

# **Crossing The Jordon**

**10-16-22**

Joshua 3:3 (NIV)

When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it.

**Crossing the Jordon: God telling Joshua too move 3 million Jews into the promise land where idol worshipping, wicked people currently inhabit. Likewise, today at this present time, God telling tell us individually to step out in this dark anti-Christian world in which we live. Therefore, we can study Joshua entering the promise land and learn how God want us to move forward in our present dark world. God gives us a physical picture of what HE is doing spiritually. The very first thing we see “the ark of the Covenant” the place where God promised to meet with the Israelites moving out. Joshua 3:3 clearly says, “Move out from your positions and follow the ark of the covenant, the place where God dwells.”**

**#1 OT and NT we don't move until God moves. When facing our Jordon River, we should move only when God moves.**

**When confronted with difficult decisions or uncertain situations, we must have our eyes fixed on God's leading.**

Joshua 3:4 (NIV)

Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards between you and the ark; do not go near it.

**#2 We follow God because HE leads us to places in which we have never been. God will take us somewhere beyond ourselves.**

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV)

“In their hearts humans plan their course,  
but the LORD establishes their steps.”

Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)

“Many are the plans in a person’s heart,  
but it is the LORD’s purpose that prevails.”

**#3 We stay a thousand yards behind God. Don’t be too anxious and act too quickly.**

**Since we have never been this way before, we stay 1000 yards behind God because God is doing some preparation and necessary house cleaning before we get there.**

Joshua 3:7 (NIV)

And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.”

**Following God will often seem counter intuitive, not logical, putting ourselves in difficult situations, and not seemed to be beneficial. However, God promises that when we do as HE says that HE will work all things for our good exalting us, but only when we follow behind HIM and obey HIM.**

Joshua 3:9-11 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup>Joshua said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God. <sup>10</sup>This is how you will know that the living God is among you ... .. <sup>11</sup>See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you.”

**We know God is among us and HE will move into our problem ahead of us. We are not frightened or worried about the raging river before us. By following God, we are witnesses to God’s presence and power.**

Joshua 3:13 (NIV)

And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.

**The river will not part or our circumstances change until God puts HIS foot into the water. Our eyes are not on the raging River but on God who goes before us. The waters part and we move.**

**Not to be contradictory, but often we see only a small opening and must put our foot into the small opening we have. Only then does another step becomes evident. This is consistent:**

Psalms 119:105 (NIV)

Your word is a lamp for my feet,  
a light on my path.

Joshua 3:15-16 (NIV)

<sup>15</sup>Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, <sup>16</sup>the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away. So, the people crossed over opposite Jericho.

**Every over whelming impossible situation we face is an opportunity for God to move. Great miracle can't happen unless we have great impossibilities facing us. When following God, HE will bring HIS promises to completion.**

Joshua 3:17 (NIV)

The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

**God stays in the middle of our impossibility until we are safe and standing on dry ground. Like with Moses and Joshua, God will never leave us or forsake us. Thus, the Bible says, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything but be fully persuaded that God has power to do what he has promised."**

John 3:16 (NIV)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.