



JOYCE MEYER  
MINISTRIES®

# IT IS TIME TO POSSESS THE LAND

Every place upon which the sole of your foot shall tread,  
that have I given to you...

—Joshua 1:3

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**Teaching by Joyce Meyer**

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# IT IS TIME TO POSSESS THE LAND

## Possessing The Gates Of The Enemy

### I. Possessing

A. Possessing (defined) – To occupy by driving out previous tenants and possessing in their place. Seize, rob, impoverish, expel, ruin, cast out, destroy, dispossess, drive out, make poor, and take possession of.

1. Possessing requires action.

**Joshua 1:2-3**

2. Possessing requires letting go of what is behind.

**Genesis 13:1-17** – Abraham had lost a great deal, but God told him to “lift up his eyes and look from the place where he was to the place he was going.”

3. Some of you have had misfortune, disappointment, and loss – BUT YOU CAN GO FORWARD!!

4. **Isaiah 42:9; 43:18-19**

5. **Philippians 3:13-14** – . . . *but one thing I do [it is my one aspiration]: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,*

*I press on toward the goal to win the [supreme and heavenly] prize to which God in Christ Jesus is calling us upward.*

- B. **Genesis 22:17; 24:60** – Gates represented the strength of the enemy. The strength of the gate represented the power of the enemy.
  - 1. Possessing the gate of the enemy means to dispossess him of his power.
- C. **Matthew 16:18** – The gates of hell shall not prevail against the church.
- D. **Numbers 14:24** – Possessing the land requires “fully” following the Lord.
  - 1. **Haggai 1:2-12** – Do not obey God partly or vaguely. These people were not fully obeying, and they were not “living in the promised land of blessings.”
  - 2. We will have no power to possess anything without obedience.
- E. **Leviticus 20:24-26** – Possessing the land requires separation from all that is unclean.
  - 1. **Haggai 2:12-13** – Holiness is not infectious, but unholiness is infectious.

## II. The Believer Belongs To God – Or The Power Of God Will Never Belong To The Believer.

- A. Separation (defined/Vine’s) – To mark off by boundaries, to determine a limit. For example, I can’t be involved in that, I cannot go there, I cannot act like that, I cannot fellowship with that person or group of people.
  - 1. The separation of believers from unbelievers  
**Acts 19:8-9** and **II Corinthians 6:17**

2. You ABSORB what you are around.
  - a. **Proverbs 22:24-25** – *Make no friendships with a man given to anger, and with a wrathful man do not associate, lest you learn his ways and get yourself into a snare.*
  - b. **Proverbs 23:20-21** – *Do not associate with wine-bibbers; be not among them nor among gluttonous eaters of meat, for the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty, and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.*
  - c. **Psalm 1:1** – *Blessed (happy, fortunate, prosperous, and enviable) is the man who walks and lives not in the counsel of the ungodly [following their advice, their plans and purposes], nor stands [submissive and inactive] in the path where sinners walk, nor sits down [to relax and rest] where the scornful [and the mockers] gather.*
  
- B. Our God is a jealous God – He wants all of you, not little portions.
  1. **Deuteronomy 4:24** – *For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.*
  2. **I Corinthians 10:21** – *You cannot drink the Lord's cup and the demons' cup. You cannot partake of the Lord's table and the demons' table. (See also **Verses 20 and 22.**)*
  
- C. Spiritual adultery
  1. **James 4:4-5** – You are like unfaithful wives, having a love affair with the world.
  
- D. God is our portion.
  1. **Psalm 16:5** – The Lord is our portion.
  2. **Psalm 119:57** – The Lord is our portion.

3. **Deuteronomy 32:9** – We are the Lord’s portion.
- E. **John 17:10** – *All [things that are] Mine are Yours, and all [things that are] Yours belong to Me . . .*
1. Covenant means that BOTH parties make everything they have available to the other.

### III. We Cannot Compromise With The Enemy And Possess His Land.

- A. **Deuteronomy 7:1-5** – We must deal harshly and thoroughly with the enemy.

1. We cannot take the enemy until the Lord gives them over to us – **HIS TIMING, NOT OURS!**

**Psalm 31:15** – Our times are in Your hands.

2. Deal thoroughly with the enemy; don’t make any deals or compromise at all. **We must be ruthless with the devil!**

a. **Matthew 16:20-23** says that Jesus did not consider Peter’s suggestion. He said, **“Get thee behind Me, Satan.”**

b. Show no mercy.

c. Do not even listen to his suggestions.

d. Don’t repeat to others what he has said.

e. **Genesis 3:1-6** – Remember Eve.

- B. **II Corinthians 10:4-5** – Lead every thought and purpose away captive unto the obedience of Jesus Christ.

1. Thoughts and purposes – Satan has a different purpose for you than God does.

C. **Luke 4:1-14** – Jesus was in the wilderness forty **days**; the Israelites were there forty **years**. **What made the difference?**

1. The Israelites compromised with the enemy.

They came out of Egypt, but Egypt never came out of them. They murmured, grumbled, found fault with God and Moses, were impatient, depressed, and discouraged because of the trials of the way. They frequently wanted to go back where they came from (to the comforts of Egypt).

2. Jesus gave the devil no place. He answered every temptation with the Word of God.

He solidly stood His ground, knowing what He had been sent to do – being determined to do it.

**You can strip Satan of his power,  
but you must be full of the power of God to do it.**

**Being full of the power of God requires being empty of everything else  
– yourself, the world, and all of its ways!!**







# From Slaves To Warriors

## Being Delivered From A Slave Mentality

### I. He Brought Them Out To Take Them In.

#### A. Deuteronomy 6:23

B. Out of what? Bondage, slavery, poverty (never having enough) oppression, hardship, being ruled over by people who treated them unjustly, shamefully, and reproachfully!

C. Into what? Freedom, liberty, prosperity (land of plenty)

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-9 – While you are in the transition, you have to be reminded of where you are going; otherwise, you will get discouraged.

D. Into What? Honor and glory, authority, dominion, and promotion

1. Psalm 8:5 – Man crowned with glory and honor.

a. No matter where you are at, always keep a fresh vision for where you are headed.

b. We were created by God for glory, honor, authority, dominion, and fruitful lives.

2. I Peter 5:1 – Those who share the suffering, also share the glory and honor.

3. Romans 8:17 – If we share His sufferings, we will share His glory.

E. Suffering, glory, and honor

1. Suffering (defined/Vine's) – To leave, let, permit, endure – it basically means not to run away during the hard times. **Hang in there during transition.**
2. Glory (defined/Vine's) – To be honored. As the glory of God is the revelation and manifestation of all that He has and is, it is God manifesting all the goodness that is His. To shine, to be magnified, (made larger or promoted above). It is the character and ways of God manifested through Christ to and through the believer. **GLORY IS EXCELLENCE DISPLAYED** – brought out in the open where it can be seen.
3. Honor (defined/Vine's) – Esteem, value, to be the reward of tried Saints. (See **I Peter 1:7**.) Held in high regard. There are degrees of honor, refers to an honorable position, treated as dear or precious, valuable.

## II. Out Of Egypt – Into The Promised Land – Through The Wilderness

- A. The wilderness is a place of transition.
  1. Transition (defined/Webster's) – An act, process or instance of changing from one state, form, activity, or place to another. Passage from one place to another.  
  
Transit – Passage over, across, or through. Conveyance of people or goods from one place to another. A bus or streetcar is referred to as a “public transit”; it carries people from one place to another.
  2. Prior to a woman giving birth, she is said to go through transition. The baby is passing from the womb, through the birth canal, preparing to enter the world.
- B. Jesus was in the wilderness forty **days**; the Israelites wandered around for forty **years**. **How long will it take you?**

1. Jesus lived by the Word, not His feelings.
  2. The Israelites lived by their feelings and not by God's Word.
- C. **Luke 5:1-7** – The disciples get a haul that meets all their needs; and they are able to share with others, due to honoring the Word above their feelings.
1. The Promised Land blessing of “more than enough” came on them.
- D. Representations:
1. Egypt = Not enough (lack)
  2. Wilderness = Barely enough  
(See **Deuteronomy 8:4.**)
  3. Promised Land = More than enough  
(plenty, abundance)

### III. Delivered From A Slave Mentality

- A. To be delivered from slavery, one must be delivered from a slave mentality and position their mind for victory.
1. Choose a new attitude – One that will cooperate with God to bring you into the things He brought you out for.  
  
**He brought you out to take you in!!**
- B. Slaves are ashamed and full of reproach.
1. **Joshua 5:9** – God rolled away the reproach before they conquered their first city.

2. Reproach – Shame, blame, disgrace – a generally yucky (poor) attitude about oneself.

(Vine's/Greek) –“The disgraced person received abuse by the words spoken against them and rumors spread about them.”

- C. Satan brings reproach; God does not bring reproach. Remember, He desires to honor and glorify.

1. Ephesians 1:4 and James 1:5 – We can come to Him without reproach.

**NO PERSON CAN POSSESS THE LAND  
AND CARRY REPROACH AT THE SAME TIME.**

2. I believe it breaks the spirit of a man and renders him weak and powerless against the enemy – as well as in his dealings with life in general.

- D. **Tomorrow's dreams have no place for the reproaches of the past.**

- E. Shame due to personal sin must also go!!! Stop beating on yourself.

**TO GO FORWARD, ONE MUST STOP LOOKING BACKWARD  
AT WHAT THEY WERE NOT, HAD NOT, OR DID NOT!!**

#### **IV. Poor Me, Chip-On-My Shoulder, And Everyone-Owes-Me Attitude**

- A. Everyone has a rough time in life in some way.

1. I Peter 5:9 – All suffer.
2. Galatians 6:5 – We all have faults.

- B. Nothing-turns-out-right-for-me attitude

1. Numbers 20:1-5

2. Numbers 21:1-5
  3. Numbers 11:1 – Fire in the outlying parts of the camp could represent the fire of God in our flesh.
- C. They came out of Egypt as slaves, and God was trying to turn them into warriors. **They would never get out of the wilderness unless they made the transition.**

## V. From Slaves To Warriors

- A. Exodus 13:17 – God led them the long way because they were not ready for war.
- B. Possess – To occupy by driving out previous tenants and possessing in their place. To seize, rob, impoverish, expel, ruin, cast out, destroy, drive out, make poor, and take possession of.
- C. Isaiah 41:10-18 – God turns us into new, sharp, threshing instruments with teeth.
- D. Joshua 4:13 – About 40,000 men who were **PREPARED** for battle were sent.
- E. **Warriors** – Obedient to authority over them, courageous, strong and healthy, able to endure, not quitters, aggressive.
- F. Joshua 6:1-15 Jericho – By the time they got to Jericho, they had to be ready to listen and obey and ready to step out into new things they might not understand with their minds.

**SHOUT!! FOR THE LORD HAS GIVEN YOU THE CITY.**







# The Power Of Remembering

- We often remember what we should forget, and forget what we should remember!!
- THE POWER OF MEMORY provokes emotion – tears, anger, and joy.
- Memory has positive power if used properly and negative power if used improperly.

## I. Hardness Of Heart

A. **Mark 6:34-52** – The miracle of feeding the 5,000.

1. They became frightened in the storm after seeing the miracle.

B. **Mark 8:1-21** – The miracle of feeding the 4,000.

1. Their hearts were hardened due to **NOT REMEMBERING** the miracles.
2. They were worried about not bringing bread after seeing the miracle Jesus did.

C. They were discussing their need – they should have been **REMEMBERING** the loaves and fishes.

D. **Hebrews 3:7-19** and **Psalms 95:7-11** – Hard hearts, unbelief, and no rest all go together.

1. They had hard hearts and could not believe nor enter God's rest because they forgot what they should have remembered and remembered what they should have forgotten.
2. **Exodus 17:1-7** – They murmured and complained instead of being thankful.

- E. Other reasons for a hard heart
  - 1. Abuse of any kind
  - 2. Legalism (works that do not work) causes the believer to feel defeated, and they become hardhearted.
  - 3. Procrastination causes the heart to harden against God's will. The longer we put off what God has said to do, the easier it becomes not to do it.
  - 4. Unconfessed sin – making excuses instead of facing the truth
  - 5. **Numbers 20:1-13** – Anger will harden your heart; it happened to Moses.

## II. The Power Of Remembering

- A. **I Samuel 17:1-37** – Helped David face Goliath and defeat him (See **Verses 20-37.**)
- B. **II Timothy 1:1-7** – Helped Paul not to be discouraged with Timothy's lack of faith and helped Timothy overcome fear
- C. Remembering the right things helps fight depression.
  - 1. **Psalm 42**
  - 2. **Psalm 63:1-8**
  - 3. **Psalm 77**

## III. The Israelites In The Wilderness

- A. **Deuteronomy 6:17-23** – He brought them out to take them in.

1. God is always bringing us out of something to take us into something.
  2. Most of that generation never entered the Promised Land.
  3. They had a bad attitude (not too many enemies), and their attitude developed from **remembering what they should have forgotten, and forgetting what they should have remembered!**
- B. **Deuteronomy 8:2-4, 7-19** – They were supposed to remember their bondage in Egypt and be thankful for their deliverance.
1. They forgot how they were crying to God to deliver them from their oppression, and how happy they were to see Moses in the beginning.
- C. **Numbers 11:1-10** – They were remembering the fish, onions, leeks, and garlic of Egypt.
1. People might remember the good feeling they had when they were high on some drug, but they should also remember the hell they went through the rest of the time.
  2. People might remember how good the chocolate cake, ice cream, and candy bars tasted; but they should also remember how they hated the way they looked, hated to shop for clothes, felt insecure, guilty, and condemned.
- D. Do not trade the promised land for momentary excitements, fleeting enjoyments, and temporary good feelings.
1. **Hebrews 11:24-25** – *[Aroused] by faith Moses, when he had grown to maturity and become great, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, because he preferred to share the oppression [suffer the hardships] and bear the shame of the people of God rather than to have the fleeting enjoyment of a sinful life.*

2. **Hebrews 11:15** – *If they had been thinking with [homesick] remembrance of that country from which they were emigrants, they would have found constant opportunity to return to it.*
- E. They cried (**Numbers 11:2, 10**), but it did not impress God.
1. I cried because I was lonely.
  2. I cried because of the truth I had to face about me.
  3. I cried when I had to resist trying to provide for myself while I was learning to let God take care of me.
  4. I cried when God told me to apologize to Dave, and I thought Dave was wrong and should apologize to me.

#### IV. Remembering God's Goodness Provokes Generosity To Others And Helps Us Remember God's Generosity To Us.

- A. **Deuteronomy 24:17-22** – Remember that you were a slave in Egypt, earnestly remember it and help meet the needs of others.
- B. **Esther 9:13-28** – Two feast days were established yearly to help them remember their deliverance; part of the feast was to remember the poor.
- C. The feasts of Israel and the memorials God had them erect or establish:
1. **The Passover (Exodus: Chapter 12)** – This feast was to be kept yearly, and they were to remember when God delivered them with a mighty hand when they put the blood of the lamb on the lintel and doorposts of their houses. They were to repeat the event to their children from generation to generation so that no one would ever forget it.
  2. **The Sabbath (Deuteronomy 5:12-15)** – Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy. On this day they were to do no work; they were to rest and remember God.

3. **Feast of Booths (Leviticus: Chapter 23)** – They were to move out of their homes and live in tents to help them remember where God had brought them from. (See Verses 42-44.)

## V. **The Book Of Remembrance**

- A. **Malachi 3:16** – God keeps a book of remembrance of the good things His people say.
  1. Keep one yourself of the good things God does for you – small things and big things.
  2. When you are discouraged, get it out and read it.
  3. When you feel like complaining, get it out and read it.
- B. The Israelites were told to talk to one another and to their children about the mighty things God had done for them.
  1. We should do the same thing.

**DO NOT REMEMBER WHAT YOU SHOULD FORGET,  
AND FORGET WHAT YOU SHOULD REMEMBER!!**







# Those Possessed By Laziness Will Never Possess The Land

Foundation Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1 and Ephesians 5:14-17

## I. Arise

- A. Arise – Accomplish, help, rouse up, stir up, be up, get up, or have a spiritual awakening from lethargy.
  1. Lethargy – Sluggish indifference, apathy, forgetfulness; passive, lazy, and lukewarm.
  2. In the church, lethargic people are often “hearers but not doers.”
    - a. They are deceived, without victory, and unhappy.
    - b. **James 1:22; John 13:15-17** and **Matthew 7:24-27**
- B. Doers are not lazy; they are workers. They are diligent, disciplined, hard-working people who understand that they must pay a price now to have what they want later on.
  1. **Hebrews 12:11** – *For the time being no discipline brings joy, but seems grievous and painful; but afterwards it yields a peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it . . .*
  2. **Verse 12** – *So then, brace up and reinvigorate and set right your slackened and weakened and drooping hands and strengthen your feeble and palsied and tottering knees.*
- C. Doers get the breakthrough! Not those doing “works of the flesh,” but those doing what God has said to do.

1. Most people spend their time doing what only God can do; and therefore never have time to do what they should be doing.

2. **John 2:5** – Whatever He says to you, do it!

Example: I was making my bed when God spoke to my heart about ministry. I was not seeking a ministry. Many are so busy trying to have a ministry that they are ignoring their families and homes, and the result will be that both will fall apart.

D. **Joshua 1:1-3** – Arise; go take what I have given you!

1. **Verse 11** – Tell the people to get prepared!

Preparation means work!!

## II. Work

A. Work six days and rest one – this formula lets us know immediately that we should work more than we rest.

1. If we do not rest, we will get burnout– we will be out of balance – and the consequences are disastrous.

B. **Deuteronomy 28:12** – God promised to bless all the work of their hands.

1. **Verse 8** – The Lord shall command the blessing on all that you undertake.

2. **Verse 11** – *And the Lord shall make you have a surplus of prosperity, through the fruit of your body . . .*

C. Work and give.

1. **Deuteronomy 24:19-22** – Don't just work so you can take care of yourself; but work and give, and God will take care of you.

2. **Ephesians 4:28** – *Let the thief steal no more, but rather let him be industrious, making an honest living with his own hands, so that he may be able to give to those in need.*
  3. **Proverbs 21:25-26** – *The desire of the slothful kills him, for his hands refuse to labor. He covets greedily all the day long, but the [uncompromisingly] righteous gives and does not withhold.*
- D. The Israelites did not really want hard work – they wanted Moses to do everything for them while they wandered around the wilderness murmuring and complaining.
1. **Proverbs 30:15** – *The leech has two daughters, crying, Give, give! . . .*

### III. Procrastinators Never Possess.

- A. Procrastinators have “good intentions,” but they will take action later.
- B. We should be “now” people!!
  1. **Hebrews 11:1** (KJV) – **NOW** *faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*  
  
Faith is not yesterday or tomorrow, but **NOW!**
  2. **Hebrews: Chapter 4** – **TODAY**, *if you would hear His voice and when you hear it, do not harden your hearts.* (See **Verse 7b.**)
  3. **Luke 4:17-21** – Jesus read **Isaiah: Chapter 61** and said, “**Today** this Scripture is fulfilled.” The religious people got in a rage. They would not have cared had He said “someday,” but **TODAY** gets the devil upset.
- C. **Ecclesiastes 11:4** – Those who wait for every condition to be favorable will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.

1. People who procrastinate, waiting for some other “perfect” time, never **POSSESS THE LAND**.

D. **Matthew: Chapter 25** is full of examples of how the lazy procrastinators never **POSSESS** what they are desiring.

1. Five foolish virgins were lazy procrastinators – five wise virgins were hard workers who stayed prepared.
2. Three servants were given talents: Two worked hard and increased – **THEY WORKED HARD and INCREASED** – one was wicked, lazy, idle, and lost everything he had.
3. Jesus comes and separates the sheep from the goats. Sheep say “Baaahh,” “Baaahh” – they may be a little stubborn and a little lazy – but they will yield to the shepherd.

Goats know what they should do, “**BUT**” – they are always “butting” up against something.

E. I know what I should do, “**BUT**” . . .

1. Wash the dishes, do the laundry, mow the grass, read to the kids, stay home with the family, turn the television off, stop spending so much money, etc.

**THEY NEVER ENTER THE PROMISED LAND – THEY NEVER POSSESS THE LAND!**





# Stages, Degrees, And Little By Little

## I. Transformed, Not Translated

- A. **Hebrews 11:5** – Enoch was the only man who was translated. “And he was not found, for God took him.”
1. Elijah left in a flaming chariot – people saw him go.
- B. **Colossians 1:13** – We are translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of the Son of His love.
- C. **Romans 12:2** – Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the entire renewal of your mind.
1. **II Corinthians 3:18** – *And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit.*
- D. **Transformed** – To change the nature of, to alter the appearance, to change entirely.
- E. **Translate** – To transport to another place; to go to heaven without experiencing natural death. To be one place, then suddenly be in another place.

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Comment: Many people want to live heavenly lives without dying to the flesh.

## II. God’s Process

- A. **Exodus 17:1** – All the people moved on from the Wilderness of Sin by stages.

- . Sin and wilderness living are companions.
  - 2. We come out of that condition by stages.
- B. **Deuteronomy 7:1-2** – When God gives your enemies to you, you may smite them; but not until He gives them to you.
- 1. Then you must UTTERLY destroy them, and we often go around the mountain several times before we totally let go of a particular sin.
  - 2. It is often a slow process, mostly caused by our stubborn flesh.
- C. **I Peter 5:10** – After you have suffered a little while, God will deliver you.
- 1. Get the revelation early that YOU CANNOT DELIVER YOURSELF, or you will never stop going around the same mountain.
  - 2. **I Thessalonians 5:22-24** – God has to do it. He shows us something, provides the grace for us to deal with it, we obey, and then we wait for Him to show us something else.
  - 3. We change from glory to glory.
- D. **Deuteronomy 7:22** – The Lord will clear out the enemy “little by little,” lest the beast of the field increase among you.
- 1. I believe the beast is pride.
- E. **Deuteronomy 7:18** – You shall not be afraid of them, but remember how God dealt with Pharaoh.
- 1. Don’t fear your faults – His strength is made perfect in your weakness. His grace is sufficient. Where sin does abound, grace does much more abound.

2. **Romans 14:4** – While He is changing you, He is able to keep you. He supports us and makes us stand.

### III. The Power Of Continuing

- A. **Deuteronomy 6:23** – He brings us out to take us in.
- B. He brings us out of carnality into spiritual maturity.
  1. **Proverbs 24:16** – *For a righteous man falls seven times and rises again . . .*
  2. **Psalms 37:23-24** – When he falls, the Lord grabs his hand.
- C. **Matthew 18:21-22** – How often will God forgive us for the same dumb mistake? Surely, as often as He told Peter to forgive!
- D. **Philippians 3:10-14** – Paul was more concerned with pressing on than he was with his mistakes.
  1. Are you overly impressed by your failures?
- E. **John 8:31-32** – If you **CONTINUE** in My Word, then are you my disciples indeed; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.
  1. Continue, continual, continually (defined/Vine's) – Constant, at all times, always, carried through, unbroken continuance, a certain thing done frequently throughout a period, stresses the unbroken continuity of a thing. To continue means to become, suggesting entrance into a new state, “to come to pass,” to bring through to an end, to finish fully, without interruption, to remain, abide, dwell, live in, to continue to persevere, be strong towards, steadfast.
- F. Some Scriptures that make it clear we must continue:

1. **Colossians 1:22-23** – *Yet now has [Christ, the Messiah] reconciled [you to God] in the body of His flesh through death, in order to present you holy and faultless and irreproachable in His [the Father's] presence. [And this He will do] provided that you **continue** to stay with and in the faith [in Christ], well-grounded and settled and steadfast, not shifting or moving away from the hope [which rests on and is inspired by] the glad tidings (the Gospel) . . .*
2. **Hebrews 13:1** – *Let love for your fellow believers **continue** and be a fixed practice with you [never let it fail].*
3. **II Timothy 3:14** – *But as for you, **continue** to hold to the things that you have learned and of which you are convinced, knowing from whom you learned [them] . . .*
4. **John 15:7** – *If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and **continue** to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.*

#### IV. Continue Through Correction

- A. **John 15:1-11** – Continue through pruning (correction), and eventually you will have overflowing joy.
- B. We change from glory to glory – between the glories, there is always correction.
  1. Correction from God
  2. Correction from those in authority over us
- C. **Hebrews 12:5-9** tells us we must have correction, or we are not sons – and that we **must SUBMIT** to it!!
  1. Many rebel against it and never POSSESS THE LAND.
- D. We must learn to “receive correction” – not as a pretense – but in reality.

1. Genuinely think about what has been presented and be honest with yourself. **THE TRUTH** (about you) **WILL MAKE YOU FREE** (if and when received).
- E. Getting condemned and down on yourself does not equal “receiving correction.”
1. **Hebrews 5:11-6:3** – Those who do not have a revelation on their righteousness through Christ can only feed on the milk of the Word. **They get condemned or angry when anything stronger comes.**
- F. **Revelation 3:17-19** – We purchase the gold God is offering with a willingness to face truth and go on to the next level of glory.
1. What we think about ourselves and what God (and sometimes others) know are frequently two different things.







# Conquering New Territory

## I. You Have Not Passed This Way Before.

A. **Joshua 1:1-9** – New responsibility may open a door for fear to come in.

1. When fear comes, our response should be to “fear not.”
2. You may feel fear, but **DO IT AFRAID**.

B. You must be strong and very courageous.

1. God is with you.
2. He has prepared everything – but we must not allow fear to defeat us.

Faith is given to us for the challenges in life.

C. **Joshua 3:1-7** – Keep your eyes on the ark – representing God’s presence and His Anointing – for you have not done this before.

1. **John 16:1-15; 14:26** – The Holy Spirit is our teacher – He leads and guides us in all things [including new territory].
  - a. The disciples were given a commission, an assignment, and there were no previous successes to follow.
  - b. They could follow Jesus’ example – but we must remember that He got Himself killed for doing what He was telling them to do. It could have looked uninviting.
2. **I John 2:20, 27** – The **Anointing** teaches you.

## II. What Place Did The Ark Have In The Israelites' Journey From Egypt To The Promised Land?

- A. **Joshua 3:8-4:7** – The **ark** had to go before them in order for them to have victory.
1. Be careful that you do not try to go before the **ark**. Always let God lead.
  2. Please note that the Priests had to put their feet in the water before it parted. The Lord will lead us, but we must be courageous and step out.
- B. **Joshua 6:1-16** – We see clearly that where victory was, the **ark** was.
- C. **I Samuel 4:3-22** – The Israelites wanted to send for the **ark** when they were in trouble but not have it with them all the time.
1. God let the Philistines defeat Israel; and when the **ark** was captured, it was said, “**The glory of the Lord has departed from Israel.**”
- D. **I Samuel 5:1-4** – Dagon (the Philistine god) falls before the power of God.
- E. **II Samuel 6:1-8** – David seeks to restore the **ark**.
1. Uzzah had become familiar with the **ark** because it had been in his home for a long time; therefore, he was not afraid to touch it.
  2. **Exodus: Chapter 25** – They were not carrying it properly either. No human was to touch it. They put it on a new cart that human hands had made. God had instructed that it be carried by inserting poles into the rings on the sides of it and for it to be borne on the priests' shoulders.
  3. Finally, David brought the **ark** in properly.

### III. Follow The Cloud.

- A. **Exodus 40:35**
- B. **Numbers 9:15-23** – When the cloud moved, they moved. And when it remained, they remained.
  - 1. There was no pattern as to how long it stayed in one place. No need to try to reason it out, just follow the leading.
  - 2. Beware of reasoning – You can reason yourself right out of the will of God.
- C. The cloud represented a special **presence of God** and was a sign of “divine protection.”

### IV. We Are The New Covenant Ark. (See **I Corinthians 3:16.**)

- A. **Colossians 1:27** – Christ in us, the hope of glory!
  - 1. His glory and ours – He takes us from glory to glory, and we can live fruitful lives that glorify Him.
- B. The inner witness
  - 1. **Romans 8:14** – We are to be led by the Holy Spirit.
- C. Your conscience is your friend.
  - 1. **Acts 24:16**
  - 2. **Acts 23:1**
  - 3. **Romans 9:1**
  - 4. **Romans 14:23**
  - 5. **I Timothy 1:5**

6. **I Timothy 1:19**
  7. **I Timothy 3:9**
- D. **Colossians 3:15** – Let peace be the umpire.
- E. **Ecclesiastes 12:13** – Following God and His commands is the adjustment to all inharmonious circumstances.
1. Disobedience and stubbornness will keep one wandering in the wilderness – following the leading of the Holy Spirit will lead you and me into the promised land and keep us there.



