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Joshua Lesson 7 Sanctify your life

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In Numbers the entire generation of the children of Israel died in the wilderness. The wilderness represents biblically the carnally minded believer. They are out of Egypt, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, saved from bondage by the grace of God, living on God's blessing and provisions. They have manna every morning; they have manna every night, water from the rock, their clothes do not wear out, nobody is attacking them or killing them. The problem is they are living without the enjoyment of the promised inheritance. This is an example of the carnally minded individual. God meets all our temporal needs, physical needs, along with many of our spiritual needs. Sad to say we really have no appetite for the full inheritance that could be ours if we surrendered ourselves completely to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Moses, throughout that book of Numbers, represents the law. He governed the people. But he could only govern through fear and might. It is a curious thing if you think about the Bible, from the beginning of Exodus all the way to the end of Deuteronomy, the Bible says, many times the people feared Moses, obeyed Moses, hearkened unto Moses – not one time in those three books does the Bible ever say that the people loved Moses.

The Law can keep you in line by putting the fear of God's judgment in you compelling you to live within certain restraints according to certain standards, but you will never love the Law. You will never know love living under the law. The Law cannot bring you into the life of rest or the enjoyment of the spiritual life. Though if you recall, Moses saw the land. Remember he went up on Pisgah and he viewed the whole thing. We can go in the Old Testament and read from Genesis through Malachi, seeing the fore view of the spiritual life, a life enjoyed by the spiritually minded believer as he has a relationship with the Lord.

Then at Jordan, that is the barrier between the carnal mind and the spiritual mind – Canaan-land is the Promised land. Then Canaan, of course, speaks of our peace, our inheritance as we move on in and enjoy the blessings of God. Let us look at Joshua 1:10-18 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, 11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the Lord your God giveth you to possess it. 12 And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half of the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua saying, 13 Remember the word which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, The Lord your God hath (past tense) given you rest, and



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<u>hath</u> given you <u>this land</u>. God did not give them wilderness. God gave them Canaan.

14 Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them; 15 Until the Lord have given your brethren rest, as he hath given you, and they also have possessed (Now look.) the land which the Lord your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the Lord's servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising, 16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go. 17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: (That response may not have thrilled Joshua that much. Think of all the aggravation they gave Moses.) only the Lord thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses. 18 Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.

Three days are spoken of in this passage. It only took them a matter of hours to get across the Jordan River into the Promised Land. It took them forty years from Egypt to this spot – why are we waiting another three days to move on in? There are three reasons found in this book of Joshua as to why the people stopped here, why they were commanded to wait three days.

- 1. For a soul to be saved. In Jericho is a harlot by the name of Rahab. Those spies went into that land; ran across this woman who feared God and she ends up being converted along with her whole household. The spies return back to that wilderness spot on the other side of the Jordan River.
- 2. There was an appeal that had to be made. During those three days, two and a half were confronted about their choice to dwell outside the land. Joshua was pleading with them. "Why in the world would you be content to dwell out here when you can go into the place that God has promised us? There is no milk or honey flowing out here no grapes so big it takes two men to carry one cluster. We are going across that river. We are going into a place where all you have to do is reach up and pull down honey combs.(1 Samuel 14:25-27) Joshua would say, "Why would you want to stay out here for why don't you reconsider? Why don't you think about this? Why go up and fight with us and come back out here? Why don't you come live in the land that God is going to give us?" These are borderline believers. They will cross into the land of fighting stay there awhile with their brethren, then go back where they came from. (Matthew 13:21)

These are more content to abide under the Law. They tried living under grace, ended up losing their way along with their family they are better off under law until they get the understanding of the Law (Galatians 3:24) Not



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everybody is ready to cross that Jordan. These two and half tribes were not ready. (Joshua 14:3-4)

In Joshua 1:13, he is pleading with these two and half tribes and he says, *Remember... remember... that the Lord your God hath given you rest,* (you are part of us) *and hath given you this land* He goes on to say this is going to affect your wives, your children, your career, your business life. Do you know what some men are afraid of? They are afraid to commit their whole life, because with commitment comes responsibility. Joshua said – Joshua, type of Jesus Christ – said to those men who had fallen in love with the wilderness or with God, your choice will affect your entire life your marriage, kids, grand kids, money, business, everything. Your carnal mind will affect you, and your spiritual mind will affect you. Unfortunately when you are carnally minded not only does it affect you, but those that you come in contact with. One of the worst things that we could ever do would be to offend a weaker brother or sister because we were carnally minded. (1 Corinthians 8:11-13)

Joshua 1:14-15 con't. but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them; 15 Until the LORD have given your brethren rest, as he hath given you, and they also have possessed the land which the LORD your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the LORD'S servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising. God did not give them that land – Moses gave them that land. Who

sunrising. God did not give them that land – Moses gave them that land. Who is Moses representing? He is the law. And these people chose to dwell where law would govern them rather than where Jesus Christ would govern them. How do you know somebody that is serving God but governed by the law?

Verse 18. Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: Do you want to live under the law? Then all you are going to do is desire (in your heart) the death penalty upon those that are not what you think they ought to be. "We do not talk to them." They are not obeying the commandment — "stay away from them." — so we justify in our minds that it is OK to treat them like dirt, while thinking we are spiritual; you are not. The New Testament epistles say, put them out of the church so that they do not ruin the church, then follow them out trying to restore them because they need to be in there. (Galatians 6:1)

You can be obeying the letter of the law and be completely out of the will of God because we are **not** under the law. We are under grace. *And the letter killeth but the spirit giveth life.* (2 Corinthians 3:6) If any of you see a brother, or sister overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, condemn in your heart – no, that is the law. The Bible says **restore** such an one. (Galatians 6:1) Look at what the disciples said after they came back from telling others



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about Jesus Christ and were rejected: Luke 9:54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? Then Jesus reminds them that Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. Jesus says: Luke 9:56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

3. Then the third reason why they're out there for three days is, turn to Joshua 3:5. And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the Lord will do wonders among you. God said, "I want you to sanctify yourself then you will see me work wonders in your life." There are some things God requires of us before we can cross that Jordan River to enjoy the fullness of the spiritual life — for example, turn to the heart of the Pauline Epistles. Ephesians 1:16-19.(this is a prayer) I cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; 17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Do you see that? That is the Holy Spirit's prayer for the believer.

Ephesians 4:22-25 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness, 25 Wherefore putting away lying... The Holy Spirit prayed saying "I pray that you see God's power." Do you want to see God's power? Then stop lying. You can cross this Jordan when you are sanctified. So you win thirty people a day to Jesus Christ; if you are a liar, you are not spiritual. If you give your word to someone to do something and you do not do it, you will never enjoy God's power in your life.

Ephesians 4:25-26. ...speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. 26 Be ye angry and sin not: let no the sun go down upon thy wrath: You can great things for God, but if while doing them you are filled with wrath, anger and bitterness towards somebody, you will never know God's power and blessing upon your life.

Ephesians 4:28. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good... You say, "I could work, but it is easier for me to rely on the governments paycheck, plus I have more time to do ministry work." Who are you kidding, you are a thief, so spiritual that you are disobeying scripture? the Holy Spirits prayer of Ephesians 1 that you know His power and the joy of the spiritual life will never be answered until you sanctify yourself.



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Ephesians 4: 29. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. We know that God will not strike us dead if we use foul language, so on occasion we push against God's precepts. Then make up some lame excuse that God understands me. You are only kidding yourself. If I want to live in Canaan-land, you must sanctify yourself before God will lead you over then God will drive out your enemies while giving you His rest. These matters cannot be resolved without the Holy Spirit's control. God said, "I have a Promise Land for you that you can have on this side of death. I will be glad to give it to you, but are you interested in sanctifying yourself? Are you willing?

Let us look at a few more passages where the Holy Spirit instructs us how to sanctify our members. Colossians 3:5 *Mortify therefore your members...* God is not going to do it for you.. Colossians 3:8. *But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.* Colossians 3:12 *Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;* Colossians 3:14. *And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.* Colossians 3:5, *fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection* (that is loving something God never told you to love), *evil concupiscence,* (You say where does the Bible say anything about homosexuality? God never told you anywhere to love like that. You know He didn't. It's inordinate – it's outside the bounds of the ordinance.) *evil concupiscence, and covetousness. which is idolatry;* Colossians 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...* Do you see that? Every bit of that is something you choose to do because you want God's power, God's peace, God's love spread abroad in your heart.

notes



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| | Name |
|----|--|
| 1. | What does it mean to sanctify your life? |
| 2. | What were the 3 issues Joshua had to settle with the children of Israe before crossing over Jordan? a. |
| | b. |
| | C. |
| 3. | Where in the Bible are you told not to commit homosexual acts? |
| 4. | What is Moses a picture of? |
| 5. | What is Joshua a picture of? |
| 6. | What is the Holy Spirit's prayer for us? |
| 7. | What is the definition of a borderline believer? |

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- 8. How do you know somebody that is serving God but governed by the law?
- 9. Explain Galatians 6:1.
- 10. What would the Law impress on you to do if you found out that a brother or sister was doing something wrong?
- 11. What is one of the worst things you could do while being carnally minded?
- 12. Why will God not give you a special license to sin against His word?
- 13. What tribes did not enter into the Promise Land?

True/false

- We must choose to sanctify ourselves.
- Entering into God's rest means the battle are over.
- The Law will keep you in line through the fear of God.
- In the parable of the sower, the stony ground is much like the carnally minded.

Scripture Memorization; (write these on the back on the sheet, Must be in KJV) Matthew 13:21; Galatians 6:1; Luke 9:56.

any questions?