

God will make a way for your Positioning

Joshua 4:8

“And the children of Israel did so, just as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones from the midst of the Jordan, as the LORD had spoken to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and *carried them over with them to the place where they lodged*”

* Spiritual memory is crucial in the Christian life.

* Do you vividly recall times when you know God spoke to you?

It would be tragic if, *in your haste to advance in your Christian faith - to neglect to leave spiritual markers at the key crossroads of your life.*

* Without the help of these markers, you will lose your spiritual bearings

Joshua 4: 1-9 [Message]

“1-3 When the whole nation was finally across, *God spoke to Joshua:* [He prayed – to know how much faith you have – listen to your mouth – faith is called out- proclaimed] “Select twelve men from the people, a man from each tribe, and tell them, *'From right here, the middle of the Jordan where the feet of the priests are standing firm, take twelve stones. Carry them across with you and set them down in the place where you camp tonight.'*”

4-7 Joshua called out the twelve men whom he selected from the People of Israel, *one man from each tribe.* Joshua directed them, “Cross *to the middle of the Jordan and take your place in front of the Chest of God,* your God. Each of you heft a stone to your shoulder, a stone for each of the tribes of the People of Israel, so you'll have *something later to mark the occasion.* When your children ask you, 'What are these stones to you?' you'll say, *'The flow of the Jordan was stopped in front of the Chest of the Covenant of God as it crossed the Jordan—stopped in its tracks. These stones are a permanent memorial for the People of Israel.'*”

8-9 The People of Israel did exactly as Joshua commanded: They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan—a stone for each of the twelve tribes, just as God had instructed Joshua—carried them across with them to the camp, and set them down there.

2.

8-9

Joshua set up the twelve stones taken from the middle of the Jordan that had marked the place where the priests who carried the Chest of the Covenant had stood. They are still there today”

The Israelites experienced a tumultuous powerful pilgrimage

Their doubt that God was powerful enough to give them victory cost them forty years [a generation] of wandering in the wilderness

Then God miraculously parted the waters of the Jordan River so they could pass over and continue forward

I said *CONTINUE FORWARD* – Joshua birthed in prayer this crossing

A Miraculous Event that they could not do – propelled them forward [PT]

God knew that at times the Israelites would face intimidating enemies and would need a reminder that He was powerful enough to protect them

The Israelites might be tempted to think they made a mistake entering Canaan – [Somebody hear this – TEMPTED TO THINK IT'S A MISTAKE!]

For this reason God instructed them to build a monument – a altar – a memorial on the banks of the Jordan River

Prayer, Praise and Worship takes place at this type of Spiritual Markers

Whenever they came to this spot, they would see the monument and be reminded of God's awesome power

*** This marker would give them confidence to meet the new challenges they faced**

A spiritual marker identifies a time of decision when you clearly know that God guided you

*** Can you remember specific times when He called you to His ways of living? Did you set in place Spiritual Markers – Altars of Prayer**

3.

Can you point to times when He clearly guided you in a decision?

* Were there times when He spoke powerfully to you about a commitment you should make?

Are you keeping *Spiritual track* of these important moments!

* This will help you *understand God's activity in your life* and give you a sense of direction as you face future decisions

Prayer keeps us focused and on track with the Lord

SPEAK UP AND LOOK UP!!

Psalm 5

"1 Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

2 Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

3 My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

4 For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.

5 The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

6 Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.

7 But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy"

A Morning Prayer

Psalm 5

This *morning prayer* - perhaps offered at the time of the morning sacrifice, is the psalmist's cry for help when his enemies spread malicious lies to destroy him

4.

David appealing to God as his King

* Against whose sovereignty his - own enemies were really in rebellion

This Psalm was composed at Jerusalem, since David had access to the House of God – same as we can come boldly to the throne of Grace!

Psalm 5:7

"But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear I will worship toward thy holy temple.

8 Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face"

[WE ARE TAUGHT HERE SOME GREAT TRUTHS CONCERNING PRAYER]

True Prayer is Personal

Psalm 5:1

"Give ear to MY words"

* My Words - My Meditation - My Cry - My King - My God

Point: David was a king, yet was if you will his own chaplain

* We must pray for ourselves

* We must understand that we can enter into the throne of Grace

* In prayer we come to realize we have a personal relationship to God

* He is "My Father:- "My King" - "My God"

Psalm 5:1

"Give ear to MY Words, O Lord, consider my meditation"

5.

TRUE PRAYER IS *PROFOUND* AND *PASSIONATE*

Prayer begins with Words

* The Psalmist proclaims - "**Give ear to my words**"

* Many have an idea that words are not necessary to prayer - they pray without words

* One person was asked if they ever really pray - they replied no, I have aspirations all day long.

* MY friends there is a subtle danger when we do not verbally pray - true prayer must be labored through as we speak to our Heavenly Father

* Our sense of need is real and intense - we shall speak out in broken - burning words

* Praying aloud keeps us focused

Charles Spurgeon once said:

"None of God's children are possessed with a dumb devil"

Psalm 5:1-2

"Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation.

2 Hearken unto the voice of my CRY..."

* Prayer verbalized rises into a Cry, and a cry has a voice that pierces heaven!

God told Moses "I have heard the Cries of My people"

* Prevailing prayer comes from a loud cry unto the Father that is heard in Heavenly High Places

6.

TRUE PRAYER IS EXPECTANT

Psalm 5: 3

"My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer not thee, and will look up"

*** Looking Up - Simply Look up and look out**

*** Look out expectantly for the thing prayers for!**

Watch Out for some usual signal of God's favor, some appearance in the flame of sacrifice, or a ray of the Shekinah issuing from Gods sanctuary!

*** God's Throne Room of Grace is the Place that MY Words are Heard By MY Heavenly Father!**

WHEN A CHILD OF GOD HAS LODGED THEIR PRAYERS WITH GOD - THEY MAY LOOK UP!

Point is

David was teaching us that we cannot tell what a day shall bring forth, but if we greet the morning day with prayer - we shall see the setting sun with praise!

Psalm 5: 3

"My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will LOOK UP"

COME ON SOMEBODY SPEAK UP AND LOOK UP!

*** Somebody pray and move forward to set spiritual markers**

*** Somebody Pray Out Loud!!**

*** Somebody pray and Expect God's Favor!**

7.

Joshua 4:8

“And the children of Israel did so, just as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones from the midst of the Jordan, as the LORD had spoken to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and *carried them over with them to the place where they lodged*”

There is the witness of faith

* Great acts of faith stand as a strong witness to the Lord and His power

Because of this, great acts of faith should be remembered

* The crossing of the Jordan River was a great witness to the power of faith in God

* This type of Faith – this type of Forward Movement is only birthed and manifested *in the place of Prayer*

For this reason, *God ordered Joshua to build a memorial as a witness to faith in Him*

It's one thing to break through into a atmosphere of God

It's one thing to get a break through – it's another thing to establish that break through

Setting the Atmosphere

Births a Climate that Draws a Culture

It's one thing to transition from strife and conflict or staleness to a place God makes room for your Gifting to set you into a position and be fruitful

It's another thing to establish those places – to dwell in those places – to thrive in those places! Prayer produces the storm fronts of change.

8.

God will make a way for your positioning

- * You must understand that before an Atmosphere is put in place
- * There is movement in Chaos
- * Fronts are confronted – Fronts clash and bang
- * Nothing becomes Something without action and reaction

Prayer set in place put the enemy in Gods Hands

- * Waters are not parted without God conversation
- * Mountains are not moved without God conversation

God Pleasing Faith is only produced in the altars of Prayer

Joshua 1:1-3 (KJV)

“Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that *the LORD spake unto Joshua* the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses”

God conversations take place in Atmosphere, the Climate, the Culture of Prayer

* Gods Positioning is birthed in prayer – simply prayer keeps the lines of two-way communication open!

Joshua 3:1-2 (KJV)

1 And *Joshua rose early in the morning*; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.

2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host...”

9.

Joshua rose early in the am!

Psalm 5

"1 Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

2 Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

3 My voice shalt *thou hear in the morning*, O LORD; *in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up*"

Joshua understood the power of the am prayer time

Setting Spiritual Markers takes Spiritual Laborers

Spiritual Markers sets a Faith Atmosphere that produces a Culture that births a Culture!

Spiritual Markers have to be set by those who understand that God has made a way for their positioning!

Joshua 4:1-3 (KJV)

" And it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over Jordan, that the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,

2 Take you twelve men out of the people, out of every tribe a man,

3 And command ye them, saying, Take you hence out of the midst of Jordan, out of the place where the priests' feet stood firm, twelve stones, and ye shall carry them over with you, and *leave them in the lodging place*, where ye shall lodge this night"

Joshua 4:6-7 (KJV)

"That *this may be a sign among you*, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?

7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and *these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever*"

10.

The purpose of the memorial was to be a witness to the power of God

* In the future, when the children saw the memorial, they would ask what the memorial meant

* What does this Spiritual Marker Mean?

The Israelites were then to give a strong witness to the power of God - that the flow of the Jordan River had been cut off before the Ark of the Lord's presence

Conclusion

Somebody today needs join with the Lord and stop the FLOW OF A JORDAN RIVER IN YOU PATH

* The Presence of the Lord – His Manifested Presence will stop a Jordan Flow every time!

* Hear me my friends, The Presence of the Lord will literally take the impossible and make it possible

This is the kind of Spiritual Markers that must be set for this generation

* Those who set in place – I said SET IN PLACE this kind of Spiritual Markers are those who understand that God will and does make a place for their Positioning!

We are to bear strong witness to our faith in God.

We are to be strong witnesses for God

We are to arouse people to trust God, to have faith in Him