I can do without it now. If that is not going to bring praise to the Lord in glory, I can do without it." This is the relationship that God wants, with us now.



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Every time we try dealing with these types of subjects, all we get is confusion, the reason we get confusion is because the carnal mind knows the Law but it does not know grace. The carnal mind only understands righteousness in terms of do's and don'ts or rights or wrongs. Because the Law cannot provide you with grace, love, mercy, joy and peace. The Law can only adorn you; it cannot change you. The Law can enable you to appear righteous on the outside; it cannot make you righteous on the inside. God has all these spiritual blessings but you have to desire them more than you desire your own righteousness which is by the Law. (Philippians 3)

As long as it is about you, your lust, your desires, your own righteousness, you are just going around in circles like the children of Israel. We cannot introduce you to Canaan. We can only introduce you to the Biblical method of arriving there.

Now come back to Joshua 1 and take a look. This is the same in the Old Testament and the New Testament. In verse 3, the blessing is mine by promise. Okay? That's true in Ephesians 1:3; Joshua 1:3, The blessing is mine by promise. Joshua 1:2, I am commanded to go get the blessing. How about that? Joshua 1:5 God said He would not fail me; He would not forsake me in my pursuit of the blessings. Look at the same in Hebrews 13:5-6 *I will never leave thee, not forsake thee as I may boldly say the Lord is my helper, and I shall not fear what man shall do unto me.* Joshua 1:6-7, I am commanded to be strong and courageous. Joshua 1:7, *that thou mayest observe to do according to all the Law, which Moses my servant commanded thee* — do you see what God said? My first battle is not with the enemies living in Canaan. My first battle is with myself. I need to have enough strength, enough courage to obey the word of God.

The Lord says in Joshua 1:8, get God's word in your mouth. Get God's word in your mind... that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Not when you have the word; not when you talk about the word; not when you know the word – but when you get around to observing the word. Joshua 1:9. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. Now, we are ready to go out and take on those enemies.

God is trying through His word to change my way of thinking (Romans 12:2 renew my mind). He is trying to change my selfish heart into a loving heart Acts 20:35. One of these days, you just look and you find yourself there at Gilgal preparing to cross that Jordan, before you know it, those walls of Jericho are falling down in front of you, you say, if I would have known that it



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would have been this easy, I would have done this a long time ago, but you cannot know. You are carnally minded.

God is good to us. He does not want to just save me then leave me in bondage to the same old life the same old way of thinking that controlled me when I was in Egypt. He wants to deliver me from my self-love, my self-interest so I can enjoy *days of heaven upon earth*. (Deuteronomy 11:21) Yes there is coming a day in the hereafter when we will get a white robe, with palms in our hands (Revelation 7:9). Why not start experiencing that in the here-now? We need to decide to do what God has instructed in His word so He can change that mind and that heart and give it rest.

notes

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Note: answ	Questions that show an asterisk (*), must have scripture to prove your er
1.	Even though Jesus and Joshua are used interchangeably, why is it wrong for the publishers to change it on their own?(*) hint: in Revelation.
2.	Who represents the Law in this lesson? (*)
3.	Who represents the Spirit in this lesson? (*)
4.	Explain Hebrews 4:1, (the rest)
5.	How does the carnal man react to serving the Lord?
6.	How does the spiritual man react to serving the Lord?
7.	How did Lucifer respond to all that God gave him?
8.	Why do children fight over toys when they have so many?
9.	Explain Genesis 2:2. (*)

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- 10. The typical carnal Christian has no joy, why? (\*).
- 11. What is the Promise Land?
- 12. Explain why you can be saved and still be carnally minded?
- 13. If you were truly in love with JESUS, how would you act?

### True/False

- Canaan is the Promise Land.
- The rest of God is a spiritual advancement given by God through prayer.
- With the "rest" of God comes fight's, struggles, battle's without any complaints.
- How may I serve you Lord is the heart of a spiritual man.

Philippians 3:10-11; Hebrews 4:5-9 write these on the back on the sheet (Must be in KJV)

Any questions?