

Hebrews 11

JOSHUA

Hebrews 11:30

Introduction

Time of the Joshua:	a. 1446-1374 B.C.
Record of Joshua life	b. Exodus - Joshua
Other Places Joshua is Mentioned:	c. Exodus – Judges
His other names:	d. Hoshea, Jehoshua, Jeshua, Oshea. He is the son of Nunn. He is not to be confused with the Joshua referred to in Haggai and Zechariah.
His death	e. Judges 2:8
Key verse	f. Hebrews 11:30

The name *Joshua* means *Jehovah Saves* or *Jehovah is Salvation*. He was a living testimony of God's salvation in the life of Israel as the LORD delivered them from the enemies who dwelt in their promised land.

This passage in Hebrews does not specifically mention the faith of Joshua as it wasn't his faith alone that wrought Israel the victory.

This victory God granted was the direct result of corporate faith. It was not the faith of a single man, or of a people. It was a demonstration of the faith of God's people cooperating with the faith of God's called leader Joshua.

In this passage set before us is the principle of unified cooperative faith which combines both *leadership* and *followership*.

Lesson Outline

A. The Faith of Joshua

- a. *A Prepared Faith*
- b. *A Prominent Faith*

B. The Faith of Israel

- a. *A Submitted Faith*
- b. *A Steadfast Faith*

Memory verse: "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days." Hebrews 11:30

A. The Faith of Joshua

1. A Prepared Faith

a. He Submitted

*“Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim. **And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.” Exodus 17:8-10***

*“And Joshua the son of Nun, the **servant of Moses**, one of his young men...”
Numbers 11:28*

b. He Studied— God’s...

a. Protection

*“And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.”
Exodus 17:13*

*“But all the congregation bade stone them with stones and the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.”
Numbers 14:10*

b. Provision

*He ate of the Manna and Quail.
He drank from the waters at Rephidim.
He walked upon the Land of Promise*

c. Presence

*He saw the Lord in the Pillar of Cloud by day and the Pillar of Fire by night.
He saw the Lord on Mount Sinai.
“And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.” Exodus 24:13*

d. Power

*Over every creature – Plagues at Egypt – flies, frogs,
Over the earth – crossing of Red Sea, water into blood,
Over mankind – the death of the first-born; the earth swallowing up the Sons of Korah; the fire serpents in the wilderness as a judgement from God.*

c. He Surrendered

*“Surely none of the men that came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob; **because they have not wholly followed me: Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite, and Joshua the son of Nun: for they have wholly followed the LORD.**” Numbers 32:11-12*

They trusted that what God had promised that will He deliver – The Promised Land

He wasn't concerned about his own safety, well-being, or comfortability – he was a man that wholly followed the LORD.

d. He Succeeded

a. Having proven himself a man of faith he became Moses' successor.

“And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him... And Moses did as the LORD commanded him: and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation: And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.” Numbers 27:18, 22-23

b. He became the leader of Israel

“And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses.” Deuteronomy 34:9

Joshua's faith was a prepared faith. He was not a NOVICE “...lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.” He was experienced in the sphere of godliness and God's working. He knew the LORD; he had seen the LORD work. He *submitted* under Moses, *studied* the wonders of God, *surrendered* his all to the LORD, and went on as the one who *succeeded* Moses. It didn't happen overnight, in fact, it took Joshua at least forty years. And out of all his generation he was only one of the few men of Israel who entered into the Promise Land.

His faith was tried as gold in the fire “...that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory...” 1Peter 1:7.

2. A Prominent Faith

a. Leader of Israel

- i. All the preparation brought his faith into prominence amongst his peers and God exalted his position as a leader of Israel.
- ii. His faith was prepared by God to lead the people of God into the promise of God.
- iii. God commissions Joshua giving him the promise of victory.
 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, 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. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. 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. Joshua 1:1-3, 5

- iv. Joshua commands the people and assumes authority.
 - 1. *“Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people...” Joshua 1:10*
- v. He sends forth spies into the land – Ch. 2:1
- vi. He leads them over the Jordan river to encamp outside Jericho – Ch. 3-5

B. The Faith of Israel

1. A Submitted Faith

“And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go. According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.” Joshua 1:16-17

“And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.” Joshua 3:7

God was helping Israel trust their God appointed leader. They would trust Joshua on the basis of God’s presence with Him. This was similar to the New Testament verse: “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.” 1Corinthians 11:1

a. Submitted to Specific Instruction

God gave Joshua specific instruction which he pass on to the people:

- i. Compass the city – 6:3
- ii. One time for 6 days – 6:3
- iii. Seven Priests - 6:4
- iv. Bearing 7 Trumpets of rams horns– 6:4
- v. On the 7th day compass the city 7 times – 6:4
- vi. The priests are to be blowing their trumpets – 6:4
- vii. Make a long blast – 6:5
- viii. All the people shall shout with a great shout – 6:5
- ix. They were to be silent until Joshua told them to speak – 6:10

b. Submitted as to the Lord

- i. A key part of faith is obedience to what God has revealed – There is no faith without submission.
- ii. Faithless people act independently of God and His appointed leaders (authorities). People of faith are dependant people, not independent. They believe and depend upon the LORD.

A people of faith will be a submitted people: (1) Women of faith submit to their husbands – as did Sarah unto Abraham (2) Children of faith – will submit to their parents. (3) Church members of faith will submit to their leadership authority (4) Citizens of faith obey the government structure God has placed over them.

2. A Steadfast Faith

a. Consider the Dangers of Destruction

- i. The risk is extreme.
- ii. The enemy could've wiped them out by standing on the top of the wall and firing arrows down.

b. Consider the Days of Doubt

- i. 6 days – One time around
- ii. The 7th day – 7 times around

c. Consider the Dividing Deterrent

- i. The Walls of Jericho
 1. Double walls – Outer 6ft thick; Inner 12ft thick.
 2. Approx. 10m high
 3. Roughly 800m perimeter
- ii. City built on a hill.

And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city. So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city. Joshua 6:16, 20

Despite the dangers that surrounded them, and the walls that overshadowed them and the days that seemed to work against them their faith remained steadfast! They trusted in the Rock of Ages who had promised them the victory. With a steadfast faith they saw through the days, over the shadows of the walls, and beyond their doubt claiming the promised victory.

Conclusion

- a. “By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.” Hebrews 11:30. This is the declaration of a cooperative, combined faith of Joshua and the children of Israel.
- b. God prepared Joshua's faith to be a leader who succeeded Moses and God used him to lead a submitted people into a miraculous victory.