

Possessing the Promise!

God has given us the promise, it is sure, it is true and it is established. We must stand in faith until the manifestation, then we must by faith and action **possess** the promise.

Possession: something seized, an *acquisition, to have and to hold*

Seize: to possess or take by force, to take hold of, to attack or overwhelm physically.

Jos 1:2-8

God's Promise:

Jos 1:5 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.

The children of Israel had come a long way – they had in front of them one obstacle, the Jordan river at flood stage – God had brought them here with a PROMISE, of MANIFESTATION and lastly but most importantly, POSSESSION!

They had a right to it by promise – They were seeing the manifestation of being there after all the time passed. But the biggest problem before them was the possession. **Possession is our responsibility!**

One key is found in this verse

Jos 1:3 Every place that the sole of your foot **shall tread** upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

- The question here is how do we tread in the spirit to receive and possess the promise.

We tread, we walk in, live in, talk in and think in the promise that God has given to us so that we have what He promised. Our walk in God, by God and through God is our “treading”.

Luke 10:19 – talks of our treading over the enemy – Our victory walk is because **we tread on ALL our enemies.**

Tread: walk, under foot, trample

What did the river Jordan represent?

The final physical separation between the promise and the manifestation

The river was at flood stage – it represented the natural, that was to block their way.

What is it in the natural that blocks your moving into the “PROMISE” – land?

It was reminiscent of the Red Sea when they were delivered from the Egyptians. God did not fail them then He would not fail them now. If God did something for you in the past, He will do it again NOW!

- Something they had to “cross over” to get to what God had said.
- **“CROSS OVER” – IT WAS TIME TO MAKE THE CHANGE FROM WILDERNESS TO PROMISE LAND**

Cross over demands, calls forth a change and movement -

The unknown, unfamiliar of the “Promised Land” – they could not see completely what was ahead.

Faith had to come to the forefront –

They **had not gone this way ever before**. New ground, new ways, new ideas, new battles etc.

Trust in the supernatural of the Lord – He had never failed them. God would do wonders.

Keep their **eyes on the ARK** in the middle of the river. (the Word would guide them)

In the middle of our storm our eyes cannot be taken off the WORD OF GOD

The ARK was the picture of the Word of God – It carried the stone tablets (the law), it had the rod of Aaron (from the almond tree) which budded (speaks of the revelation of God, almond: means to awaken. – this miracle takes a dead lifeless stick and without water or soil it brings forth life and had buds.) this is a picture of our life when Jesus comes in (the anointing power of God to change us), and the manna, which speaks of the bread of life we need DAILY! There were 3 things, 3 is the number of salvation in the Bible.

- Moses represented a maintenance anointing – survival, maintaining, waiting for someone to believe.
- Moses represents a wilderness experience filled with people of unbelief
- They could not enter in because of their unbelief.

To have the promise of God activated in our lives we must first embrace the change that God requires to receive the promise He gave. This is called obedience. It happens because of faith and trust, ending in possession.

They were face to face with the Promise, the Manifestation and now they were to take possession.

What did God ask of them to receive what He had spoken?

1. Arise – to get up and move towards what God promised
2. Sanctify themselves – repent of sin, prepare their hearts to receive, reposition with the Father - fellowship
3. Be strong and very courageous
4. Keep the Word of God – observe to do ALL – do not turn left or right from the Word.
5. Keep the Word in their mouth
6. Meditate, think on, study, observe, the word day and night.

Lets talk about Change-

Change is hindered by five things:

<u>Fear</u> –	I am afraid to change or of change - Fear stops faith
<u>Pride</u> –	I don't need to change – God hates pride, pride is the root attitude and heart of satan. Prov 6
<u>Rebellion</u> –	I don't want to change. – Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft
1Sa 15:23	For rebellion <i>is as</i> the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness <i>is as</i> iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from <i>being</i> king.
<u>Laziness</u> -	Just plain too lazy to do what it takes to make any kind of change We find apathy, lethargy, procrastination etc in this arena.
<u>Ignorance</u> -	We just do not know what the word of God says about the things we need to know and do. We have not studied, we have not read, and continuing in that mode will continue to bring forth the same results.

Many times we find ourselves believing, even being in faith but we stop short of possessing.

To possess is to take, seize, take hold of, hold on to – make your own – So much a part of us that nothing can remove, alter, take away, decrease, modify, dilute etc. the promise of God.

Circumstance do not change the word of God, The word of God change circumstances!

If its mine then I have it. I POSSESS it.