

2. Following God's Presence in 2022

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Last Sunday we spoke about God's Presence travelling with the Israelites in the wilderness after God delivered them from the Egyptian slavery.

Our present world has also become a "wilderness". There is now a strong need for us to pursue God's Presence and be led by His Spirit so we can live in God's perfect will and be kept safe and secure in our salvation.

Joshua 3:3–4 (NKJV) ... *"When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. 4 ... Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed this way before."*

- The ark of the covenant represents the Presence of God
- Joshua said: When you see ...
 - The ark of the covenant (God's Presence) & the priests carrying it
- You shall go after it (follow God's Presence & the leaders who carry it)

The year 2022 is uncharted territory - *we have not passed this way before.*

- Nations around the world are in turmoil over the (fake) pandemic
- We are being offered a fake solution
- Governments are bearing down on populations and oppress the people
- There is a new religion in the land – it's called Covid-Rules, and everybody is expected to bow down and "worship"

1. Joshua led God's people to cross the Jordan River

Joshua 11:23 (NKJV) *So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had said to Moses; and **Joshua gave it as an inheritance to Israel** according to their divisions by their tribes. Then the land rested from war.*

Joshua was anointed by God to lead His people over Jordan river and allocate & divide God's inheritance to them

- Moses' and Joshua's anointings were quite different:
 - Moses was anointed to deliver God's people from slavery and lead them out of Egypt

- Joshua was anointed to lead God's people into the Promised Land and allocate to them their inheritance
- Moses led God's people out of ...
- Joshua led God's people into ...
- We need leaders today with both anointings:
 - Typically, evangelists lead people out of a life of sin to Christ
 - And pastors lead people into their Christian inheritance in Christ

Colossians 1:13–14 (LB) *For he has rescued us out of the darkness and gloom of Satan's kingdom and brought us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, **14** who bought our freedom with his blood and forgave us all our sins.*

- It was Jesus Christ who paid the price for us to be rescued out of Satan's kingdom, and be brought into His Kingdom of light

2. Joshua leads God's people to destroy the city of Jericho

Joshua 6:1–2 (NKJV) *Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in. **2** And the Lord said to Joshua: "**See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor.***

- Crossing the Jordan River took them from the wilderness into the Promised Land
- But Jericho, the first walled city, was the gateway to the Promised Land
- If they couldn't defeat Jericho, they couldn't possess the Promised Land
- Many Christians are inside their Promised Land, but they have not yet defeated their Jericho

Joshua 6:3–6 (NKJV) *You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. **4** And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. **5 It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him.** **6** Then Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "**Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord.**"*

- Once again, the ark of the covenant was carried by the priests

- They carried the Presence of God into battle against Jericho
- God instructed them to:
 - March around the city once for six days
 - On the seventh day, march around the city seven times
 - Then, when the priests make a long blast with their trumpets, shout with a great shout, and the walls of the city will fall down
- **It was their complete obedience to God's instructions that caused the walls of the city to come down**
- God told them to completely destroy the city and all living beings in it
- All the spoil of gold, silver and bronze was to be brought into the Lord's treasury
- Jericho represented the tithe of the land

Joshua 6:19 (NKJV) *But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the Lord; **they shall come into the treasury of the Lord.***"

3. There were giants in the land

Deuteronomy 31:3 (NKJV) *The Lord your God Himself crosses over before you; He will destroy these nations from before you, and **you shall dispossess them.** Joshua himself crosses over before you, just as the Lord has said.*

- God instructed the Israelites to dispossess the inhabitants of the land
- Moses had sent 12 spies into the Promised Land who reported seeing giant in the land (Numbers 13:33)
- Giants were a hybrid race of half demons and half humans, the offspring of illegitimate unions between demons & human women (Genesis 6:4)

Joshua 11:21–23 (GNB) *At this time **Joshua went and destroyed the race of giants called the Anakim who lived in the hill country**—in Hebron, Debir, Anab, and in all the hill country of Judah and Israel. **Joshua completely destroyed them and their cities.** 22 None of the Anakim were left in the land of Israel; a few, however, were left in Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod. **23** Joshua captured the whole land, as the Lord had commanded Moses. Joshua gave it to the Israelites as their own and divided it into portions, one for each tribe. So the people rested from war.*

- Before Israel could possess the land, they had to slay the giants
- Before Christians can fully possess their inheritance in Christ they also have to slay the giants in their lives