

Joshua – A Study of Strength and Courage

1. From the following narrative, what can we conclude respecting Joshua's strength and courage? R4060:2; R3079:1
 - Joshua was the general in the 1st battle following the Exodus (Exo 17:8-16)
 - Joshua was Moses personal minister (servant) throughout the 40 years in the wilderness. (Exo 24:13; Jos 1:1)
 - Joshua (Oshea in Num 13:5) as the head of the tribe of Ephraim was one of the 12 sent out to spy the land. He and Caleb were the only ones of the 12 to return a favorable report and be rewarded. (Num 13-14:38; Num 3:8-12)
 - Joshua was selected by God to be Mose's replacement as a Judge and as the leader of the nation to conquer the enemies and divide the promised inheritance of the land. (Num 27:18-23; Deut 31:14; Deut 34:9)
2. What was the basis of Joshua's strength and courage and additionally; what characteristics did he likely possess that qualified him from God's perspective? R4060:3; R3079:2; Heb 11:1-2; James 4:6; 1Pet 3:4; Luke 14:11

In the scriptures there are 11 admonitions of strength and courage together. Seven of these are found in Deut 31 and Joshua 1. To expand our appreciation of these qualities we will consider the antitypical significance of these statements and the surrounding context.

3. First, what is the basis for believing these statements and the associated events were typical? 1 Cor. 10:11; Col 2:17; Heb 10:1; Heb 8:5
4. The transition from Moses to Joshua is an important part of the study; who was Moses a type of? R3079:4; R3077:6, 9
5. Who was Joshua a type of? R4060:1; R3077:6; R3079:4

From the narrative consider the following and note the antitypical fulfilment. Consider first any application to our Lord, second any application to the church and third any application to natural Israel and the world of mankind.

6. Prior to his death Moses rehearsed all that God had done for Israel (Deut 1:1-Deut 31:1). He then noted he would not be able to enter the land, but that God through Joshua would lead them into the land to conquer the enemies according to the commandments God had given. Moses then added his admonition to all of Israel to “Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he *it is* that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.” Deut 31:2-6; Luk 1:67-80; Matt 3:1-3; John 3:28-30; John 1:19-31; Matt 11:7-15;

7. Mose’s personal admonition to Joshua before all of Israel to “be strong and of good courage” – Deut 31:7-8; Gal 4:1-7; Luke 2:46-52; Psa 40:7-8; Heb 10:7; A178:3

8. God’s charge that Joshua would take the place of Moses and God’s general admonition to Joshua to “Be strong and of a good courage: for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I sware unto them: and I will be with thee.” – Deut 31:14, 23; John 3:16-17; Matt 3:13-17; Heb 7:19; Heb 10:9; Col 2:14

9. Israel’s acceptance of Joshua to lead them in place of Moses. Deut 34:9; R3077:14-16

10. God’s admonition to “Be strong and of a good courage” relative to conquering the enemies and dividing the land. Jos 1:6; R4060:9-11; R5296:5-11; R5509:5-8

11. God's admonition to "Be strong and very courageous" relative to keeping the Law. Jos 1:7-8; Matt 5:17-18; Mark 1:12; Heb 10:7; Rom 8:1-4; R5296:1; R4060:11, 14-17; R3079:7

12. The question "Have not I commanded thee?" Jos 1:9; Heb 5:4-5; R4060:17-18

13. God's final admonition to "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." Jos. 1:9; Mark 1:13; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46; Luke 24:25-27; 1 Pet 1:7-12; Psa. 139:8-10;

14. Joshua immediately took charge and commanded the officers of the people to pass through the host and command the people to prepare to enter the land within three days – Jos 1:10-11; John 1:35-51; Matt 10:5-15; John 1:11-12; Rom 11:25-29; Exo 19:14-19; R4063:3

15. The Reubenites, Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh. When did they secure their inheritance and what could be the antitypical fulfilment of Jos 1:12-18? Num 32:33; Heb 3:5; Heb 11:39-40; Luke 13:28; Isa 1:24-26; A145:3;