

JOSHUA

TAKING HOLD OF THE PROMISE

**Be Strong
And
Courageous**



Joshua 1:6-9

Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that

I swore to their fathers to give them.

Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

v. 6 Be strong and courageous

v. 7 Only be strong and very
courageous

v. 9 Be strong and courageous

Our God's tender love for His servants makes Him concerned for the state of their inward feelings. He desires them to be of good courage. Some esteem it a small thing for a believer to be vexed with doubts and fears, but God thinks not so. From this text it is plain that our Master would not have us entangled with fears. He would have us without carefulness, without doubt, without cowardice. Our Master does not think so lightly of our unbelief as we do.

– Charles Spurgeon



Joshua 1:5

Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you.

Joshua 1:6

Be strong and courageous

Deuteronomy 31:6

Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, **for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.**”

Deuteronomy 31:7

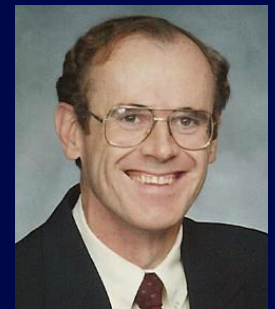
Then Moses summoned Joshua and said “Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into **the land that the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them**, and you shall put them in possession of it.

Deuteronomy 31:28

And the Lord commissioned Joshua the son of Nun and said, “Be strong and courageous, for you shall bring the people of Israel into **the land that I swore to give them. I will be with you.**”

Joshua is not told to grit his teeth and screw up his courage on his own; he is to be strong only because Yahweh is with him, and not because Yahweh prefers leaders who are positive thinkers.

– Dale Ralph Davis



for you shall cause this people to
inherit the land that I swore to their
fathers to give them.

v. 2 the land that **I am giving** to them

v. 3 Every place that the sole of your
foot will tread upon **I have given** to
you

v. 13 'The Lord your **God is providing**
you a place of rest and will **give you** this
land.'

v. 2 Now therefore **arise, go over** this Jordan, you and all this people,

v. 6 for **you shall cause** this people to inherit the land

v. 10 **Prepare** your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in **to take possession** of the land

The sovereignty-responsibility
tension is not a problem to be
solved; rather, it is a framework to
be explored.
– D. A. Carson

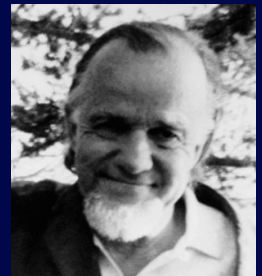


being careful to do according to
all **the law that Moses** my
servant commanded you.

Joshua knew Moses, the writer of the Pentateuch, personally. Joshua knew his strengths and weaknesses as a man; he knew that Moses was a sinner, that Moses made mistakes, that Moses was just a man.

Nonetheless, immediately after Moses's death Joshua accepted the Pentateuch as more than the writing of Moses. He accepted it as the writing of God.

– Francis Schaeffer



being careful to do according to
all the law that Moses my servant
commanded you.

God spoke to Abraham directly. God met with Moses on the mount. In Joshua, although Joshua is personally confronted by the “commander of the LORD’s army” in chapter 5 and specific revelations are given to him for the conduct of the war through the high priest, the situation is basically different. Like ourselves, Joshua was to live by obedience to the written Word of God and not in hope of special revelations.

– James Montgomery Boice



This Book of the Law shall not depart
from your mouth, but you shall
meditate on it day and night, so that
you may be careful to do according to
all that is written in it.

Psalm 2:1

The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers **take counsel together**,
against the LORD

Isaiah 31:4

As a lion or a young lion **growls** over
his prey...

Isaiah 17:7

Therefore let Moab **wail** for Moab, let
everyone **wail**.

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be **careful to do according to all** that is written in it.

Deuteronomy 17:18-20

And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests...he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law...that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment... so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

1 Timothy 4:13

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

For then you will make your way
prosperous, and then you will have
good success.

Genesis 24:12

And he said, “O LORD, God of my master Abraham, please grant me **success** today and show steadfast love to my master Abraham.

Nehemiah 2:20

The God of heaven will make us **prosper**, and we his servants will arise and build

Isaiah 53:10

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; **the will of the LORD shall prosper** in his hand.

Be strong and courageous, **for you shall cause this people to inherit the land** that I swore to their fathers to give them.

In fact, of the fifty-nine times that “prosperity” is used in a context of success and the eleven times that “success” is used similarly, only once are finances even remotely in view. Thus, “success” is not financial in its primary orientation. Rather, it refers to succeeding in life’s proper endeavors.

– David M. Howard



Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

What greater rebellion against God,
what greater wickedness, what
greater contempt of God is there
than not believing His promise? For
what is this but to make God a liar
or to doubt that He is truthful.

– Martin Luther

