

DEEPER TEACHINGS
(MEAT OF THE WORD)

#31

GO OVER JORDAN

By Sam Fife



According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

1Co 3:10

GO OVER THIS JORDAN by Sam Fife

Jos 1:1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spoke 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. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. 5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. 6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them. 7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it *to* the right hand or *to* the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. 8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. 9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest. 10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, 11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it.

In our text, we see Moses is dead. The first generation of the children of Israel had come to the borders of the

Promised Land. But because they had not learned their faith lessons in the wilderness journey, they did not believe God Could empower them to conquer the giants in the land, so they said, "Let's stone Moses and Joshua and go back into Egypt." For this cause God turned them to wander in the wilderness till they all died and waited for their children who were born in the wilderness, to grow up and be the generation that he would take into possess the land.

But as Moses and the second generation came to the borders of the land, Moses had to die because he failed in one point of perfect obedience when he smote the rock to bring forth water, instead of only speaking to it as God had told him. He could not take the children of Israel to full possession of their promised land, because he could only demonstrated servanthip revelation which is the revelation of Law. In this he was a type of the law of God which can never take us on to the full possession of our Promised Land, which is the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. God never intended for the revelation of His Law that came through Moses to take us to our Promised Land. It was only a servant, a schoolmaster, an instrument in the hands of God to bring us to Christ. It could never take us to perfection because it is weak through the weakness of our flesh, therefore while we are being led by the revelation of law we could never demonstrate anything but servanthip faithfulness as Moses. And therefore, like Moses, never go any further than the borders of our promised land where we can see it but not go in.

When we say the law is a servant or schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, we are not speaking only to the ceremonial law of Moses which brought the mass of people that were the children of Israel, to the point where the historical Christ was ready to be revealed. But we are speaking of each individual's personal revelation of the laws of God, which caused him to turn from the world in conversion and begin to seek God until he comes to a personal experience with, and the leadership of the Spirit of Christ which is in him. Then

the schoolmaster work of the law is finished in his life. It has brought him to Jordan and the borders of the land. It cannot take him into full possession because it is weak through the flesh. Here the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ waits to replace him, just as Joshua replaced Moses, and takes us on over Jordan to full possession of our land, to perfection in Christ, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Joshua who replaced Moses at Jordan was a type of the Spirit of Jesus in us, who takes over where the law leaves off and personally leads us on to the full possession of our land. From here on, Moses, the law, is dead to us and we are dead to the law, even as Paul said, "I through the law am dead to the law that I might live unto God."

Through the law Paul was brought to the point where he was filled with the Spirit of Christ and ready to be led by that Spirit on to perfection. Until that point he had lived unto the law. It had been his guide, his teacher, he looked toward it for all things. But when he met Jesus and was filled with the Spirit of Christ he became dead to the law and its rituals and rules and alive unto a personal God and Christ. Moses was dead in his life from that time on and it was time for him to follow his heavenly Joshua over Jordan.

What a tragedy it is that so many Christians have not come to this point. They have been Christians for years but they are still living under the law. I do not mean the ceremonial law of Moses, for they would not kill a lamb or keep the Israelitish Sabbath, but they still look upon the New testament as a book of laws and rules that they are to live unto and be guided by until Jesus returns, instead of a revelation of a schoolmaster to bring us to a personal relationship and experience and leadership of the Spirit of Christ within us. They say they are under grace but they have simply come out from under Old Testament laws and put themselves under New Testament laws. Moses is not dead in their lives yet. They still speak of themselves proudly as servants of God for they have only servantship revelation, and know nothing of Sonship. If you suggest to them that

their New Testament rules and regulations can never take them on to perfection, and they ought to leave them behind and follow the Spirit of Christ within them over Jordan you are accused of being a false prophet and blaspheming the New Testament Word of God. This does not mean that we also do not revere and adore the Word of God. It only means that we look upon it as what God intended it to be, a revelation to lead us the blessed Spirit of Christ who will take us over Jordan and on to perfection. We will carry it with us to the end as a revelation that our heavenly Joshua will unfold for us, each step of the way, but its letter and laws could never take us over Jordan. Like Paul, through the law we are dead to the law that we might live unto God in Christ. Joshua who replaced Moses at Jordan is a type of the Spirit of Christ who takes us over where the law leaves off in our lives to lead us over Jordan to the full possession of our land. Moses the servant is dead, Christ the Son is alive in us. It is time to pass from servanthship into Sonship. It is time to go over this Jordan.

Notice the words of God in verse two, "Therefore arise." The children of Israel had been resting in the camp while God through Moses reminded them of all his dealings with them in the wilderness and revealed to them that he was going to take them into the land, and changed their leadership. But now the days of rest were over. It was time for action. From this point on they must continually be marching on towards the full possession of the land God had promised them. They could no longer sit in the camp and rejoice over the promise of God that he was going to give them the land over Jordan. They must rise up and march over and begin to conquer the enemy and possess it.

So it is with us who are the new generation that God had brought forth out of the wilderness of denominational deadness and wanderings, and baptized us in the Spirit. We have had a period of rest in the camp, so to speak, as God revealed to us his end time truths and his purpose to take us to possess our land. He has changed our leadership from

dead letter laws and rules and programs to the living Lord. He has restored to us the ministries, Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers, through which our heavenly Joshua will lead us on. He is restoring to us the gifts of the Spirit, the mighty weapons with which we shall come against the enemy. Our days of rest are over. From here on we must be on a continual march toward the conquering of the enemy and the possession of the land. The cry is going forth across the land from those Apostles, through whom our heavenly Joshua is speaking. "Moses the servant is dead. Now therefore Arise And Go Over Jordan."

"Every place that the soles of thy foot treadeth I have given unto you" (Joshua 1:3)

Notice the words of God, "I have given it unto you. God did not say concerning the land that lay over Jordan, "I will give it unto you," He said, "I have given it unto you." Israel did not have to go forward in an uncertain hope that God would displace the giants that dwelled in Canaan and give their land unto them. They did not have to go forward in an uncertain hope that God would give them victory over the giants that dwelled in the land. The Word of God to them was definite and certain. The thing was already done in the counsel of God. Victory over the giants was already theirs. The land was already theirs. It only needed that they rise up and go in and possess it. But God set one test of faith before them. In order to have and enjoy the fruits of the land he had given them, they must go forth and possess it. They must tread upon it with the soles of their feet. Only that portion which they tread upon with the soles of their feet would they actually possess. God's Word to them was a covenant. God had already set his seal to his part of the covenant, but only if Israel fulfilled their part, and in faith went forward to possess their inheritance, would it be theirs. Otherwise, if they held back in fear at the borders of the land as their fathers did, God would set them aside as he did their fathers and wait for

another generation who would trust him to take them in and possess the land.

So it is with us who are God's spiritual Israel today. The Word of God to us is, "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon I Have given it unto you."

Our Promised Land of which Old Testament Canaan land was a type, is a spiritual promised land. The Old Testament age was the age of the flesh, the New Testament age is the age of the Spirit. Old Testament fleshly Israel was a type of New Testament Spiritual Israel, which Spiritual Israel we are. Their physical nation was a type of our spiritual nation. Their physical Promised Land was a type of our spiritual promised land which is to come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, and walk in a spiritual land. By coming to the fullness of his stature, we have all things he has and can do the works he did. When he was here in the flesh he set our Promised Land before us in the promises he gave. He said they that believe on me the works that I do shall they do also and even greater works; they shall say to the mountain be moved and doubt not in their hearts and it shall be done unto them. These signs shall follow them that believe; in my name they shall cast our devils, speak in new tongues, have authority over serpents and poisons, lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.

These promises reveal the land God has given unto us. It is first a spiritual Promised Land then a literal. When we have come to Christ's stature then we will have the power to overcome Lucifer and his demoniac kingdom and possess this good green earth that God did not create for Lucifer to be the God of. Nor for Christ rejecting unbelievers to rule over and enjoy the best fruits of, but for the Sons of God. For the Master said, "The meek shall inherit the earth," (Matt. 5:5) Again we say we do not have to go forward with our uncertain hope that God will give the spiritual strength and power to conquer Lucifer and his giants that seek to keep us from possessing our land. God has not said, "I will give it unto you," The Word of God to us is certain and sure. In the

finished work of Calvary God has given us the fullness of all we need to possess our land. He has given us the Spirit to lead us into all truth and empowered us to walk in that truth. In giving us the Spirit he has given us power over sin, power over sickness, power over demons, power over the world, power over all the power of the enemy. 1st Cor. 3:22 states, "Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;" Not, "will be yours," but, "Are yours." Romans 8:37 states, "In all these things we are more than conquerors." But God has set one test of faith before us. In order to have and enjoy the fruits of the land he has given us, we must go forth and possess it. We must tread upon it with the soles of our feet, for only that portion which we tread upon with the soles of our feet will we actually possess. God's word to us is a covenant, but only if we fulfill our part and in faith go forward to possess our inheritance will it be ours. Otherwise, if we hold back in fear at the borders of the land as our fathers have, God will set us aside as he did our fathers and wait for another generation who will trust him to take them in to possess the land.

There shall not any man be able to stand Before Thee

What a promise. What a word from God. "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: As I was with Moses, so will I be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." Added to this is the promise of Jesus in Luke 10:19, "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you." How different are these promises from the teachings of the church into which we of this generation have been born. As soon as we were born we were told that nobody can be perfect, that we cannot overcome sin, that we cannot overcome our flesh, that we cannot overcome sickness.. Too long have the Sons of God bowed down before the flesh, the world and the

devil, bound from the day we were born by a doctrine that says nobody can be perfect. Bowed down with a doctrine that admits defeat without even a struggle, that teaches that our bodies are the temple of omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent God and tells us there is not enough power there to overcome any of the enemies that stand against us and go on to perfection. No wonder we see such a powerless church with the greater percentage of even the so-called full Gospel preachers standing behind their pulpits year after year with their glasses on their eyes, their hospitalization policies safely tuck away, and their pews full of people who demonstrate no more victory in their lives than themselves. If one of the younger generation dares to rise up with the battle cry, "Let us go over this Jordan," claiming the promise of power over all the power of the enemy, he is quickly branded as a zealous young fanatic who has zeal without knowledge. Pressures are quickly put on him to destroy his faith and bring him back under subjection to a doctrine that nobody can be perfect.

But thanks be unto God a Joshua Ministry is coming forth that has heard the voice of God saying "Arise, go over this Jordan. There shall not a man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life:" The chains have been broken. The shackles have been cast off. They will not accept a defeatist doctrine, "Nobody can be perfect." No man is going to stand before them and stop them from going over Jordan. They are young in natural years, yes, but not young in the Spirit. For they have been fed and brought up in the Spirit on a message of Sonship. That it is time to go on to perfection, which in the Greek means full growth maturity. They are being fed and brought up by called out Apostles who have been in the desert with Jesus and themselves taught by the Master. They have matured fast in the wilderness as they have seen their elders of the last generation dying (spiritually) all around them. They are certain of where they are going because they are not looking for a position in the world, or a position in the church, but a position on the

Cross. That they might know Him and the fellowship of His sufferings and the power of His resurrection, being made conformable unto His death. They have heard the voice of the Master saying, "I will not fail thee nor forsake thee." The giants do not look nearly as big to them as their God. They know that everything the enemy throws at them is but their purifying fire that shall purge out their dross and bring them forth as gold, so there is not fear of the battle in them. They have nothing to lose for they have already given all to Christ. Their prayer is, "Lord keep me in the fire that I may come forth as gold." Lucifer and his demons have not met a generation like this before. They shall go forth as Joel's Mighty Army, every man in his place and as the Lord hath said, no man shall stand before them all the days of their life.

"Unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the Land"(Joshua 1:6)

What a calling was given unto Joshua. What a privilege was his. Moses was used to start the people on their journey, to bring them through the Red Sea, to bring them to the borders of the land. But to Joshua was given the ministry of taking them in to actually possess it. To divide their inheritance unto them. What courage would be required to lead them in battle against the giants. What wisdom, what judgment would be required to divide the land justly and wisely among them. Even so is the privilege and responsibility that is laid up on the Joshua ministry in this last hour. We are not so narrow as to think ours is the only ministry in God's plan for his people. For the scriptures say there are many administrations (ministries) of the Spirit of God. (1st Cor. 12:5) We thank God for all those who are ministering on the Moses level of calling people out of Egypt and taking them through the Red Sea (the blood of Jesus). We're grateful for the brethren who have labored with God's children to bring them to the borders of the land. But unto the Joshua Ministry that God is calling out today, is given the glorious

privilege and responsibility of at last taking God's people to the fullness of what God has been leading his Israel toward for six thousand years. To possess their land and divide their inheritance unto them.

What courage is going to be required to lead them into battle against the giants. What wisdom and judgment to be able to divide their inheritance unto them justly and wisely. For their land is a spiritual land. Spiritual gifts must be imparted and distributed wisely among the people. Spirit ministries must be brought forth. Fruits of the Spirit must be developed and matured. Each member of the body must be set in his place and brought to perfection. Spiritual vineyards must be planted, branches pruned, choice fruits brought forth and crushed in the wine press that the new wine, which is the very life of Christ, which is the life of God, might flow in Israel. This is the calling that is given unto those who are to take God's people over Jordan and divide for an inheritance, unto them the land the Lord has given them. Only as we obey the injunction given in verse eight will we be able to fulfill this great ministry. This injunction reads ...

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth but thou shalt meditate therein day and night."

It is in the hidden types and shadows in the law of Moses that we have revealed to us God's eternal plan for his people - His Divine Order plan. In the Tabernacle and its Divine Order of Service; in the seven feasts of Israel, in Israel's journey from Egypt to Jerusalem. It is only as we let God unveil for us day and night this hidden manna and as we meditate on it day and night that we are going to be able to go in and possess our land. Notice God said, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth." Only as we speak God's Word and his plan, are we going to be able to enter into our land. Today in the world, men who are heads of Nations and Governments have all kinds of plans whereby

they tell the people they are going to bring them life and peace. In the church other men who are heads of churches and denominations have all kinds of plans whereby they promise the people life and peace. But in the books of the law of Moses, hidden in the Tabernacle and the Feasts of Israel and in the Passover supper, is the eternal plan of God, which alone is going to bring peace and life to God's creation. Nation and kingdoms are striving against one another, churches and denominations are striving against one another, each to gain supremacy and rulership over the other to put his plan into action and fulfill it. But in the midst of all this strife and contention Jesus Christ is calling out his Apostles and Prophets and unveiling for them the revelation of his eternal plan from the books of the Law of Moses. And they are quietly crossing the world and ministering the word that shall lead the elect Body of Christ into His Divine Plan. And when all others and their plans have been swept away by the fire of God's judgment, that Body of Christ shall possess their land.

JOSHUA 1: 10-11 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the Lord your God giveth you to possess it.

This is the hour for preparing victuals. As soon as the children of Israel crossed over Jordan they were to begin their march into the land. There would be long marches to make and battles to fight. There would be very little time to stop and prepare food. Therefore they must store up food and prepare as much as they could in order that they may eat and remain strong for the march and the battle.

Even so today is the hour when God is raising up ministries to receive from heaven the hidden manna of God and prepare the best food for his people. Never has there been a time when the Word of the Lord has come forth in such abundance, and the choicest words from the fathers table are being served to God's children. Now is the time for

God's people to eat and store up and get prepared for their journey over Jordan. When you hear the precious Word of the Lord being poured out through His anointed ministries today, do not just eat a little and be blessed and walk away and leave. Make baskets in your heart and store great portions away. The day will come when you are on the march and the enemy is pressing you sore and you do not have anointed ministries around to prepare food for you. But you can reach in your basket and draw out those precious truths that you have stored there and the Spirit will make them real to you and fresh strength for the journey and the battle will be yours and you eat as you go.

Jos 3:1 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; 3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it. 4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed *this* way heretofore.

Jos 3:10 And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and *that* he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites. 11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan. 12 Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man. 13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, *that* the waters of Jordan shall be cut off *from* the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon a heap. 14 And it came to pass, when the

people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people; 15 And as they that bore the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bore the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,) 16 That the waters which came down from above stood *and* rose up upon a heap very far from the city Adam, that *is* beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, *even* the salt sea, failed, *and* were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho. 17 And the priests that bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

In order for you to fully understand what God is saying here we must pause at this point and let you know just what the Ark of the Covenant is.

In the Old Testament age when God gave Israel the Old Testament Covenant, he gave them a symbol of that Covenant. It was the Old Testament Ark. This Ark was a big chest, much like a cedar chest made out of shittim wood and overlaid inside and out with gold. God told them as long as they carried the ark with them, His blessing and power would be theirs, and He would keep His covenant, for their carrying the ark signified their acceptance of, and trust in God's Covenant

This ark of the Old Testament Covenant was but a type of and substitute for, and shadow of the Spiritual Ark of the New Testament Covenant. When Jesus came, nineteen hundred years ago, he brought us a New Covenant from God the Father. He also gave us the true Ark of this New Covenant of which the Old Testament Ark was but a type. Only the Ark of the New Covenant is not a chest, but it is The Name of Jesus. Israel went forth with a chest but Jesus said for us to go forth, "In My Name." "In My Name," they shall cast out devils, "In My Name," they shall speak in New Tongues. "In My Name," they shall lay hands on the sick and

they shall recover. Whatsoever ye ask "In My Name," it shall be done unto you. And so we see the ark that we carry forth is the Name of Jesus. But when Jesus said, "In My Name," he did not mean the word J-E-S-U-S means Saviour, and its only purpose is to reveal the Saviour Nature of Jesus. There is no power in the name J-E-S-U-S. If anyone doubts this let them stand before a demon possessed person without standing in the nature of Jesus, in the nature of faith, of truth, of love, and let them command demons or the sick to be healed till they are exhausted, and not one demon will come out. They may do them as they did the seven sons of Sceva who tried to use the name of Jesus without being in the nature of Jesus to cast out devils. They may say, "Jesus we know and Paul we know but who are you?" And they may cause the possessed person to tear all your clothes off and run you out naked also. But when you stand in the nature of Jesus, which is the nature of Love, Compassion, Faith, Truth, and command demons, they will come out crying with loud voices.

The Ark of the New Covenant is the Name, the Nature of Jesus which God placed in us when we were born again. Only we do not carry it with us as Israel did the Old Testament, but we carry it in us and us in it. For Jesus did not say go forth with my name but "In My Name"(Nature). He did not say, "With My Name, they shall cast out devils," but "In My Name." For the Old Testament age was the fleshly age of prophecy in which fleshly Israel carried types with them, but the New Testament age is the age of the Spirit in which types are fulfilled, "In Us."

How tragic it is that so many Christians think the power is the word J-E-S-U-S and that by tacking the phrase, "In the Name of Jesus," on the end of their prayer it gives some kind of mystical power to bring the answer. The trouble is they do not get the answer because they are not standing and walking in the nature of Jesus.

But the truth is, the Name or Nature of Jesus that God plants in us when we are born again is not fully developed in

us and carried to its highest place of perfection that God intends for it, anymore than Israel's Ark was carried to its resting place until Israel had gone all the way into their land and possessed Jerusalem, but it is only in a baby stage of development. When we go on to receive the Baptism of the Spirit, the Name of Jesus in us, which is our Ark, is carried another step toward our promised land. As the gifts of the spirit which are a definite part of the Nature of Jesus begin to come forth in us, the Ark moves a step further toward perfection which is our promised land. And now as the Word of the Lord goes forth to God's Spiritual Israel today, "Rise up and go over Jordan and Possess the land," it is time for the Nature of Jesus in us, which is our Ark to be carried to its highest place of glory, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, that we may go in and possess our land. But the problem today is, when the people of Spiritual Israel see the Ark of the covenant, with the priestly ministry bearing it, rise up and go forward over Jordan, they do not want to remove from their place and go after it. Some camped on the ground of the conversion truth, and when at the turn of the century God raised up a priestly ministry who picked up the Ark of the Covenant, the nature of Jesus in us, and carried it on to the Baptism of the Spirit experience, they refused to remove from their place and go after it. In the late forties when God raised up again a priestly ministry to carry the ark on to the gifts of the Spirit coming forth in us, the Tongue Speakers who had pitched their camp and built their ministries on the Baptism of the Spirit Ground, refused to remove from their place and go after it. Now in this last hour as God calls out a priestly ministry to again take up the Ark of the Covenant and cross over Jordan that the nature of Jesus in us might be carried to, "The Measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ." Those who have pitched their camp on the Divine Healing and Gifts of the Spirit ground refuse to heed the command, "When ye see the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord your God and the priest, the Levites

bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place and go after it."

Preachers have built their ministries and churches and organizations on the Divine Healing, Spirit Gifts ground. Their salaries are fat like their bellies. They feel security in their denominational retirement programs, they are familiar with the land they dwell in. Across Jordan is new, unfamiliar territory with giants in it. A deeper consecration and a closer walk with God will be required to make it through. The Israelites in the pew have become fat and lazy on the ground on which they have encamped. Their churches are built, they have their little fellowships and spiritual cliques in which they are firmly established. They are satisfied with the place they have come to in God. Increased material goods in this day of worldly wealth compensates to some degree for their poverty in the Spirit and lack of spiritual victory. It is far easier to ignore the present move of God, to close their ear to the command, "Go over this Jordan," to close their eyes as the priestly ministry God is calling out, as they pick up the ark and move out to go over Jordan, than to break the ties they have made and remove from their place and go after it.

Yet there shall be a space between you and it about two thousand cubits

"Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore." (Joshua 3:4) This may seem an insignificant statement to many, but actually it is of the utmost importance. The ark was to be carried by the priestly ministry alone. The people were to follow it but they were to keep their distance from it. They were not to help carry it or interfere with the priestly ministry who were called to carry it, That They Might Know The Way Which They Must Go.

Too long has the priestly ministry of Christ been bound under an old order church system in which the deacon board of the church and the people told the ministry what they could preach and what they could not. They voted the minister in and voted him out, hired and fired God's ministry as if they were shepherds instead of sheep. Telling them exactly how the Ark of God should be carried, and just how far forward the nature of Christ in them, which is the true ark, could be carried and just where it must stop. Consequently God's Israel has been filled with confusion with the people trying to wrest the ark out of the hands of the priestly ministry and no one knows the way that they must go.

Under God's New Order it will not be so. It is the responsibility of the five-fold ministry to carry the ark, It is their calling to receive from God the revelation of the Word that shall carry the name of Jesus in the Body of Christ forward to its place of perfection. The people are to follow the word, not try to preach or inform the ministry how it must be preached. They can move in the gifts of the Spirit, and grow in truth and love and fruits of the Spirit, whereby, when they are ready, the Spirit will set them in their place in the ministry. But until that time they better keep their distance from the ark and the ministry that carries it. The five-fold ministry that God is restoring to His Church will not submit to any such foolishness. They will not take a ministry unto themselves, be it apostle, prophet or evangelist, pastor or teacher unless the Holy Ghost has set them in it. But when the Holy Ghost has set them in it they will fulfill that ministry in the Spirit and power of Elijah. They will not let the sheep tell them what they can or cannot preach. They will not speak until they know they have the Word of the Lord. When they can or cannot preach. They will not speak until they know they have the Word of the Lord. Then they will speak, "Thus saith the Lord." They will not claim any authority to rule over anyone, but they will stand in His authority and speak the Word of the Lord. They will not

wait to be hired or voted in to Pastor a church, but will go to whom the Lord sends them and speak the word He gives them. You cannot hire them or fire them. They do not care if they preach in a church or in a home or under a tree, to two or two thousands. They are not after your money because they trust God to raise up those who will meet their needs, so they cannot be told what they cannot preach with a threat of losing a pastorate. They are well aware that the sheep do not know the way they are to go, so they have no business trying to tell the ministry how to carry the ark. They will receive the word from heaven as to which way the ark must be carried and preach it for those who will hear. And those who will not, they will pick up the ark and go forward, leaving them standing on their old camp ground with their building, and bundles of material goods, and programs, and systems, but without the Ark of God, the anointing of God and the blessing of God. For when the Ark goes forward, the anointing goes with it.

"And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the Ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon a heap." (Joshua 3:13) Jordan of course is not a type of the river of physical death we pass through to go into heaven, for the children of Israel were not in possession of their promised land when they had crossed over, but only ready to begin to tackle the giants and possess it. Neither was it a type of the river of the death of the cross through which we go to perfection, for the other side of the river was not their rest, but only the beginning of their great battle with the giants to possess their land. There were many battles to fight after Jordan. Neither was it a type of the complete death of the flesh, the old Adam, for it is only through the test and battles we go through when we enter into the ministry of the Manifested Sons, that our old man shall at last be fully crucified and we shall take on the New Name.

But it is a type of a dying to the world and the flesh in which we lay ourselves down upon the Golden Altar of Incense and let God take us through the purifying fires of testing to purge our dross. A place where we will be tempted or tested in many ways by Satan just as Jesus was tempted forty days in the wilderness. When we have passed this test we will have turned from the world and the things of the flesh. Then just as Jesus after his temptation was ready to enter into his three and one-half year ministry which took him to and through the cross by which he left behind his seed of Abraham nature, that could still be tempted to sin, and took on the new name, (nature of God) which is perfect, even so we will then be ready to enter into the Manifested Sons ministry through the battles to possess our land, we will be taken to and through the cross, whereby we shall drop off the seed of Abraham nature and take on the New Name, the Nature of God.

As we stand at the brink of Jordan, its waters are truly over-flowing its banks for it is the time of Harvest as Joshua 3:1 5 states. As we face the many things in our lives that we have to overcome, and the many things in the world that we have considered so necessary to our existence, that we have to turn from completely, it looks impossible to cross over. The waters stand high before us and it seems nothing will move them, and nothing will until we march forward in each battle, place our foot in the brink of the waters and stand in faith waiting for God to move. Then will we begin to see the glory of God. Then will the waters from above stand upon a heap, and the way become clear to us. This is of course is contrary to our nature. We always want God to part the waters and open the way before we begin to move. But Jesus said all things we pray for, we must first stand in the waters and, Believe We Have Received Them, then we shall see them come to pass. Peter must first have stepped out of the ship and put his foot upon the water, then he saw the Power of God. And notice verse seventeen states, the priest stood firm until all the people had passed over. The priest

that bear the ark could not wet their feet in the water and then go back to the bank. They must stand firm until all the people have passed over. Neither can we take a stand in faith and then because we see a wave of water of opposition from the enemy coming at us turn back to the bank or waver in our faith. We must stand firm until the complete battle is won. What faith was required for the priest to stand firm, and the people to pass over. Surely fear said to them that even though the waters were standing on a heap, they might come down at any time during the long period of time it took for all the hundreds of thousands of Israelites and their cattle and sheep to pass over.

Even so must we stand with the same faith until the battle is won. We have seen many preachers and individuals embrace the move of God and God's end-time message and place their feet in the brink of Jordan, but when the waves of opposition come rolling at them, turn and run back to the bank and the false temporary security of the Organizations of the older order.

We have seen many an individual, place their feet in the brink of Jordan, and begin a faith battle for their healing and when the waves of opposition come and the symptoms got worse, and someone with little faith tell them they should go to the doctor, or the hospital, they have turned and run back to the bank and lost the battle.

But thank God there is a priestly ministry rising up that will stand in Jordan with the Ark (the name of Jesus) in their hand and stand firm until the battle is won. In our congregation in Miami there are many who have taken off their glasses and set their foot in Jordan for the healing of their eyes. How the waves of fear and opposition stand hovering over them. But they stand firm and the testimonies of those who have already been healed are as strength to many around the world.

Jos 5:1 And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which *were* on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which *were* by the sea, heard

that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel. 2 At that time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time. 3 And Joshua made him sharp knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. :4 And this *is* the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, *that were* males, *even* all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt. 5 Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people *that were* born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, *them* they had not circumcised. 6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people *that were* men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD swore that he would not show them the land, which the LORD swore unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey. 7 And their children, *whom* he raised up in their stead, *them* Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way. 8 And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole.

The first step Joshua took after crossing Jordan was to pitch camp and not move a step further until he had circumcised all the males. And for a very definite reason. The great walled fortress of Jericho was now before them. It was the great fortress of the enemy that was right in the very gateway to the Promised Land. It was right in the very gateway to the Promised Land. It must be conquered before they could go in and possess the land. This was the first great battle for the new generation of Israel they must fight in order to possess the land, but they were as yet all

uncircumcised. The first generation that came out of Egypt, that died in the wilderness, had all been circumcised. But they were dead. And the new generation that had been born and brought up in the wilderness had not been circumcised. They could not enter into battle this way.

They could not have the power of God with them. For circumcision was the sign of the covenant between God and Israel. Its acceptance by Israel was a sign of their acceptance of God's covenant, and the prerequisite for his acceptance of them. Therefore until they were circumcised they could not expect to have God's power for battle.

In order to understand the great truth this speaks to us, we first need to understand that Old Testament circumcision was a type of New Testament circumcision. The Old Testament cutting away of the foreskin of the flesh, of the sons of Old Testament Israel, was a type of the cutting off and casting away of the sins of the flesh of New Testament Israel. Thus as it is with the new generation of Israel today. We have been born into Israel during the wilderness wanderings of the last generation of Israel, who at the turn of the century were called out by God, Baptized in the Holy Ghost and started out to follow their heavenly Joshua into the land. Back then the Lord desired to circumcise that generation. A holiness message began to be brought forth by the Spirit. Many began to cast off the sins of the flesh. However, the enemy turned it into a Pharisaical outward holiness of long hair, and drab faces instead of the true circumcision of God. Consequently when they came to the borders of the land, and the giant spirits of Satan rose up against them, they like every other generation had no faith to go in. They too, said nobody can be perfect. They stopped preaching holiness, victory over sin, sickness and the world, and God set them also aside to wander in the wilderness of a worldly so-called Pentecost that has gone back to robed choirs, carnal programs and a form of Godliness that denies the power thereof. Therefore God has brought a new generation forth from the wilderness. From among Baptist, Methodist,

Lutherans, Episcopalians and every other denomination, God has called out the new generation. He has baptized them in the Spirit. Those who have seen his true purpose, to take us on to perfection, to the full possession of our land, are ready to go over Jordan. But there is another step that we must also take - we must be circumcised. We were born and brought up in a church in the wilderness, that has preached a shallow surface gospel, that implies all that is necessary for salvation is conversion or the born again experience. Holiness has been a thing to be sneered at, and compared with the long haired, long sleeved, outward brand, many sects who called themselves holiness exhibited. We were taught that Godliness was winning souls, paying tithes, increasing the membership of the church and ascribing to the first principle doctrine of Christ. We were not taught any necessity for dealing with the evil that is in our hearts and manifest in the sins of the flesh and spirit. Consequently we have never been circumcised in the way. The sins of the flesh have not been cut off and cast away. We are laden down with all sorts of worldly lust, and I do not mean only sex lust. Lust for houses, cars, fancy clothes, worldly music, pleasures, and habits. The average Christian is more interested in the church bowling team than the prayer meeting. Our hearts are so laden with worldly lust that if we tried to go into battle with these weights we would have no faith and power and just as the men of Ai, put Israel on the run, so would we be put on the run. Nay, God will make us tarry by the way until he has circumcised our hearts.

At that time the Lord said unto Joshua, "Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins." (Joshua 5:2)

God told Joshua to take sharp knives to circumcise Israel, for only sharp knives will do the job. The time is past for soft preaching that soothes the ears of God's people and leaves them still laden with the sins of their flesh. The Joshua Ministry that God is raising up today shall not be so. They will use sharp knives. The word they preach shall cut,

it shall sting, it shall burn, it shall make our flesh hurt so that we cry out with the pain. But they shall leave the children of Israel clean and pure with circumcised hearts and ears. Filled with faith and holiness, true heart holiness, and power, and anointing to go forth and conquer the enemy. Let us not resist our circumcision. Let us submit as Christ through His ministry cuts away at the hill of our foreskins. Let us remain in the camp until we have been made whole. Then let us go forth to the battle of the great day of the Lord God Almighty. Amen.