

Fearless Obedience

Joshua 3-4

1.11.15

Fearless Obedience ... is based on a _____ with God.

- This was NOT Joshua's first time to hear and obey God.
- This was NOT Joshua's first act of Fearless Obedience...
- He had seen God move mightily in the life of Moses, his mentor.

Fearless Obedience ... requires our _____ to follow God.

- Waiting for God to confirm His direction and timing.
- Consecrating yourself in preparation for God's mighty work.

Fearless Obedience ... is based on the _____ and _____ of God.

- God made Himself the issue, not Joshua, and not the people of Israel.
- Remember Rehab ... who hid the Israelites spies?
- Canaanites hoped in Ba'al god or rain and water.

Fearless Obedience ... requires a _____.

- Fearless Obedience is directly tied to Faith in God!
- God's Part, Your Part.

Fearless Obedience ... requires that we _____ the mighty acts of God.

Our Challenge

FURTHER STUDY

The following background insights will add impact to your study of Joshua 3-4. These notes are taken from Joshua, LifeChange Bible Study Series, by Hinckley, NavPress, 1991.

This is how you will know (Joshua 3;10). The Lord proved two crucial things by cutting off the Jordan waters:

1. "Who is the true and mighty God - the God of Israel or the god on whom the Canaanites depend (Ba'al, who was believed to reign as king among the gods because he had triumphed over the sea-god)? By opening the way through the flooded Jordan the Lord [showed] both Israel and the Canaanites that he is Lord over the waters (as he was at the 'Red Sea,' at the flood [of Noah] and at creation) and that he is able to establish his own order in the world."
2. "Who has the rightful claim to the land - the Lord or the Canaanites? . . . By passing safely through the Jordan at the head of his army the Lord showed the rightness of his claim on the land. In the ancient Near East a common way for obtaining the judicial verdict of the gods was by compelling the accused to submit to trial by water ordeal. Usually this involved casting him into a river (if the accused drowned, the gods had found him guilty, if not, the gods had declared him innocent). In Israel, however, another form of water ordeal was practiced (see Numbers 5:16-28). Significantly, the Lord [entered] the Jordan first and then remain[ed] there until his whole army had crossed safely over. Thus his claim to the land was vindicated before the eyes of all who heard about it. And it was his claim, not Israel's; she came through the Jordan only with him and as his army, 'baptized' to his service."¹

¹ *The NIV Study Bible*, edited by Kenneth Barker (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Corporation, 1985), page 295.