

# THE STORY OF THE PROMISED LAND

- **The story of the of exodus to Canaan, the promised land, ends well, but only if one includes the book of Joshua.**
- **The generation that departed Egypt with Moses angered the Lord so often by their unbelief and disobedience that he consigned almost all, except for a remnant, to roaming the wilderness for 40 years until they died, never inheriting the Land.**
- **This certainly was not Moses' fault he provided them unique and superb leadership.**
- **Thereafter Moses appoints Joshua as leader and after his death at mount Nebo, Joshua guides the new generation of Israelites into Canaan, where Israel is today**



# Cont

- **The Israelites had seen the mighty hand of God for 40 years. He brought them safely out of Egypt and through the Red sea, He gave them food and water and victory over all their enemies, only one barrier remain between them and the promised land they must go through Jordan River.**

# CHALLENGES IN LIFE

- **But if there was excitement, there must also have been anxiety as they beheld the swollen river and thought about the fortified cities that lay on the other side. Life is like that.**
- **Often, with our hopes at their highest, there are accompanying challenges and problems that we face at the very same time. The trouble is we are facing problems that we cannot solve that is life in fallen world.**
- **Along with our hopes and joys there are always problems for which we simply have neither the strength nor the wisdom to meet the challenges.**
- **WE NEED STRENGTH FROM ABOVE. The battle is really the Lord's and this is what Israel was being taught in this message.**

# Cont.

- **And such is the case with all of life. As Paul cried out when contemplating the challenges and trials of ministry with these words:**
- **2 Cor.3:4-5**  
**...And who is adequate for these things?” But then answered his own question with these words: “...And such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God.**

# Crossing River Jordan

- **Let's go back to the book of Joshua 1:11**  
**".....within three days ye shall pass over Jordan...."**
- **All the tribes of Israel did not cross over the Jordan River. Two and One-half tribes never did, and we find their defection very early.**



Cont.

- **Moses was still alive when they came to the east bank of Jordan, and we find recorded in the book of:**

**Numbers 32:1-5**

- **“Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great multitude of cattle and when they saw the Land of Jazer, and the land of Gilead, that behold, the place was a place for cattle, the children of Rueben came and spoke unto Moses, and Eleazer, the priest, and unto the princes of the congregation, saying, “if we have found favor in thy sight, let this land be given unto thy servants for possession. Do not make us cross the Jordan.”**

# Cont.

- **That was the specific request of those two tribes, and one-half of the tribe of Manasseh joined them.**
- **Now Moses said to them at that time, “If you want possession on the east bank of the Jordan, all right but we are going to ask, when we cross over, that you send your men of war to help the other nine and one-half tribes to take the promised Land”(free translation).**
- **To this they agreed. They not only agreed to do it my friends, they made good their promise. We find this in Joshua 1:12-16.**

# Cont.

- **Joshua 1:12-16**  
**And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, spoke Joshua, saying.....**
- **The Lord your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land. Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side of the Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren all your fighting men, fully armed, must cross over ahead of your brothers and help them.**
- **....And they answered Joshua, saying, “whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.”**
- **Here you will note that they honored their promise. They said that they would do it when the time came, they went over.**



## THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CROSSING THE RED SEA AND THE JORDAN RIVER

**cont.**

- Now the question is, “what was wrong with dwelling on the east side of the Jordan River? Is it essential to cross over the river? Is not the east bank of the Jordan River part of the promised Land?” There are important striking features in connection with the crossing of Jordan River, as compared to the crossing of the Red sea.
- When they crossed the Red sea, Moses went down to the water and smote the water with his rod. All that night the water rolled back.

### CROSSING THE RED SEA



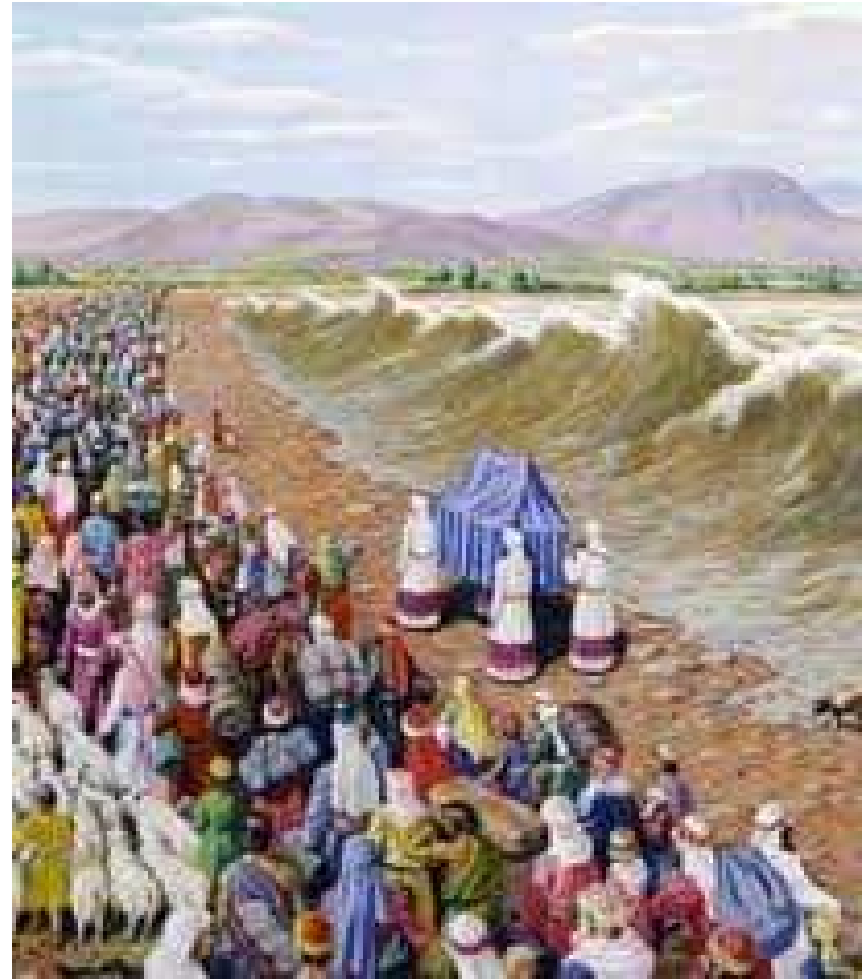
# Crossing the Jordan river

- **But when they crossed the Jordan River, it was actually a greater miracle, for it was flood stage and their crossing caused a holding back of the waters that were rushing to the Dead sea. We find this in the book of Joshua 3:3**



# CROSSING THE JORDAN RIVER

- **Joshua 3:3**  
And they commanded the people, saying when ye see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.
- And now something new has been added. The ark is to go down far ahead of the people, almost a mile, and it is to be carried by priests who are to come to the edge of the Jordan River and stand there.

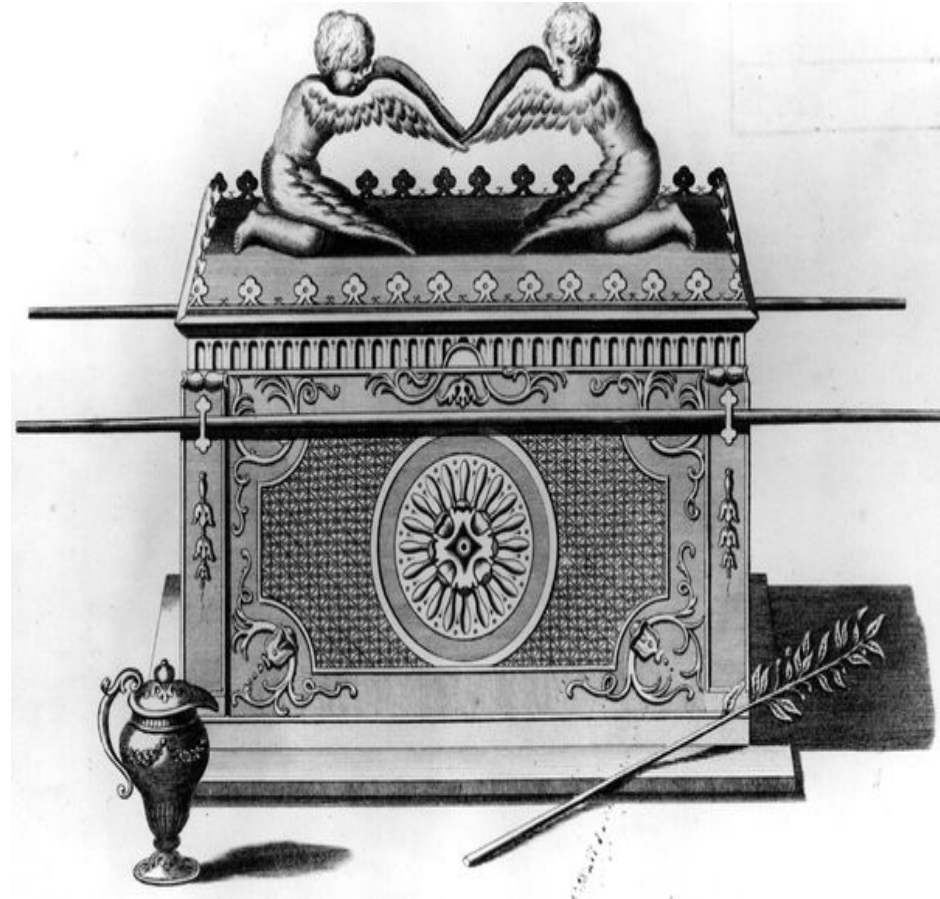


# CONT.

- **When this was done, the Jordan River began to dam up far back. The waters that were this side of it passed on down, and before long there was a dry passage.**
- **This was one of the greatest miracles recorded in scripture concerning the crossing of River Jordan than the crossing of the Red sea.**
- **When all miraculous events are considered it is difficult to say which is the greatest-but here is one that is tremendous .my beloved.**
- **We are to note that the priests moved to the centre of the Jordan River and stood there holding the ark until all the children of Israel Passed over.**

# What's so important about the ark

- Now the ark is one of the finest types of the Lord Jesus Christ given in the old Testament, although there are several others that are remarkable and outstanding.
- It pointed to the fact that as the people of Israel set out to cross the Jordan, invade, and possess the land, they must do so not in their own strength, but in God's for it was God Himself who was going before them as their source of victory.



# Cont.

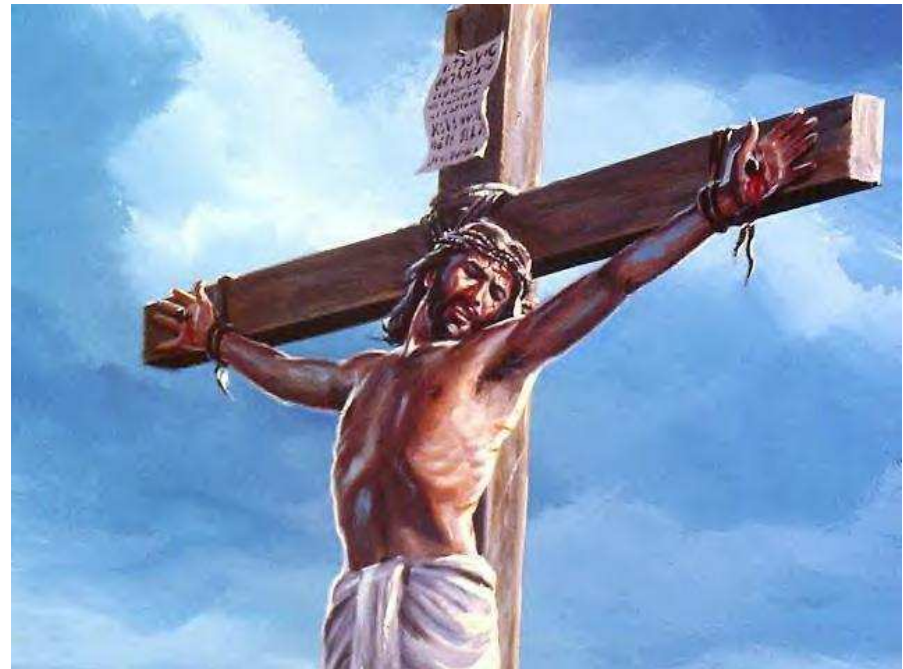
- **The ark had been in the very heart of that camp for forty years in the wilderness march. Every night when they came into camp, the entire twelve tribes of Israel set their tents about the ark. It was the very center .But now, for the first time, that which speaks of Christ goes ahead to the Jordan River and enters it first.**
- **CHRIST GOES BEFORE US IN DEATH, BUT HE GOES WITH US IN LIFE,**
- **When we are facing problems in this world He is with us we are not alone. All we need is to trust Him. He wants us to believe in Him my beloved**
- **In death He went before us, and when our Lord entered death, He entered it for you and for me.**
- **The Jordan sets forth the death of Christ but under no conditions does it set forth our physical death He goes before us in death Him alone on the cross dying for our sins so we can be saved from our sins committed in the Garden of Eden by first man Adam.**

# Cont.

- **My friends, may I say to you that Christ went into death for you and me, and that is set before us here in the book of Joshua**
- **When he died, He died for our sins that we might have life; and when He came back from the dead, His life was your life and my life, Now we are joined to the living God.**
- **That is one of the great truths of the word of GOD.**
- **Now my beloved, if you have crossed over Jordan and are buried with Him and raised with Him, you are to seek the things which are above not of the world.**
- **The past generation of the children of Israel did not pass The Jordan River because of unbelief. Now where are we standing there is nothing about thinking right and acting wrong. We need to think right and act right.**
- **Have you been saved? Have you crossed over Jordan?**
- **Someone says “I would like to, but how am I to do it? Well let me tell you what to do.**

# JESUS OUR SAVIOUR

- He alone was nailed to that cross and hanging there bore all the storms of the judgments of sin; they fell on Him. And when they fell on Him, they fell on us
- 1-The Red sea speaks of redemption(deliverance)
- 2-But the River Jordan speaks of SANCTIFICATION(purified, perfection) .
- And the DEATH of Christ was for our SANCTIFICATION.
- He saved us by paying the judgment of sin, my beloved





**cont.**

**And someone ask what does it mean, let me read this passage for you**

**At the height of the storm on Lake Galilee the disciples cried out, "Lord save us! We are perishing!"**

**To be saved means to be rescued and spared, to escape death and ruin, to be preserved from perishing.(Mtt 8:23-27).**

**The "sheep that was lost" would certainly have perished if it had not been found by the shepherd. To find it was to save its life(Lke 15:3-7).**

**It is appropriate to say that being lost is the opposite of being saved.**

**To say a soul is lost is to say it is going to perish.**

**John 3:16 says**

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life" .**

# Cont.

- Having sent his Son to die on the cross, God is able to “SAVE” all who were perishing.
- Christ Jesus came into the world to save us(1Tm 1:15). Now I ask this question. Are you saved ? Have you received Salvation?



# Cont.

- **But someone asks -Saved from what?**
- **To answer this question listen to this announcement.**
- **A child has been rescued after he has fallen into a swimming pool, or A man has been pulled back when he was about to walk in front of a bus. This Child and this Man has experienced Salvation.**
- **But what is it that we are saved from in the Salvation? The answer is, we are saved from the wrath of God in the day of judgement.**
- **(Rom 2:5-11) Everyone has the need of that salvation (Rom 3:23)**
- **God made it possible for the “LOST” to be saved by showing His love for the world through His Son Jesus Christ, by virtue of his death in which he shed his blood, his resurrection, ascension, and his intercession for us**
- **(Rom 5:6-11,8:32-34). That is the only means, the only possible means, by which we can be saved. He made this plan long time ago for you and me as we see here from the book of Joshua 1 :11 and I read...**

# RESURRECTION

- **We turn to the book of Romans 6:1-4 Now what is our response to be? Shall we sin to our hearts content and see how far we can exploit the grace of God? What a ghastly thought! We , who had died to sin- how could we live in sin a moment longer? (now when did we die to sin)**
- **Have you forgotten that all of us who were baptized into Jesus Christ were, by that action, sharing in his death? We were dead and buried with him in baptism, so that just as he was raised from the dead by that splendid revelation of the Father's power so we too may live a new life.**



# Cont.

- **Someone says “ I would like to, but how am I to do it?, let me tell you what you are to do**
- **Come and let us read about it in Romans 10:9-10**
- **That if you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Amen**



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