

“Go After It”—Follow the Ark

“...When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God with the Levitical priests carrying it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it” (Joshua 3:3).

Folks are going after stuff daily, to get all that they can, but there is a “Going After” that means to follow in close proximity. Some follow on Twitter, Facebook, from horoscopes and the north star, to get a daily head start. Have you ever met those people with 1000 friends and as many followers? Who, what, when and why do we follow?

I found a Bible passage with answers in Joshua chapter 3:3. In the story, the children of Israel are summoned to cross the Jordan river. “When you see the ark”, puts the act of following at a specific time. From the steep acacia-filled banks of the Jordan, everyone could clearly see the ark, one half mile away. There is a time and season for everything. “When you see the ark of the covenant”—there was an object to be followed, the ark. It was a symbol of God’s tangible and meaningful presence. “When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God”—there was value to the object through ownership—it belonged to the Lord. There was a team that helped to carry the ark— “with the Levitical priests carrying it”. “Then you shall set out from your place”—there is a starting point in all that we do. Then comes the imperative, the action verb that ties all the preceding elements together, “Go After It”, referring to the ark. The orders were clear; obedience was required—follow from a distance out of respectful reverence, and consecrate yourselves by literal cleansing and washing in preparedness.

Today, God calls us “to follow the ark”, not the persons carrying the ark, but the ark itself. He gives us visible signs and directions of His second coming and critical subject matter in an object, the Bible, His word on earth, as a compass. He sends us leaders to help carry the ark, and summons us too to be like priests, honing our various spiritual gifts to godly purpose. People are following us, not merely on Twitter, but following our lives of word and deed. We are to “go after it”, as we ready ourselves to “cross over the rivers of life. Follow the ark when in doubt; follow the ark when all seems lost; follow the ark when vain fables tingle for “thus saith the Lord”. Follow the ark of God’s Word with thanksgiving and praise. Follow the ark for daily strength and sustenance. Follow the ark in faith and rich will be our reward. What’s your decision today amidst the challenges of life’s rivers? Now, “GO FOR IT”. <https://youtu.be/3QDNQWol6qo>.