

Joshua's Words To Israel

Josh. 23:1-6

Remember History – The Lord Is On Your Side

- The importance of remembering. (II Pet. 1:12)
- They should remember:
 - Deliverance from Egypt. (Ex. 12:51)
 - The Red Sea. (Ex. 14:30)
 - Defeat of Amalek. (Ex. 17)
 - Walls of Jericho. (Josh. 6)
 - Provisions: food, drink, guidance, etc. (Ex. 13:17-22; I Cor. 10)
 - The promises of God. (23:5,10,15)

Remember History – The Lord Is On Your Side

- The Lord is on our side:
 - (I Pet. 5:8; II Cor. 10:4-5; Js. 1:13; I Cor. 10:13; Eph. 6:10-17; II Tim. 4:6-8)
- We need to remember what He has done for us:
 - (Rom. 5:6-8; 8:31-37)
- What happens when we forget:
 - (Judges 2:7-10; II Pet. 1:8-11)

Know That God Keeps His Promises

- A snapshot in history, reminding us that it is God who directs the path of history in the keeping of His promises and the fulfillment of His purpose. (Eph. 1:4,5,11)
 - Acts 17:26; Gal. 4:4; Matt. 24:36
- Promises of God that led up to this point:
 - Gen. 3:15; 12:1-7; 15:13-21; 22:18; Ex. 19:5-6; cf. I Pet. 2:9
- This knowledge should produce courage. (Firm, stout, resolute – Josh. 23:5-6)
 - In the face of trials – (II Tim. 1:11-12; 4:16-18)
 - In the face of pressure to conform to those around them – (Josh. 23:12; Rom. 12:1-2)
 - In preaching/teaching truth and enduring persecution. (II Tim. 3:12; Matt. 5:10-12)
 - In obedience to God's word. (Josh. 23:6)

Obey The Lord – Do All That Is Written

- **Deut. 4:2** → Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.
- **Deut. 5:1** → And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them.
- **Deut. 6:2,5-6** → That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:
- **Heb. 5:9** → And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; (Rom. 6:17-18)

Have Nothing To Do With Idols – Josh. 23:7

- God's view of idols: Ex. 20:3-6; Deut. 18:9-11
- The besetting of Israel was idolatry. (II Kings 17:7)
- Many other sins flow from this one:
 - Rom. 1:21-23 → 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.
 - Col. 3:5 → Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth...and covetousness, which is idolatry:
 - I Jn. 5:21 → Little children keep yourselves from idols.
- Cleave to the Lord. (23:8); Love the Lord. (23:11)