

Impossible Jordan Made Possible!

“Moses my servant is dead. Now you and all these people get ready to cross the Jordan River”. (Joshua 1:2).

Joshua had just gotten the news—Moses was dead. The word spread quickly across the camp, and everyone wondered who would lead. After all, Moses had been at the helm for forty years. What would life be like without Moses? Yet the word came back strong, “Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan”. “I will surely do a new thing in you—forget the former things. Moses is dead, but I am alive”. God’s work does not suffer, for as men pass off the scene, others are made ready. God acts!

Somehow the words appeared conflictual. If Moses had led across the Red Sea successfully, was it not now logical that he should have led across the Jordan? One sea and now a river—water-- What difference does it make? The children of Israel could not depart Egypt except they crossed the Red Sea, and they now could not arrive in Canaan, except they crossed the Jordan, a seemingly impossible task. Whereas they were caught between the Red Sea and the hosts of Pharaoh, they were now caught between the foreboding desert behind and a river ahead, tempestuous and swollen, with raging 40 mph currents. No turning back, yet the challenges of moving forward existed. And, life’s like that—we are oft caught between our past and our impending future, prisoners of our past experience, and hostages of a future, trapped in the vortex of inaction. God calls to action. God acts!

There was work to be done and a preparation to be made. “Wash your clothes, cleanse your bodies, and move closer to the river”. Folks gasped—“my God—the river”—camped at river’s edge for 3 days—a test of patience—thousands of men and women, children, and cattle, stranded? And again, sometimes, life’s like that—we become camped on the edge of some major decision, wondering what next, stymied by inaction, remembering the past. And yet God calls. Moses is dead, move on by faith. God calls; God acts!

The sure word of the Lord came again. Rise up, cross over; follow the ark of the Lord, that symbol of His covenant. It was a test of obedience and faith at work. As the priests drew closer, nothing happened, but as their feet touched the swollen river, waters retreated upstream permitting the cross-over. I call on us to follow the ark of the covenant. The hand of faith must first clasp the hand of obedience. When two hands clap, then results will occur. If you are perched in the valley of decision, halted by the past and perplexed by the future, cross the Rubicon. God calls you to cross Jordan, God and God Alone. <https://youtu.be/P72s2uR8JUg>