

Message preached on Sunday Morning, October 11, 2026

TODAY we are going to get into one of the most important things to keep our of our lives…if we are going to live in victory.

Joshua 1:6-9
(**REMEMBER:** The beginning of this chapter reveals that Joshua and the children of Israel were going to move from victory to victory…they were going to take land and not know defeat.)

6 ***Be strong and of a good courage:*** for unto this people shalt thou divide for an ***inheritance the land***, which I sware 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.

NOTICE: Three be strong and of good courage statements – hard headed and obstinate statements!

1.) Regarding your inheritance!

If God says it is yours…then it is yours! No questions.

Ephesians 1:17-19 – Paul's prayer for the church at Ephesus.

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:
KNOW Who He is!

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,
KNOW who YOU are!
KNOW what YOU'VE been given!

19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,
KNOW what YOU can do!

We say it often…but what YOU don't know will hurt you.
Quit letting the enemy tell you what you can and cannot have…he doesn't have a say in that!

2.) Regarding the Word!

If God has said it…it cannot fail! Ever!

Psalm 105:8 – "He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations."

Psalm 119:89 – "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

Psalm 138:2 – "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."

UNDERSTAND: Every Word that God has spoken (through His Word) will come to pass…it can not fail.
As a matter of fact…every Word is a covenant Word backed by the Blood of Jesus.

Isaiah 55:11 – "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

BELOVED: You find out who you are, Who God is, what you have and what you can do…by hearing the revealed Word of God.
So don't let anyone or anything take you from the Word of God…and especially don't let them remove you from your confidence in it.

3.) Regarding Fear!

If God has promised it and declared it…fear doesn't have a right to operate in our lives.

UNDERSTAND THIS: You can know what God has given to you, and what He has said…but FEAR will stop them all from happening in your life.

Job 3:25 – "For the thing which I ***greatly feared is come upon me***, and that which ***I was afraid of is come unto me***."
Job 1:1 – "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil."
UNDERSTAND: Job wasn't just some Joe Schmuck…He was very close with God…He knew God's voice…He knew God's ways! Yet, fear stole everything from Him.

BELOVED: We have such great and perfect promises given to us from God!
1 Peter 1:4 – "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."
James 1:17 – "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

He has given us: healing…prosperity…wealth…protection…victory…strength…long life…peace…the list goes on and on.
YET: When we look at the world/television all we see is:
Inflation..diseases…gas prices…AI coming after jobs…discord…stress…the list goes on and one.

BELOVED: Even though we know what God has given to us…we GET CAUGHT UP in the natural world and FEAR catches us…thus ALL the blessings of God ends up going unfulfilled!
Which is really annoying.

HERE IS THE THING: Fear is the opposite of FAITH.
FAITH draws the blessings of God. It works like a magnet to the blessings! All along it repels the natural junk.
FEAR draws what you fear (Job 3:25). It works like a magnet to the works of the enemy! It actually repels the blessings that you have been given.

So, when God told Joshua to REFUSE FEAR (be hard headed and obstinate about it)…He was actually giving Joshua and the children of Israel the KEY to activating the first 5 verses in Joshua.

Keep inheritance in your heart, keep Word in your heart, keep FEAR OUT!

Fear sets your EXPECTATION for the negative to come to pass in your life.

Numbers 13:25-33 (the first time they were ready to enter the Promises Land)

25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.
26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land.
27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.
28 **Nevertheless** the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.
NOTE: Fear will bring the nevertheless into your blessings.
29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.
30 ***And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.***
31 But the men that went up with him said, ***We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.***
32 And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.
33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

NOTICE: The men, because of what they saw, fully EXPECTED the GIANTS to crush them…they expected to fail (even though they knew what God had given to them).

Compare THAT to 1 Samuel 17 – David fully expected the GIANT to fail!
NOTE: The rest of the army was hiding!

QUESTION: How does FEAR come?
ANSWER: The same way FAITH comes…hearing and hearing constantly the NEWS, TV, PODCASTS, REELS, MEMES, SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS, GAS PRICES, GROCERY PRICES…
Those things get in you…you begin believing how powerful they are…you start acting like they are true.

James 1:6-8 (possibly talk about a double-minded man)

Solution to Fear

Matthew 14:22-32

22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.
NOTE: Jesus said they were going to the other side…so He was going to make sure they got to the other side. They had HIS WORD on it!
23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.
24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.
25 And in the fourth watch of the night *(3am to 6am)* Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.
26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.
NOTE: Afflictions come immediately after the Word to frighten you and to stop you from believing!
FEAR immediately grabbed them.
27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.
NOTE: Jesus brought the WORD to defeat fear!
Be happy (full of joy); refuse fear!

NOW: The question comes to us…how do we confront fear?

28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

You confront fear by two things (faith):

a.) Hear. Peter needed to hear the Word.

b.) Do. There had to be action behind the Word.

John 2:5 – "…Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."

- It may not be comfortable or easy…but do it!
- It may go against the natural…but do it!
- It may not make sense…but do it!

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, ***he was afraid;*** and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

NOTICE: Fear doesn't stop knocking at your door!

He saw some more (which you will…you always will) and fear started creeping back in.

Starting to sink in a storm would lead to more distress.

2 Corinthians 5:7 – "For we walk by faith, not by sight:

2 Corinthians 4:18 – "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

A couple things to notice:

a.) Peter had to re-connect with the Word to make it and get rid of fear.

b.) Short faith…short victories! Long faith…long victories!
Stick with the Word. When fear starts sinking you…get in the Word.

c.) The winds didn't stop immediately…Peter had to finish walking by faith!
Sometimes we think that when we get in the Word that everything should just stop…but the TRUTH is, sometimes you have to keep walking in the storm…but the victory will come.

Conclusion

BELOVED: Your battle/storm is NO MATCH for the Word of God.
Fear is no match for the Word of God.

HOWEVER: Fear can stop God's blessing, if we let it hang out!