

# Joshua (10)

## Conquering Your Enemies

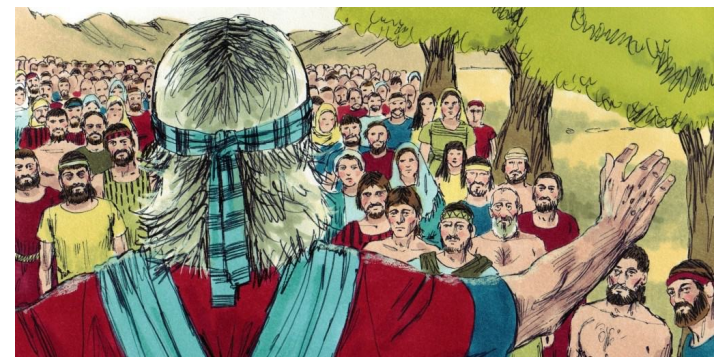




# Final Commissioning: Serving God

So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.' Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness.

Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and **serve the LORD**. But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, **we will serve the LORD** (Joshua 24:13-15).



# Joshua's Farewell (Joshua 23 & 24)



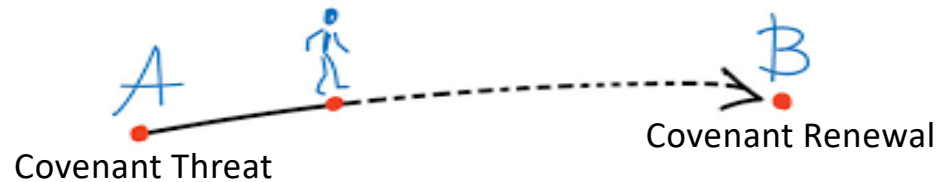
- Joshua's farewell speeches to Israel
  - The speech to the elders, heads, judges, and officers at Shiloh (Ch. 23): Urging them to keep the law and warning them if they turn away from Him.
  - His last words to the gathered nation of Israel at Shechem (Ch. 24), reviewing the past record of God's faithfulness to them in a much more systematic way.
- Each speech contains three sections:
  - Reflection on God's faithfulness (Joshua 23:2-5; 24:1-13).
  - Exhortation to holiness (Joshua 23:6-11; 24:14-18).
  - Admonition about apostasy (Joshua 23:12-16; 24:19-28).
- Covenant Renewal
  - Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go (Joshua 1:7).
  - Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left (Joshua 23:6).

# From Covenant Threat to Covenant Renewal

- What is Covenant?
  - A relationship between two partners who make binding promises to each other and work together to reach a common goal.

Covenant Threats	Covenant Renewal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Breaking of relationship with God in favor of other gods, which results to refuse God, disobey God's Word, and to lose the land.</li><li>• If you violate the covenant of the LORD and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, the LORD's anger will burn against you, and you will quickly perish from the good land he has given you (Joshua 23:16).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memory of what God has done in the past, recognizing who God is.</li><li>• Commitment to God in full knowledge to the blessings and cursing of the covenant.</li><li>• Requiring commitment, demands loyal obedience to God from the people and must be lived out in their daily lives.</li></ul>

# Renewal Demands



- Worship
  - Now then, throw away the foreign gods and yield your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel (Joshua 24:14).
- Praise
  - Praise is the joyful recounting of what God has done for us.
  - He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land (Joshua 24:17-18).
- Read God's Word
  - On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he reaffirmed for them **decrees and laws**. And Joshua recorded these things in the **Book of the Law of God** (Joshua 24:25-26).
- Questions
  - Are you the people of God, willing to be committed to God?
  - Are you willing to accept the consequences of that commitment?



## My Covenant to God

Everything is temporary, but God is eternal.

I can't change what I was before. But by the grace of God,  
I am a new creation today.

I am always growing, always changing, and always moving forward  
by the direction of God who is inside me.

I surrender my life to You and trust You for my forgiveness.

Help me to follow You all of my life.

I love You, Father.

Amen.

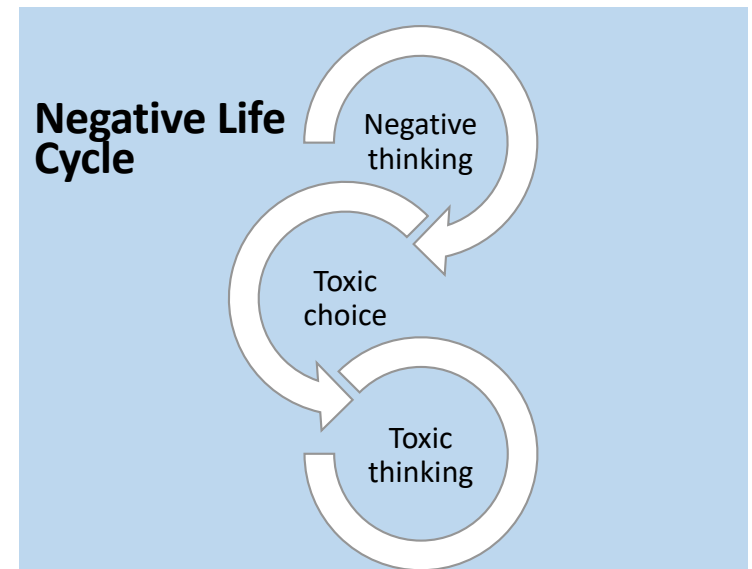
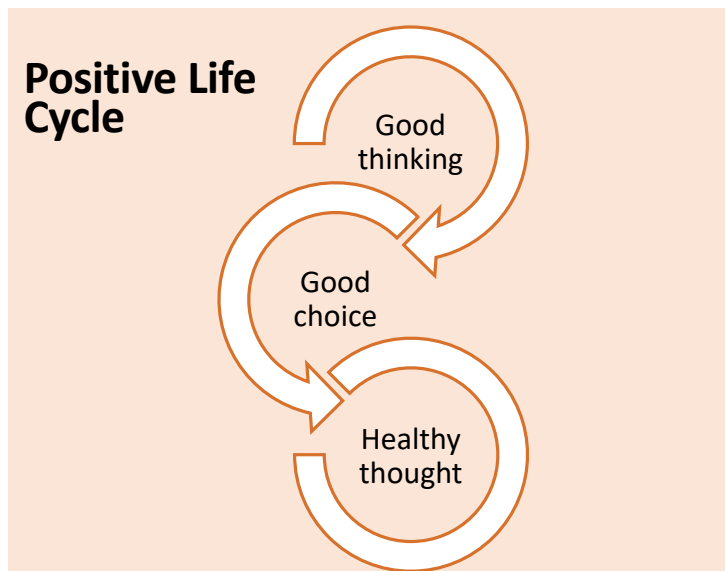


# The Power of a Right Choice



- Moses' Recommendation
  - Now **choose** life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Deuteronomy 30:19-20).
- Joshua's Exhortation
  - But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then **choose** for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates...But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD (Joshua 24:15).
- Mary chose the right thing
  - but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has **chosen** what is better, and it will not be taken away from her (Luke 10:42).
- Who is the wise?
  - A wise person **chooses** the right road; a fool takes the wrong one (Ecclesiastes 10:2, NLT).

# New Mindset: Choose the Right Path



- Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2)
- How you choose can have an enormous impact on our mental, physical health.



# His Death

- After these things, Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten. And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. Israel served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had experienced everything the LORD had done for Israel (Joshua 24:29-31)
- Joshua was 110 years old when he passed away, and that he was buried within his own territory within the Promised Land (1383 BC.).
- Contemporary generation of Israel was faithful to the covenant they had made with the Lord (Joshua 24:25).
- However, successive generations would not follow God, as was predicted by Joshua himself. The book of Judges is largely a record of Israel's apostasy in the generations following Joshua.

# Joshua: the Faithful Leader

- The role of leadership
  - He guides the Israelites in renewing their covenant with God. You are called to lead by example, pointing others to Christ.
- The legacy of faith
  - Joshua's final address to the Israelites leaves a lasting legacy of faith. Your actions and words can have a profound impact on future generations. By living a life that honors God, you can leave a legacy of faith that inspires others to follow Him.
- Joshua and Jesus
  - Their names are the same (Joshua is Hebrew, Jesus is Greek), which means "savior."
  - Joshua was the leader of the Israelites into the promised land of Canaan; Jesus is our leader into the promised land of heaven.
  - As Joshua pointed the people to the Word of God, so did Jesus.
  - As Joshua was an agent of both grace (cf. Rahab) and damnation (cf. nations of Canaan), so Jesus is both savior and judge of all men, who metes out death as well as life.