

When Facing the Floodwaters

Joshua 3:7-17

- 7 And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.
- 8 "Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: 'When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river.' "
- 9 Joshua said to the Israelites, "Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God.
- 10 This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites.
- 11 See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you.
- 12 Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe.
- 13 And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD— the Lord of all the earth— set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap."
- 14 So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them.
- 15 Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge,
- 16 the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.
- 17 The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

1. God's people needed to be reminded that _____ goes before them.

Isaiah 43:2

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you...

Joshua 4:10, 11

Now the priests who carried the ark remained standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything the LORD had commanded Joshua was done by the people, just as Moses had directed Joshua. The people hurried over, and as soon as all of them had crossed, the ark of the LORD and the priests came to the other side while the people watched.

2. The Israelites discovered that God worked in ways they couldn't _____ and in places they couldn't _____.

- 13 "And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD— the Lord of all the earth— set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap."
- 15 Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge,
- 16 the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.

3. They successfully navigated the Jordan only in the context of _____.

- 16 the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. ***So the people*** crossed over opposite Jericho.
- 17 The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while ***all Israel*** passed by until ***the whole nation*** had completed the crossing on dry ground.

MY NEXT STEP...

- What truth did the Holy Spirit want to impress upon your heart this morning?
- Will you trust the Lord to do a miracle on your behalf?