

Joshua: Chapter 23

- V. 1 – Now it came about after many days, when the LORD had given rest to Israel from all (SC: key word again, “all”) their enemies on every side
 - SC: It’s a lot easier to get rest from all your enemies when you’ve gone out and destroyed all of them. Think about that. It’s not something God miraculously did.
 - Their “rest” was the fruit or result of them taking action, doing, acting what they felt God told them to do.
 - ...and Joshua was old, advanced in years,
- V. 2 – that Joshua called for all (SC: There’s that key word again, “all”) Israel, for their elders and their heads and their judges and their officers, and said to them, “I am old, advanced in years.
- V. 3 – “And you have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you, for the LORD your God is He who has been fighting for you.
 - SC: So they don’t take *credit* for their success, they give credit for their success here to God.
- V. 4 – “See, I have apportioned to you these nations which remain as an inheritance
 - SC: Again, “inheritance”. God thinks multi-generational, sequential. Not *one* generation. Not mono.
 - ...for your tribes
 - SC: So it’s 2 and a half.
 - ...with all the nations which I have cut off, from the Jordan even to the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun.
- V. 5 – “And the LORD your God, He shall thrust them out from before you and drive them from before you; and you shall possess their land just as the LORD your God promised you.
- V. 6 – “Be very firm, then, to keep and do all (SC: See the action items? “Possess”, “keep”, “do”.) that is written in the book of the law of Moses (SC: That is key, right there.), so that you may not turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left.
 - SC: Notice that it doesn’t say “so you will be blessed.” No, it says, “so you won’t get distracted.” Because the devil is poised to distract you, get you to turn to your right or your left.
 - That is, he’s poised to get you to think, ponder, wonder, doubt, and paralyze your decision making.
- V. 7 – in order that you may not associate with these nations, these which remain among you, or mention the name of their gods, or make anyone swear by them, or serve them, or bow down to them.
- V. 8 – “But you are to cling to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day.
- V. 9 – “For the LORD has driven out great and strong nations (SC: That is, don’t have anything to do with them. Period.) from before you; and as for you, no man has stood before you to this day.
- SC: That speaks of reputation as a result of your actions. And your reputation is the sum of your actions and reactions. So whatever reputation you want, see if your actions and reactions are supportive of your reputation.
- V. 10 – “One of your men puts to flight a thousand, for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, just as He promised you.
- V. 11 – “So take diligent heed to yourselves to love the LORD your God.
 - SC: There’s another action: “to *love* the LORD your God”.

- V. 12 – “For if you ever go back and cling to the rest of these nations, these which remain among you, and intermarry with them (SC: So you associate with them. “Go along” is literally what it says.), so that you associate with them and they with you,
- V. 13 – know with certainty (SC: Wow, that’s a strong word) that the LORD your God will not (SC: That’s affirmative, not.) continue to drive these nations out from before you; but they shall be a snare and a trap to you, and a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good land which the LORD your God has given you.
- V. 14 – “Now behold, today I am going the way of all the earth, and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word of all the good words which the LORD your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have been fulfilled for you, (SC: “Not one has failed.” That is a huge verse there) not one of them has failed.
- V. 15 – “And it shall come about that just as all the good words which the LORD your God spoke to you have come upon you, so the LORD will bring upon you all (SC: So 5 “all’s”) the threats (SC: More “all’s”), until He has destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God has given you.
- V. 16 – “When you transgress the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and go and serve other gods, and bow down to them, then the anger of the LORD will burn against you, and you shall perish quickly from off the good land which He has given you.”
- SC: This goes back to Deut. 11:13-14 and 16-17:
 - “And it shall come about, if you listen obediently to my commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and all your soul, that He will give the rain for your land in its season, the early and late rain, that you may gather in your grain and your new wine and your oil...
 - “Watch yourselves, lest your hearts be deceived and you turn away and serve other gods and worship them. Or the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and He will shut up the heavens so that there will be no rain ...”