

Trinity Home Teams

Sermon Notes / Sept. 28, 2025

Title: *A New Era* / Passage: **Joshua 1:1-9**

1. Why would Moses change Hoshea's name to Joshua?
2. What did Stonewall Jackson mean in saying, "The battle is ours; the outcome is the Lord's."
3. Why would *obedience* be the most important characteristic of a godly leader?
4. Why would God say he is "giving this land," yet require Joshua and his men to "take it?"
5. How does God define "success," and why do modern leaders change that?

Great men of faith have fallen in recent years: Sproul (2017), MacArthur and Baucham (2025). We honor these men, but beware. Great men of God are no more than instruments in the hands of God. Yahweh's purposes are not thwarted by dying leaders. He is sovereign. His purposes stand.

Israel's true deliverer

Moses, the deliverer, the intercessor, the lawgiver, the leader of the people for 40 years, was dead. In human terms, a truly monumental loss, and the people of Israel mourned his death for 30 days. In this chapter, Israel's true deliverer pushes them onward, establishing new leadership and charging him to be strong and courageous.

Joshua was Yahweh's chosen successor of Moses, and his name sets the tone for the entire book that bears his name. **Numbers 13:8-16** -- *"from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Nun... And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun Joshua."*

David Howard: "It went from a generic name meaning "deliverance" to one containing a glorious affirmation of trust in God: "Yahweh delivers." Joshua had been appointed and commissioned earlier by Yahweh; no doubt he was the one to lead Israel next. Deut. 1:38; 3:28; Numbers 27:18, 21.

Exodus 33:11 -- *"Thus, the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent."*

Yahweh's promises to Joshua

Yahweh's faithfulness transcends human leadership. His promises before Moses's death are repeated.

Deuteronomy 11:22-25 *"For if you will be careful to do all this commandment that I command you to do, loving the Lord your God, walking in all his ways, and holding fast to him, ²³ then the Lord will drive out all these nations before you, and you will dispossess nations greater and mightier than you... The Lord your God will*

lay the fear of you and the dread of you on all the land that you shall tread, as he promised you.

Howard: "Such careful repetitions assure us that God was committed to keeping his promises.

PLACE: THE GIVING OF THE LAND -- Yahweh 'will give' and 'has given,' indicating the certainty of the promise to his people.

POWER: THE INVINCIBILITY OF JOSHUA

Deuteronomy 3:21-22 -- *"And I commanded Joshua at that time, 'Your eyes have seen all that the Lord your God has done to these two kings. So will the Lord do to all the kingdoms into which you are crossing. ²² You shall not fear them, for it is the Lord your God who fights for you.'"*

Isaiah 54:17 -- *"no weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord."*

John Calvin: "The only way in which we can become truly invincible is by striving to yield a faithful obedience to God."

PRESENCE: THE FAITHFULNESS OF YAHWEH -- Yahweh's presence is a reminder of his covenant faithfulness. Consider Isaac, Genesis 26:3; Jacob at Bethel, Genesis 28:13-15; Moses, Exodus 3:12, and Jesus: *"surely, I am with you always..."*

Yahweh's charge to Joshua

The command to be strong and courageous is based, not on anything in Israel or in Joshua, but in the promises and the faithfulness of Yahweh. (v2-5)

Yahweh's gift of the land to the people of Israel did not mean they were to be passive. The land was theirs, but they were commanded to take it.

Philippians 2:13 -- *for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure"*

Philippians 3:10-14 *"that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death .. forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

SELECTION: 'I CHOSE YOU AS MY INSTRUMENT.' -- Yahweh would deliver his people through Joshua, his choice.

DIRECTION: 'I GAVE YOU MY WORD TO GUIDE YOU.' -- Confirming this is a spiritual battle. Joshua was to meditate on the law so that he might keep the law. Joshua's life was to be ordered by God's word.

PROTECTION: 'I AM WITH YOU.' -- Yahweh's presence is to dispel all dread and terror in Joshua. **Ps. 23:4-6**

