

SN, Mar 25, 79 AM.  
Lake Drummond - Aug 2, 73 AM WJ  
New Son 2, 2001 v1

## THE BOLD CROSSING

Joshua 1:9

In these days of thinking about bold missions, as we have a slogan, of the bold mission thrust. Of confronting everyone in the world with Jesus Christ by the year 2,000. Don't let anyone say that this is not bold. And don't let anyone go away from this service without Jesus.

Peter Marshall said one time that the church reminds me of a man all dressed up in a deep sea diving outfit, marching bravely to put a stopper out of a bathtub.

There was an ad that appeared in the London Times in 1900. Signed, Sir Edward Shackleton. The polar explorer. ("Men wanted for hazardous journey, small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, safe return doubtful. Honor and recognition in case of success.") That is a challenge of being bold.

When God told Moses and the children of Israel to go forward with the Egyptian Army behind them, cut off to the right and to the left, Moses told an uncourageous people to go forward. That was one bold mission.

Kaleb was told at age 80 - you can have any part of the land that you want. Just tell me where you want to live. Joshua invited. And Kaleb looked up to a mountain where giants were dug in. And no battle had been fought to run them out. He turned to Joshua and he said - "give me that mountain." That was another bold mission.

(If you want your heart to burn) today with Heaven, it will take nothing less than by the Holy Spirit to move you by the spoken word. In Joshua 1 - after the death of Moses - the Lord spoke, V. 2 (Moses), my servant, is dead. Now therefore, arise and go over this Jordan. And then in the 9th verse, he said, have I not commanded thee to be strong and of good courage. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed. For the Lord, thy God, is with thee. Whether soever, thou goest.

As a candle awaits fire to light, as a canvass awaits the artists touch, for beauty - the company of God looked to the word of God for his command.

This truly is a bold venture. God called Joshua to face new frontiers. They had parted company and had left Egypt. They had been 40 years wasting in the wilderness. To stand in the promised land. There was great excitement.

Think how the Bible (arranges) this. Israel is camped. The mountains of Moab and the Jordan River, and the flowers and the trees growing. And here is the streams flowing from the mountains of Moab down to the Jordan River.

God is ready. At one moment he spoke to Abraham and told him his desires. At another moment, God spoke to Moses. And God used the plagues and the marvels of the morning manna. And 40 years in the desert. And many were left in the graveyard. Here was an appointed people, they were at an appointed place, at a time with the appointed leadership and the appointed task.

V. 2 Second, there was a great (announcement) to his man Joshua. God said, Moses, my

servant is dead. <sup>amendable</sup> Impossible. The shock waves went through the people as they saw their only leader was now dead. It never occurred to them that Moses would ever die. They thought that Moses would live forever. But Moses was dead. Moses had delivered the people of Israel. And he had brought to them the law. And God beckoned to Moses to come to the (mount Nebo) - and there Moses died at 120. Clear of eye, steady of hand, and no one knows where Moses was buried. For God, himself, layed his body to rest on the top of the mountain.

out 34:7

Joshua - Very name Jesus - God's Salvation - is enough to awaken special interest. Jos. one in B.T. against whose (name) there is no reproach. The record godly type warrior, blameless, fearless, gentle Devotion to work of Gods. The book of Deut. 34:10 and there arose not a prophet since in Israel - like unto people

Moses. Whom the Lord knew face to face. (God) loved Moses. And how much he must have hated it that he could not take them on this (last mission) into the promised land. But Moses committed a serious sin, and God could not change that judgement. The people of Israel loved Moses for a (whole month), and mourned his death. They had complained to Moses about the bitter times. Moses may die - His Work cannot - His servants  
"one sows, another reapeth".

And in the (context) that is when (Joshua) steps forth, as the new leader. Years earlier, God had chosen him for this position of leadership. And God had instructed his new leader. It was a (terrifying experience.) To follow a strong and illustrious leader. If Joshua was a normal man, as we have every reason to suppose, that he was - he must have had butterflies in his stomach. He had been ordained to be sure. But to transfer this responsibility was a great undertaking. The (past) was over. And there was new hope and a new future. Self like Digging Hole & getting in - follow Moses - Place for all-

God works through men. And God is (not) limited to (a) man. God has (Joshua) waiting in the wings. Joshua never dreamed to be the commander in chief. When he (spied) out the land - he little realized that God would somehow put on him that responsibility. (Have)  
(you) ever tried to lead a club, a civic group, or a class or department, it is difficult

19  
to keep a group going forward. He knew that God had given him this task. And God gave him the attitude of mind that he needed. "Be strong and of good courage." Strong meant resolute. Determined, unswerving. Courage meant to be fearless, and bold in his leadership. And to execute his responsibilities.

Do you know (many) of the (battles of life) are won or lost in your (attitude). You convince yourself that you cannot witness as a friend of Christ's, and you can't. Fear will possess you. If strength of courage or duties - then weakness and fear are sins.

Every man and woman looks back to some place, maybe some country place, when your heart was strangely warmed. (Did) you know that God was getting you ready at that time.

Even preachers way back, when they preached to just a very few people in a little country place, God was getting them ready. They did not have the capacity or the ability.

Joshua was no Moses. He was no prophet. He was a good man and he was a faithful soldier. And he wasn't to be discouraged. Because he could not lead like Moses.

Joshua may have felt like people today who are called upon to take a place of service in Christ's kingdom. "Let someone else do it." A person who allows himself to become overcome with fear, and is never able to be counted on in God's service, is committing a sin.

v. 7-8 God commanded Joshua - "observe to do all the law. Turn not from it to the right or to the left. That thou mayest prosper wheresoever thou goest. Now, God instructed him to stay close to the word." v. 7-8. And he would have good success. His guidebook was the law for leading the people. And the law revealed the heart of God, and secondly it revealed the kind of lives the people were to live in order to realize their destiny. And every decision of leadership that Joshua made was in the light of that law. This is still true after over 3,000 years after Joshua. The law that was given to Joshua and on Mt. Sinai, is just as good in our day as it was in the time that it was given. The reason is that, neither God nor man have changed. Man's mode of living has changed considerably since the days of Joshua. But the issues of life that he faces, have not changed in the slightest. And God told Joshua, if you would live by the law, you would succeed. The same promise applies to every person here.

A person cannot keep from prospering and being successful in life, if he will live by the Word of God in these relationships. His personal life, his family life, his social relationships, his spiritual life, his business dealings.

God promised to be with Joshua - be not afraid. v. 9. Just as God walked with Moses and talked with Moses and sustained him, God promised to do the same for him.

The shoe cobbler came on the scene. And one October, (William Carey) a Baptist, Preacher wrote in a log, that there had been baptized a poor person in the Heart Land Baptist Church, a poor shoe cobbler (by) the name of William Carey. And of course, later, a church that had heard 23 men preach, in view of a call, William Carey came to preach. He did not have a suit of clothes. They bought him a black suit of clothes. And

ordained him. And he preached this sermon. Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God. In 1792 he organized the Missionary Society. He preached this sermon, and gave a call. And no one answered the call. He offered to go himself to India. For 41 years he served the Lord in India, and translated the word of God, into the language of that country. He worked out six grammars and two dictionaries. He served in a way that puts us to shame, God can take anyone of us, and use us if we will just pour out ourselves to him.

Dr. Rankin who is the head of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, several years back when he died, a woman told Mrs. Rankin, his wife - he was a great man. The wife said, no, he was just an ordinary man with the world in his heart.

Rule - Education of Frederick the Great 5 yrs till grown - 6 o'clock wake up 15 min  
 say prayer - bath - dress - eat - servant fixed his hair - Every 1/2 hr. There was duty  
grammar - mathematics, etc No vacation for in & out. Duty duty - day long 1400 hrs  
That is all God needs, is just an ordinary man or woman, like you - with the compassion for souls and love for Jesus Christ.

Now God announces next arise, go over. It is time to cross. Go over this Jordan. Thou, and all this people, unto the land which I have given to them.

The Descender - setanon springs near Galilee to Dead Sea Drops 15' per mile  
500' lower than sea level 1200' below sea level.  
 Jordan used 189 Times Bible. winds 240 miles - straight line 120 miles

And here is something that is marvelous. The time and the moment has arrived.

Dead Sea Receives & Never gives out

You remember Robert Frost who wrote - "I have promises to keep," etc. Miles to go before sleep

Tomorrow God said, I am going to do great things among you.

Swiftness of The Current - not dare try swim across without rope - like a mill race

Look, there is the river at flood tide. And nobody crosses that river at flood tide.

# Blessings of Calamity

PAGE NO.

PREPARED BY  
DATE

Moses in What will God do? What find another?  
 out of Calamity God called Joshua. Moses Aaron Miriam all Dead  
 Plan carried out in spite of Calamity. Entire Generation Grown Men set out Egypt  
all dead except 2 Josh & Caleb - Egypt  
 Moses ascended Nebo - Never to Return - Miriam longed  
 Gods Plan often through Calamity -  
 Paul reached Caesar's household through chains -

Young Man EZARKS M<sup>r</sup>. Surrendered to Crack.

Plans to enter school - a Car wreck left him crippled for life. He became a ferry man across one of the Mt. streams.

One man said he could name 70 men he had led to Christ on the ferry. God sometimes works through calamity.

job was reduced to a piece of bread.

Man North Dupon active ch. leadership - surrendered to Crack. great program - one day his little Boy became sick, grew worse & died.

At that, this man walked from the bedside - Curse God

Tore his Bible to shreds. Threw it into the sk. He forgot his wife & other 2 children & the love of God. He fell with calamity, felt God forsaken.

Moses died, Joshua took up & walked through Calamity to Blessing! You need to do that with yours!!!

3:15 bankrupt Bank - Harrow

And God said, the time has come to cross. Not a way in the world this task can be done - impossible - No one ever crossed at flood tide before

If here, unless God makes a miracle the river will be our enemy. That river will get us. Now this advice did not seem to be responsible at this time. The place and the way to get the job done, was not in that way humanly speaking. Sometimes, we think about revival - how can we get it done. Here is the flood tide of sin. And Joshua, it is time to move

Jesus met a man with a whithered hand. There was no strength in it. Jesus said to him - it is time to stretch out that hand. That was one thing that the man could not do.

Jesus met the sick of the palsy. The man had been that way for years. And of course, if he could have walked, he would have been up off of that bed years before. But Jesus said to him, it is time, my brother - take up thy bed and walk. Rise up.

What can you do, with the children of Israel. Their backs were against the wall. And Joshua, it is time to cross the river.

God comes to us. I don't know what your river is today. all of us have rivers to cross!

Only Jordan rolls between them - shall they fail or fall short?  
Believers Well Named "God's Salvation"

But I know this, the church must do what is right. All of us have rivers to cross.

Mighty Miss & MO Rivers flood tide - 93 farm hand. How do cross - No Bridges!!



Don't be afraid. Don't worry. It will be alright. Joshua just be strong.

God gave Joshua three divine promises.

1: V. 5 A "First, not a man will stand before you. V. 5. In all the days of thy life, there is not one.

1: V. 3 V. 3 "Every place that the sole of the foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you as I have said unto Moses.

1: V. 5 B "Second, as I was with Moses, so will I be with thee.

"Third, God is with thee, whether soever thou goest.

1: V. 16 Now finally, after all, the whole future rests upon believing the word of

God.

God is with us. That is the most electrifying things. Joshua, you tell the

1: V. 11 people it is time to prepare some vitels. V. 11.

2 "Second, he said, keep the ark in view. Don't get ahead or behind it. Just see

3:13

where the ark is going, and you follow.

3:15-16

third, tell the priests, the religious leaders, to take the ark to the brim of the river.

Maybe he would be saying to us - get your Bible and stand by Joshua. And the soles of your feet need to rest in the water. And they shall stand up upon heap.

When the soles of your feet rest on the water, you've got to get down in that water.

Now if you stand on the bank and say, you be first. (One, two, three). No, you've got to get your feet wet.

Now it is one thing to talk about it, and it is another thing to get your feet wet.

There is a book that had the title "If You want to walk on the water, You've got to get out of the boat."

You must step out on the water - and faith is like that. The motive in the heart is different. It is not the same kind.

You run a risk of getting your feet wet. If you are going to get things done.  
Joshua said it is time to cross.

And the priests put their feet out. And they might have felt as though they were going down. But it was like walking on the concrete when they walked out.

That's the trouble. We like to believe the Bible like that - and walk out in the middle. And there was a great heap of water stacked up.

God demonstrated in the lives of those people. When they got their feet wet.

Marvelous today there is my preacher. Educational director, Sunday School director, Sunday School workers, W. M. U. workers, deacons Out there in the middle of the stream leading the way.

When we have such soldiers who will make that bold mission, and lead the way, we are going to have some soul winning in our church and we are going to have revival.  
When leaders will go out and witness.

The people looked encouraged. They said, they are crossing. And the people crossed. And they prospered. As they came upon Jericho and the walls fell flat. And they won the victory and split the land in the middle. And found themselves in a land flowing with milk and honey.

We have our rivers to cross, and we need to go to God's word was the promise was to Joshua - be strong. And of good courage. Be not afraid, be not dismayed. I am with thee.

As we look back upon that scene hundreds of years ago, we see a symbol of our task - crossing Jordan. It comes to mean more than just a little reference here.

The command of God is clear and certain - that we arise and go over the Jordan and possess the land that God has given us.

*Jordan Divides our Old Condition With New.  
Separate Wilderness from Promised Land, Condition by Nature & our Condition by Grace.  
Waters of Baptism - Baptized into Christ Death - Conversion By Power of God alone  
Changed from Wanderers & Outcasts into Covenant people of God!*

Jordan has been symbolized as a translation from earth to Heaven. The passing of God's people into the country of the Heavenly. They had been long in that

wilderness and troublesome days. And now God promises them a land that is wonderful.

As that old spiritual I looked over Jordan, and what did I see. Coming for the

carry me home. A band of angels coming after me. Coming for the carry me home.

Swing low sweet chariot - coming for the carry me home. Swing low sweet chariot -

coming for the carry me home.

*The land must be conquered - wicked land, sins of people - put out Evil,  
A land flowing with Milk & Honey - Every Blessing was to be obtained There,  
supply of our Happiness & Enjoyment -*

We are more than conquers through him that loved us. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even then so also, them which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Death cannot keep his prey. Jesus my Saviour, he tore the bars away. Jesus my Lord. Up from the grave he arose. Like a mighty triumph o'er his foes. He arose a victor from the dark domain. And he lives forever with his saints to reign. He arose, he arose. Hallelujah, Christ arose.

Robert H. Coleman who was a music director in the First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, for many years - during his lifetime often used the poem at funeral services. And this poem which he loved, was used at his own funeral. It goes like this:

When I come to the river at the ending of day  
When the last winds of sorrow have blown  
There will be somebody waiting to show me the way  
I won't have to cross Jordan alone.

Oft times I am forsaken, weary, and sad  
When it seems that my friends have all gone  
There is one thought that cheers me and makes my heart glad  
I won't have to cross Jordan alone.

I won't have to cross Jordan alone  
Jesus died for my sins to atone  
In the darkness I see  
He'll be waiting for me  
I won't have to cross Jordan alone.

The symbol is that we go into our final rest, and crossing Jordan, the entrance of God's people into Canaan's fair and happy land, is a symbol of eternal rest.

Andrew Broaddus of Va. When He Was Dying, smiled & one said "What makes you smile?" He said, "The Angels are teaching me what I shall do in Heaven".

Joshua spoke to the tribes upon that great day, and said prepare for the journey across the river. There is nothing so wonderful as the Christian's heavenly hope - their blind eyes can see, their crippled bodies can walk, and broken hearts are filled with the gladness of God. Weeping may endure for the night, but joy cometh in the

it is my conviction We shall surpass each other in Heaven, and we  
have seen strange things around death beds - Home of a Deacon  
Prayer above got 2 minutes too late - Call family - told each one the good news - right  
morning, behold says thy glorious Saviour, I make all things new. To die is gain,  
his hands as feet of old Blessing them & a prisoner crossed Jordan with  
Paul wrote. Unbelievable that we gain a better home. There are no mansions here  
a smile on his face - How do we understand these things -  
to compare with the mansions that Jesus has gone to prepare for us. We gain a better  
glimpse into the glory land!

body in this house in which our spirit lives. We groan under the cares of the world -  
sickness--age, and death come to all of us. We gain a better fellowship. We come to  
the city of the living God. In the heavenly Jerusalem. And assemble there with the  
first born. Jesus, our precious redeemer, and the saints of all the ages will be  
there. Our loved ones who sleep in Jesus will be there. And best of all, our Lord  
is there.

1:18 Rebel - not Harken - Put to Death!!  
let us try to know each other better here - try to get a  
little closer to each other down here!

Does not this bold - this one bold mission stir your heart today. As God says,  
it is time to arise and cross over.

Put my army around the weak & wounded and  
help them home.

Oh I stormy banner I stand  
& cast a thankful eye  
after cannon fire & happy end  
where my possessions lie  
I'm bound for the Promised

Who will come & go ← ??  
with me  
I'm bound for the  
Paradise land!