

The practical message of the Book of Joshua is that:

- God keeps His promises.
- and enables His servants to succeed if they will trust Him and obey His Word.

The spiritual message is that:

- God has a rich inheritance for His children now,
- and they can claim it by faith.

There are **several different** kinds of people in this world.

- People still in **bondage** in Egypt and **need** to be **delivered**.
- People delivered from bondage but are **wandering** in the **wilderness** of **unbelief**.
- Still others have “sampled” the inheritance but live on the **borders** of the **blessing**.
- People who follow their Joshua (**Jesus = “Jehovah is salvation”**) and enter **blessing**

1. He enlisted others and commanded their respect.

- The conquest of Canaan wasn't the work of one man; it was the work of thousands of people.
- True leaders don't *demand* respect; they *command* it.
- Joshua had *authority*; but it takes more than authority to lead others.
- It also takes *stature*, character that will make people look up and listen
- **Real leaders don't use people to build their authority; they use their authority to build people**

2. He was concerned about the future.

- Joshua's two farewell speeches (chaps. 23–24) show that he was a true leader.
- He wanted to be **sure** that the people knew the Lord and wanted to serve Him with their whole heart.
- People who think only of what they can get today are only **opportunists** and not true **leaders**.
- Leadership means planting the right seeds that will bear fruit in years to come for the benefit of others.

3. He glorified God.

- There was a time in Joshua's life when he was protective for the honor of his master, **Moses** (Num. 11:24–30);
- but he learned that the most important thing was the glory of the **Lord**.
- When the nation crossed the Jordan, “*By this you shall know that the living God is among you!*” (Josh. 3:10,)
- When that miracle march was over, Joshua put up a monument “*all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty*” (4:24,).
- A **lesser** man would have put up a monument glorifying himself.

- As you read the book of Joshua , you see that he repeatedly gave God the glory for all that happened (6:16; 8:1; 10:14; 11:6–8; 13:6; 18:3; 21:43–45).
- It was the **Lord** who conquered the enemy and gave the land to the people.
- It was the name of the **Lord** that was to be magnified in all the earth.
- **It has been said that a leader is somebody who takes twice as much blame and half as much credit, and Joshua would qualify on both counts.**