

# TIME TO PASS OVER JORDAN

".....PREPARE YOU VICTUALS; FOR WITHIN THREE DAYS YE SHALL PASS OVER THIS JORDAN, TO GO IN TO POSSESS THE LAND, WHICH THE LORD YOUR GOD GIVETH YOU TO POSSESS IT."  
Joshua 1:11

To make the setting for this scripture, we must go back a few verses where the Lord spoke to Joshua and said, "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.....Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land.... Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses My servant commanded thee. ....Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage.. be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

The Lord's first words to Joshua were--MOSES MY SERVANT IS DEAD. God cannot lead His people into anything new and better until the most recent or prior move of God is dead, completely dead. What a death God's people have been passing through, for nothing they have ever known before works in this present hour..... Prayer, praise, study, directives, knowledge---all these that we have once known on this particular level are DEAD!!! It is as if we are hanging in limbo not knowing which way to turn. Yes, Moses is dead! His name means DRAWN OUT, and those who have been drawn out from old organizations, even from "come outers", drawn out of ordinary things, drawn out from lower levels of understanding have gone through the death throes, and death becomes a stark reality indeed with all spirituality seemingly gone.

Then out of this nothingness of death comes the command of the Lord to Joshua whose name means YAHWEH-SAVIOUR, or YAHWEH OUR SALVATION. Thus we stand at the time of which Peter wrote in I Pet. 1:6 concerning the "SALVATION READY TO BE REVEALED IN THE LAST TIME." There is something more than the initial experience of accepting the Lord as our Saviour, for that is only the beginning of His workings of salvation, but now after years in which that salvation has been working in soul and spirit, it is now time for it to work in the realm of the body--not just healing but salvation which is far greater than healing. To His Joshuas is the command being given to move forward. No more is this a matter of being DRAWN OUT from something old, but rather it is a moving on into something far greater, even into that salvation that enwraps the body, too.

Will you note that three times Joshua is commanded to be strong and courageous, not dismayed nor afraid. This implies a need for special strength and courage at this time. CHAZAQ, the Hebrew for STRONG, means to FASTEN UPON, SEIZE, LAY HOLD OF, CONQUER. Does this not remind you of the words of Paul to Timothy---- "LAY HOLD on eternal (eonian) life." I Tim. 6:12, 19. Twice Paul

admonished Timothy regarding laying hold on eternal life, so it must have been very important to mention it thus. Too many have the mistaken idea that anyone who simply believes on the Lord shall have eternal life, but that is only half a truth. If it were so, then why would Paul have told Timothy to LAY HOLD of it if he already had it? O, no, eternal or eonian life, the life of the ages, is a goal to be gained and not easily so either. It is a fight of faith, a battle against all the forces within and without until we come to the place of snatching and laying hold of the life of the ages. In God's wonderful plan the time will come when God shall be ALL IN ALL, not just all in some, but all in all, but that is away out there in the ages. What we are interested in now is to lay hold of the life of the ages and move right on into the Kingdom Age ruling and reigning with Christ.

You may seem ever so weak and undone, but God's command is to be strong (to seize, to lay hold of), and when God gives the command, He also gives the ability to fulfill that command. We have come too far now to draw back from the finality of the closing age and the new opening age. We stand at the threshold, and He is giving the new orders for the new day: BE STRONG AND OF A GOOD COURAGE FOR THE LORD THY GOD IS WITH THEE WITHERSOEVER THOU GOEST--not where He goes but where you go!!! It is the time now for those of this calling and ordination to realize that the new day is bringing new commands, new openings, new understanding, new knowledge. Behold, HE is making all things new! Even you! You are being made new that He can begin to trust you as a mature son or daughter to proceed without begging Him for directions as to what to do. How would you feel if your grown children sat around the house and begged you to tell them what to do in every little detail? The time is at hand, and even now is upon us, when He is thrusting us forth in confidence promising that He will be with us withersoever we go. That does not infer to do what the flesh desires, for the opening of the greater salvation causes us to do what has been worked righteously within. May I quote something the Lord spoke to me one day?

Do what you will, your will is His,

You speak and act the God that is.

At the time that was given, it did not bear the significance it now does, but more and more I can see the outlines of a brand new day and way to which the Lord has brought us.

The foregoing thought is confirmed by the fact that John heard a voice BEHIND HIM. This means that he was out ahead of that voice that was speaking to him. Also, the prophet tells us we shall hear a voice BEHIND US saying, This is the way, walk ye in it! We have always expected leadings from above and before us coaxing us onward, but the time comes when the leadings are no longer in front but we are in front. This is confusing at first to our past thinking, but this is a new day wherein He says that He will be with us WITHERSOEVER WE GO!

Furthermore, those Israelites of Joshua's day were not to pass over Jordan unprepared. May I remind you of the scripture first quoted, PREPARE YOU VICTUALS. I was struck with the fact that

Israel had been living on manna for forty years in the wilderness and still were as they faced Jordan. Then suddenly comes the command to PREPARE YOU VICTUALS! This rather startled me, for I had presumed they crossed Jordan on the strength of the manna which only ceased as they partook of the old corn of Canaan after entering the promised land. How much we presume until the Lord points out another truth to us!

The Hebrew word for PREPARE means to SET UP, ESTABLISH, FIX, FRAME, ORDAIN, APPLY, APPOINT, CONFIRM. All of this is involved in this one word. This then is not just a matter of the Israelites fixing food, but it bears a far greater meaning for us now at this time upon whom the ends of the ages are come. No longer can MANNA suffice, but to get across this Jordan and into the promises will mean VICTUALS most be SET UP (brought into plain view), ESTABLISHED (not something easily swayed), CONFIRMED (strengthened to the heart), APPLIED (brought into direct contact). We have seen so much in a hazy vision, but now it is another story, for there is a great work of preparation going on in regards to the spiritual food we are to eat that will give us the strength to get the task accomplished of passing over from one dimension into another.

Israel was not to prepare just any kind of food, O, no! They were told to prepare VICTUALS which Hebrew word is most interesting and significant. It is the Hebrew TSEYDAH meaning MEAT--- in reality, VENISON, but here is a startling truth: The word is FEMININE! It is used in the feminine gender but nine times in the whole of the O.T., whereas there are 23 cases of it being used in the masculine form. No word of God is void of power, and no word of God is without significance. In every case where this particular Hebrew word is used in the feminine form it is connected with a time of emergency or special import. May I say this trusting that I shall not be misunderstood? The meat that is to strengthen the ones passing over Jordan is feminine, for the most part coming through the daughters of God, not the sons of God, for the sons are not yet manifested. Please don't cast aside STRONG MEAT because it is coming from a woman or women, or coming through them. You might be pushing aside the very thing you need to help you get the crossing over accomplished. Furthermore, to partake of such meat is to eat the flesh-- such flesh as has been made from the WORD--those who have literally, yea, actually, faced the hordes of hell and yet overcome and at the same time have so partaken of the truth that it has involved their very flesh. Thus the Word becomes manifest in flesh that the flesh might manifest the Word.

As afore mentioned, this Hebrew word is used but nine times, and nine is the number of STRENGTH, so it does indeed infer STRONG MEAT.

Of course, the one big question is, What is the STRONG MEAT that we are to eat that will strengthen us to enter into the promises of God? What TRUTH is it that will cause us to chew, and chew, and chew and thereby be imbued with new life and new strength? The key is found in Heb. 5:14, "But STRONG MEAT (solid food) belong-

eth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Now, if you will backtrack through this same chapter, you will find out Paul was writing about Melchisedek and the ORDER OF MELCHISEDEK, and he pens these words, "Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing." In other words, he could not even relate in full the mystery of the Order of Melchisedek because the people then could not receive it. Therefore, when he further states that the STRONG MEAT belongs to those of full age, he is still referring back to the Order of Melchisedek.

So much has been written and spoken about Melchisedek, but there is always something lacking, something left unsaid, some mystery not explained, in spite of the fact that what has been said is good. My own experience through the years is that I have sought and reached and seemed to almost touch this great truth and then, lo, the veil would close again in front of me. It has been almost frustrating, but we are nearing that time when the strong meat concerning Melchisedek and related truths shall come forth prepared for those of full age with exercised spiritual senses. We stand now at the brink of Jordan, we stand at the edge of a new beginning, we stand on the verge of a new breakthrough---and that breakthrough involves, along with other things, the unveiling of the mystery concerning the Order of Melchisedek. It will take this truth to help us cross Jordan, and this truth is beginning to burst upon the hearts and minds of the maturing ones.

What marvelous and yet awesome days in which to live! We stand ready and waiting to cross this Jordan, and this time we are not going down into its muddy waters, for we have been doing just that. Now we shall pass over it dryshod by a miracle. Israel passed over it at floodtide when it was overflowing its banks, and Jordan, speaking of DEATH, has been in a flooding state, and we have gone in to its muddy waters time and again and tasted death in various forms, but this time we shall pass over it without going through the murky waters. A path shall be opened up, and we shall cross clean over Jordan.

Let me remind you that Joshua said, "For WITHIN THREE DAYS ye shall pass over this Jordan." Knowing that days stand for years in Biblical reckoning, is it possible that it means WITHIN THREE YEARS this work shall be accomplished? If we stand in 1977 at Jordan and WITHIN THREE YEARS we are to pass over it, then we indeed are nearing the climax of the ages. We are drawing near to the time of full redemption! Surely we are about to see that for which we have long waited and believed! Surely the time is upon us! Even so our spirits now respond to the Spirit of God, and we hear His voice saying, "This, surely this, is the time!!!"

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