



# Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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## Way Point 44

### Will God Still Be With Us?

Story of Joshua Succeeding Moses

## Travel Log

Personal Notes

Moses was allowed to see the Promised Land from the mountain across the river. He was not allowed to enter because he struck the rock instead of speaking to it. *Numbers 27:12-13 And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. 13 And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered.*

The death of Moses, as unwilling as the Children of Israel had been to follow him, was a very traumatic experience for them. We cannot help but feel some of the worry.

### I- Moses Request Replacement:

Moses knew that God was going to keep His word. He knew he would never be allowed to lead the children of Israel into the Promised Land. He made a request of the Lord to send his replacement recorded for us in *Numbers 27:15-17 And Moses spake unto the LORD, saying, 16 Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, 17 Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd.*

Moses knew that they needed a strong leader to lead them otherwise they would be like sheep wandering aimlessly. Moses also realized, as had been his experience, that God was the one who would choose the leadership. Moses requested that God replace him.

### II- Joshua the Son of Nun:

The replacement for Moses given by God was a man named Joshua. Notice *Numbers 27:18-23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; 19 And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight. ...22 And Moses did as the LORD commanded him: and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation: 23 And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.*

Moses was instructed to bring Joshua and present him to the congregation as his replacement and Moses complied.

Series of horizontal lines for taking personal notes.



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Who was this man that God had raised up to be the leader of the people. Let's look briefly at Joshua.

We see from *Exod 17:9* that Joshua was a leader in military victories. *And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.*

Joshua was also present with Moses on Mount Sinai when God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses. *Exod 24:13 And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.* Joshua is with Moses as he descends to find the golden calf being worshipped. *Exod 32:15;17 And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written....*<sup>17</sup>

*And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp.*

Joshua was also one of the twelve spies who went into the land to search it out. He and Caleb were the only two who encouraged the Israelites to enter the land. *Num 14:6 "And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes..."*

We can also discern that the choice of Joshua as the leader that would follow Moses was not an accident. As has been previously stated God had prepared Joshua his entire lifetime for the task that was now before him. God had set him aside and appointed him to the task at hand. One of the great tributes due to Moses is that he could step aside and give his whole hearted support to his replacement. Many men who have held powerful positions often find it difficult to step aside when God raises up another.

God today is calling men out to be His servants and lead His people. The question at times is will those He is calling answer the call.



*Coordinates:*

*Numbers 27:1-23; Joshua 1:1-7*

*Sights to See:*

- 1- God is the one who places leadership for His purposes.
- 2- God is still calling men to become the leaders of His people today as He did in the times of Moses and Joshua.
- 3- Men are prepared, often over many years to be used by God for a specific task.
- 4- Moses knowing his time of leadership had passed made the transition to Joshua's leadership as easy as possible.
- 5- Moses body was buried by God because he was not to be worshipped as the deliver. He was only the instrument that God used. God delivered them.
- 6- God's promised hold true from one generation to the next.
- 7- The promised of God's presence in the lives of the Israelites after Moses died was to give them encouragement for the task ahead.

### III- Death of Moses:

The replacement of Moses having been introduced to the people, it is time for Moses to take a journey, his final journey.

Moses knew his time was up. God told him in *Numbers 27:12-14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. 13 And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered. 14 For ye rebelled against my commandment in the desert of Zin, in the strife of the congregation, to sanctify me at the water before their eyes: that is the water of Meribah in Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin. Deuteronomy 34:1-3 And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the*



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*mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the LORD shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan, 2 And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea, 3 And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto Zoar.*

Moses was allowed to see all of the Promised Land from this vantage point. He is forbidden to enter. God again reaffirms His promise to give this land to Abraham and his descendants.

*Deuteronomy 34:4 And the LORD said unto him, This is the land which I swear unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.*

We see from the following verses that he was still in perfect health. Still after looking over the land of promise he died. *Deut 34:5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. 6 And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day. 7 And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.*

God buried His old servant that had lead the people for the last forty years and didn't tell anyone where He put the body. Why? Because the children of Israel would have in all probability made a shrine of the tomb and perhaps even worshipped Moses but without a tomb or his body this was not an option.

## IV- As I Was With Moses:

Now the anxiety level must have gown up exponentially for the Israelites now. While they had murmured and complained about a lot that Moses did he still was their leader. Now he is dead. The question must have been in their mind will God continue to be with us as He has been. Certainly we can believe that Joshua wondered in all probability because He had been there with Moses for all these 40 years and seen it all first hand. Notice the following promises God gave to Joshua as he begins his responsibility.

*Joshua 1:1 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.*

The will of God is plainly stated, as it had been forty years before, that they were to go over and conquer the land that God had already given them.

*Joshua 1:3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.*

*Joshua 1: 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.*

Now this was a promise that must have been sweet music to the ears of Joshua. God was going to be with him as he had been with Moses. He would not fail him nor forsake him. A man who is sure God is on his side can stand a lot and be bold in his actions. Joshua has God promises.

*Joshua 1:6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.* He was told the land was to be divided as an inheritance give by God.



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Joshua is told to abide in the Word of God as revealed to Moses and to walk in this Word day and night. *Joshua 1: 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.*****

The strength of anyone is only as strong as their foundation. The greatest foundation for any leader is to be in Christ and in His Word.

***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.*****

The presence of God is promised. Therefore they can enter the land relying on God for protection, for prosperity and for subsistence. They can enter and not have to face fears and doubts about if God will be with them. They did not have to worry if God was for them or against them. He was for them. Remember the promise we have been given, *Matthew 28:18-20 **And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.***