

For Teachers
of Adults Ages 18 and Up

Adult Bible Teacher



Fall Quarter

September | October | November 2023

Large-Print Edition

Adult Bible Teacher

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FALL QUARTER

September, October, November 2023

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Success and Failure

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Daily Bible Readings for Home Study and Worship

(Readings are for the week previous to the lesson topics.)

1. September 3. Be Strong and Courageous

M — Joshua's Victory. Ex. 17:8-16.
T — Moses' Servant. Ex. 24:12-13; 32:15-18; 33:9-11.
W — Joshua's Faith. Num. 14:6-10, 35-39.
T — Moses' Successor. Num. 27:18-23.
F — Joshua Commissioned. Deut. 31:7-15, 22-23.
S — A New Leader. Deut. 34:1-9.
S — Divine Encouragement. Josh. 1:1-6; 11:16-19, 21-23.

2. September 10. Rahab and the Spies

M — Fear of Israel's God. Ex. 15:13-18.
T — Victory over Sihon. Num. 21:21-30.
W — Victory over Og. Num. 21:31-35; Deut. 3:1-7.
T — God Will Lead. Deut. 31:1-6.
F — Promise of Victory. Deut. 11:22-25.
S — Jericho in Fear. Josh. 2:10-14, 17-21.
S — An Unlikely Ally. Josh. 2:3-9, 15-16, 22-24.

3. September 17. The Fall of Jericho

M — Land of Promise. Gen. 15:13-21.
T — Spiritual Preparation. Josh. 5:2-12.
W — Assurance from God. Josh. 5:13—6:1.
T — Command for Destruction. Deut. 20:16-18.
F — Israel's Obedience During the Siege. Josh. 6:6-11.
S — Oath Fulfilled. Josh. 6:22-25.
S — A Miraculous Victory. Josh. 6:2-4, 12-20a.

4. September 24. Ehud Frees Israel

M — Cry for Deliverance. Ex. 2:23-25.
T — The God Who Sees. Ex. 3:7-10.
W — Righteousness Rewarded. Ps. 18:20-30.
T — Assurance that God Hears. Ps. 34:15-22.
F — Annihilation of Amalek. Deut. 25:17-19.
S — Subjection to Moab. Judg. 3:12-14.
S — Ehud's Triumph. Judg. 3:15-25, 29-30.

5. October 1. Gideon Conquers the Midianites

M — Midianite Oppression. Judg. 6:1-6.
T — The Lord's Rebuke. Judg. 6:7-10.
W — Double Confirmation. Judg. 6:36-40.
T — Gideon's Army Reduced. Judg. 7:5-12.
F — Gideon's Army Attacks. Judg. 7:19-23.
S — The Kings of Midian. Judg. 8:10-12, 18-21.
S — Victory for Gideon. Judg. 7:2-4, 13-15; 8:22-25.

6. October 8. The Sin of Achan

M — Warning from God. Deut. 7:23-26.
T — Devoted to the Lord or to Destruction. Lev. 27:28-29.
W — True Riches. Prov. 13:7; 15:16; 16:8; 30:8.
T — Snare of Covetousness. I Tim. 6:6-10.
F — Steps Toward Sin. Gen. 3:1-7.
S — The Sinner Revealed. Josh. 7:13-19.
S — Sin Rooted Out. Josh. 7:1, 10-12, 20-26.

7. October 15. A Backsliding People

M — A Prior Warning. Deut. 12:1-9.
T — Israel's Sin. Ps. 106:34-39.
W — God's Anger. Ps. 106:40-43.
T — God's Mercy. Ps. 106:44-48.

F — Testing Israel. Judg. 3:1-7.
S — Saved from God's Wrath. Rom. 5:6-10.
S — A Downward Spiral. Judg. 2:16-23.

8. October 22. Israel Rejects God as King

M — The Burdens of a Human King. I Sam. 8:9-18.
T — A King to Lead Us! I Sam. 8:19-22.
W — Saul the Benjamite. I Sam. 9:15-21.
T — Three Signs to Prove God's Word. I Sam. 10:1-8.
F — God's Word Confirmed. I Sam. 10:9-16.
S — Samuel Instructs Israel. I Sam. 12:19-25.
S — "God Save the King!" I Sam. 9:1-2; 10:17-26.

9. October 29. Joshua's Final Exhortation

M — A Commitment Made. Ex. 19:3-9.
T — Fear the Lord. Deut. 10:12-15.
W — Counting the Cost. Luke 14:25-35.
T — A Heart for God's Will. Ps. 119:33-40.
F — Straight Talk about God. Josh. 23:14-16.
S — A Faithful God. Josh. 24:2-7.
S — Joshua's Last Words. Josh. 24:1, 14-24.

10. November 5. Rebuke and Repentance

M — God's Compassion. Ps. 103:8-13.
T — Faithful Father. Isa. 63:15-16.
W — Pay Careful Attention. II Chr. 7:11-22.
T — Righteous Judge. Rom. 2:1-11.
F — Gracious Lord. Isa. 30:18-22.
S — Disobedience Brings Oppression. Judg. 10:6-9.
S — A Cry for Deliverance. Judg. 10:10-18.

11. November 12. David's Sin and Punishment

M — Guard Your Heart. Prov. 4:20-27.
T — Destruction to the Proud. Prov. 16:17-20.
W — "Thou Shalt Not—". Ex. 20:13-14, 17; Lev. 18:20; 20:10.
T — Lustful Looks Equal Adultery. Matt. 5:27-30.
F — Faithful Uriah. II Sam. 11:6-13.
S — Nathan's Rebuke. II Sam. 12:1-12.
S — Judgment for Sin. II Sam. 11:2-5, 14-18, 26-27; 12:13-15.

12. November 19. A Rebuke from the Lord

M — A Matter of Life and Death. Deut. 30:15-20.
T — Living a Godly Life. Rom. 12:9-21.
W — Attacking Hypocrisy. Matt. 23:23-28.
T — A Path of Foolishness. Ps. 14:1-7.
F — The Day of the Lord. Joel 2:1-3, 12-17.
S — Condemning Sinful Self-indulgence. Amos 6:1-7.
S — Amos Rebukes the People. Amos 5:14-15, 18-27.

13. November 26. Judgment and Exile

M — The Joy of God's Presence. Ps. 84:1-4, 10.
T — The Joy of Worshipping God Together. Ps. 122:1-9.
W — The Glory of God's Kingdom. Ps. 48:1-14.
T — The Painful Consequences of Sin. Jer. 25:8-11.
F — Nebuchadnezzar Captures Jerusalem. II Kgs. 24:10-16.
S — Taking Comfort in Past Deliverances. Ps. 126:1-6.
S — Judah Is Exiled. II Chr. 36:15-21; Ps. 137:1-6.

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

JOSH. 1:1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 *Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.*

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

4 *From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.*

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6 *Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.*

11:16 So Joshua took all that land, the hills, and all the south country, and all the land of Goshen, and the valley, and the plain, and the

mountain of Israel, and the valley of the same;

17 *Even from the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir, even unto Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon under mount Hermon: and all their kings he took, and smote them, and slew them.*

18 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.

19 *There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites the inhabitants of Gibeon: all other they took in battle.*

21 And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakims from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities.

22 *There was none of the Anakims left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.*

23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.

NOTES

Be Strong and Courageous

Lesson Text: Joshua 1:1-6; 11:16-19, 21-23

Related Scriptures: Numbers 27:15-23;
Deuteronomy 11:22-25; 31:7-15, 22-23; 34:5-9; Joshua 22:1-9

TIME: 1405 B.C.

PLACES: Shittim; Canaan

GOLDEN TEXT—“Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord said unto Moses” (Joshua 11:23).

Preparing to Teach the Lesson

TODAY'S AIM

Facts: to show how God kept His promises to His people as Joshua and the people obeyed Him.

Principle: to demonstrate that God is faithful in keeping His promises.

Application: to teach that when we obey God, we will experience His blessings.

INTRODUCING THE LESSON

Our lesson this week shows us how God's people learned some lessons about trusting their God. He could be trusted because He would never fail them. He is always true.

DEVELOPING THE LESSON

1. The promise to lead God's people to their land (Josh. 1:1-6). It must be remembered that these promises were given to the people when they were in slavery. Now, forty years later, the promises remained unfulfilled. When we put the promises of God in that context, we understand why it was much easier for them to lose faith than

to trust God. God promised Joshua that He would be with him just as He had been with Moses. He would never leave or abandon Joshua. Lead the class to see that without the presence of God with us, we are going nowhere.

2. The fulfilled promise to help Joshua conquer the land (Josh. 11:16-19). We must note that even though God promised to give His people the land that was in enemy hands, they had to conquer the enemies in order to appropriate it. God was going to help them do just that.

It is interesting that in accordance with God's promises to His people, they defeated the enemies in their path and then moved in. We are told that the only people who made peace with them were the Hivites of Gibeon (vs. 19). The others were defeated. When God assures us of victory, we can move forward in faith.

3. The fulfilled promises to God's people (Josh. 11:21-23). The truth here is that when God says He is coming through for His children, the rest

of the world has to make way. On the basis of God's instructions and promises, Joshua moved through enemy territory, wiping out everyone who stood in his way. God had said that the land would belong to Israel, and nothing was going to keep them from receiving what God had promised.

The Anakim, living in the mountains, were destroyed completely and without mercy. This could raise the question of why God destroys other nations, but it would detract from the main point of the lesson. The short answer is that God is always on the side of His people and keeps His word.

Verse 23 is a report of victory. The text records for us that God kept His promises to Joshua just as He had with Moses.

Like our forefathers, we are called to walk in faith so that we can reap the fruits of the promises of God. Get the class to think about how they can make progress in faith, for God still keeps His word.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON

Next week we will see that we have nothing to fear if we recognize that God can protect us in any situation.

—A. Koshy Muthalaly.

Studying the Text

THE PROMISE OF THE LAND—

Josh. 1:1-6

A command (Josh. 1:1-2). Moses was dead. A new era was beginning in the history of Israel. The people were camped on the east side of the Jordan River, having been led there by Moses in their journey toward the land of Canaan. Moses had been told he would not be allowed to lead them into the land (Num. 20:12); so it was time for a new leader. {Moses was known as “the servant of the Lord” (Josh. 1:1), a title that is repeatedly used for him throughout this book. Joshua 24:29 shows that the title was also used for Joshua by the time of his death. Since Joshua had previously been appointed as Moses' successor (Num. 27:15-23; Deut. 31:14-23), he no doubt took the leadership role immediately after Moses' death.}^{q1}

Joshua had served as Moses' assistant for many years; so he had been well groomed for the position. Nevertheless, a change of leadership always carries certain uncertainties and adjustments.

It was important for Joshua to have God reaffirm to him what he was to do. God, who always knows when we need that kind of encouragement, came to Joshua with an important message.

We cannot tell exactly how God gave Joshua this message, but when it came, it was clear. {The death of the previous leader did not thwart God's plan for His people. Now it was time for the new leader to move ahead with it.}^{q2} Joshua was to lead the people across the Jordan River into the land God was going to give them. This was the land He had promised Abraham (Gen. 12:7). It had been a long time since the promise had been given, but no matter how long it takes, God never goes back on His word to His people.

A promise (Josh. 1:3-4). {What an all-inclusive, powerful word this was! Wherever Joshua would lead God's people, God would give them that land.}^{q3} We know that much more than simply walking the territory was going to be involved. Times of war and struggle lay ahead for them, but God