

# JOSHUA 3 SURGE

Glenn Palmer

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1. Review:
  - a. Chapter 1 was about *Strong* in the Lord.
  - b. Chapter 2 is about *Spies*
  - c. Chapter 3 is about **SURGE**
  
2. Vs. 1. "Early in the morning" - a call to action. When do most people get into trouble, early in the morning or late at night? When do most crimes occur?
  - a. Joshua 6:12
  - b. Joshua 6:15
  - c. Joshua 7:16
  - d. Joshua 8:10
  
3. Vs. 1. Shittim: cf. Numbers 33:49
  
4. Vs. 2. Chronology
  - a. Possibility 1: Spies return, then Joshua sets out
  - b. Possibility 2:
    - i. Spies set out at the same time Joshua does
    - ii. Spies hide three days (2:22) while Israelites camp three days (3:2)
    - iii. Third day spies return and tell Joshua (2:23-24). That same day Joshua tells people (3:5) "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things."
  
5. Vs. 6.
  - a. What day of the month is this? Cf. 4:19 *10<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month*
  - b. Exodus 12:1-3 states that the men are to *select a lamb on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month*
  - c. When is the Passover celebrated? *14<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month*
  - d. What does this tell us about God? *God is sovereign*
  - e. How does the Bible differ from fairy tales? *Exact times are specified; NOT once upon a time*
  
6. Ark of the covenant
  - vs. 6, 8, 14: Ark of the covenant
  - vs. 17: Ark of the covenant of the Lord
  - vs. 3 Ark of the covenant of the Lord your God
  - vs. 11 Ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth
    - a. What is a covenant? *God's oath to us - He will be faithful*
    - b. Why is it so important that the covenant is call "covenant of the Lord" and not "covenant of Israel" *God makes the covenant with us, not we with God*
    - c. Why in vs. 11 is the phrase "Lord of all the earth" added? God is in charge of the Jordan
  
7. Vs. 3 Priests and Levites
  - a. Are all priests Levites? *No.*
  - b. Are all Levites priests? *Yes*
  - c. What is the difference? *Priests come from Aaron; Levites come from Levi*
  - d. Exodus 28:1, 4b *Aaron and his sons are set apart as priests*
  - e. Exodus 29: 15, 19, 21 *Aaron and his sons are set apart as priests*

- f. Leviticus 8 *Aaron and his sons are set apart as priests*
- g. Leviticus 21:1 *Aaron and his sons are set apart as priests*
- h. Leviticus 22:1 *Aaron and his sons are set apart as priests*

*Aaron is from the tribe of Levi*

8. Vs. 5. How did the Israelites consecrate themselves?
  - a. Exodus 19:10-15 *Washed their clothes, Moses consecrated them, refrained from sex*
  - b. I Samuel 21:4-5 *Refrained from sex*
  - c. How would you consecrate yourselves today? *By prayer, self-examination, fasting?*
  
9. Vs. 6. Who goes first? Why is that a testimony of faith? *Priests carrying the ark. The ark is the most valuable thing, and they go in the water first.*
10. Vs. 7. How does the Lord encourage Joshua? *"Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses"*
  
11. Vss. 9-11.
  - a. What is the comfort that Joshua and the people have? *God is among us & will do mighty things*
  - b. Exodus 34:10 *God is among us & will do mighty things*
12. What are four main miracles that Joshua is going to do?
  - a. *Cross the Jordan*
  - b. *Jericho's walls will tumble down*
  - c. *Sun will stop*
  - d. *Exodus 23:28 Hornets will drive out the Canaanities*

Note that unlike Moses, all these miracles are military miracles.
  
13. Vs. 12. This will be discussed in chapter 4.
  
14. Vs. 13 & 15-16. The Jordan River
  - a. Jordan is Hebrew meaning *Down-flowing*
  - b. Mt. Hermon is 9,500 feet in elevation. Jericho is at sea level. Dead Sea is 1,400 feet below sea level. The Jordan River is one of the fastest in the world 11,000' drop in 200 miles
  - c. 20-30 yards wide, 9-15 feet deep; Banks 12-14 feet high
  - d. vs. 15:
    - i. NIV: "flood stage"
    - ii. KJV: "Jordan overfloweth all his banks"
    - iii. Young's Literal "Jordan is full over all its banks "
  - e. Why must the ground be dry? *Otherwise people would sink into the mud*
  
15. Vs. 16 - piled up to Adam which is 15-20 miles north of the crossing
  
16. Vs. 16 - F A I T H How could the Lord have allowed the Israelites to pass? *Walked on water, built a bridge*
17. Vs. 16: Psalm 66:6,
  
18. Vs. 17: How long would it take? *Assume 500 people wide + extra room for cattle, sheep etc. Assume 500 people pass every 15 seconds. At least 2 million people- over 16 hours.*
19. What is the most important take away for this chapter? *God is with us.*