

JOSHUA

TAKING HOLD OF THE PROMISE

**The Lord
Gives Rest To
His People**



Joshua 1:10-18

And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, “Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, ‘Prepare your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in to take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.’”

And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh Joshua said, “Remember the word that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, ‘The LORD your God is providing you a place of rest and will give you this land.’ Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land that Moses gave you beyond the Jordan, but all the men of

valor among you shall pass over armed before your brothers and shall help them, until the LORD gives rest to your brothers as he has to you, and they also take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them. Then you shall return to the land of your possession and shall possess it, the land that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise.”

And they answered Joshua, “All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you. Only may the LORD your God be with you, as he was with Moses! Whoever rebels against your commandment and disobeys your words, whatever you command him, shall be put to death. Only be strong and courageous.”

And Joshua commanded the **officers of the people**, “Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, ‘Prepare your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in to take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.’”

Deuteronomy 1:13-16

Choose for your tribes wise, understanding, and experienced men, and I will appoint them as your heads.’ So I took the heads of your tribes, wise and experienced men, and set them as heads over you, commanders of thousands, commanders of hundreds, commanders of fifties, commanders of tens, and officers, throughout your tribes. And I charged your judges at that time, ‘Hear the cases between your brothers, and judge righteously between a man and his brother or the alien who is with him.

And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, “Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, ‘**Prepare your provisions**, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in to **take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving you** to possess.’”

Joshua's instructions to the people here likewise concern not military strategy or equipment, but for breaking camp, for readying food supplies for their journey. The possession of the land was, in effect, an already-accomplished fact; the Israelites merely needed to load up with supplies, since God would be giving the land into their hands.

– David M. Howard



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Numbers 32:1-5

Now the people of Reuben and Gad had a very great number of livestock. And they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, was a place for livestock. So the people of Gad and the people of Reuben came and said to Moses, “the land that the LORD struck down before the congregation of Israel, is a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock.” And they said, “If we have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a possession. Do not take us across the Jordan.

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Numbers 32:6-7

But Moses said to the people of Gad and to the people of Reuben, “Shall your brothers go to the war while you sit here? Why will you discourage the heart of the people of Israel from going over into the land that the LORD has given them?”

Numbers 32:16-18

Then they came near to him and said, “We will build sheepfolds here for our livestock, and cities for our little ones, **but we will take up arms, ready to go before the people of Israel, until we have brought them to their place.** And our little ones shall live in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land. We will not return to our homes until each of the people of Israel has gained his inheritance.

○ Designated city of refuge

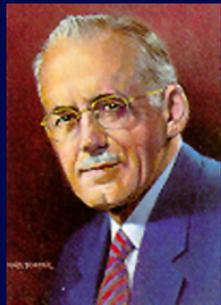


All the men of valor among you shall pass over armed before **your brothers** and **shall help them**, until the LORD gives rest to **your brothers** as he has to you, and they also take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them. Then you shall return to the land of your possession and shall possess it, the land that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise.”

And they answered Joshua, “All that you have commanded us **we will do**, and wherever you send us **we will go**. Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you. **Only may the LORD your God be with you, as he was with Moses!** Whoever rebels against your commandment and disobeys your words, whatever you command him, shall be put to death. Only be strong and courageous.”

One hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow. So one hundred worshipers meeting together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be, were they to become “unity” conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.

- A. W. Tozer



All the men of valor among you shall pass over armed before your brothers and shall help them, until **the LORD gives rest** to your brothers as he has to you, and they also take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them.

‘The LORD your God is **providing you a place of rest** and will give you this land.’

Hebrews 4:8-10

For if Joshua had given them rest,
God would not have spoken of
another day later on. So then, there
remains a Sabbath rest for the people
of God, for whoever has entered
God's rest has also rested from his
works as God did from his.

Do not tell me that there is no rest for us till we get to heaven. We who have believed in Jesus enter into rest even now. Why should we not do so? Our salvation is complete. The robe of righteousness in which we are clad is finished. The atonement for our sins is fully made. We are reconciled to God, beloved of the Father, preserved by His grace, and supplied by His providence with all that we need. We carry all our

burdens to Him and leave them at His feet. We spend our lives in His service, and we find His ways to be ways of pleasantness, and His paths to be paths of peace. Oh, yes, we have found rest unto our souls! I recollect the first day that I ever rested in Christ, and I did rest that day. And so will all of you who trust in Jesus as I trusted in him.

– Charles Spurgeon

