

=MAJOR CHARACTERS OF THE BIBLE=

Lesson 4

Joshua

SCRIPTURE: Numbers 11:26-30; Numbers 13:26 - 14:45; Joshua 24:14, 15.

INTRODUCTION: Review briefly, by question and answer, the time from Adam to Joshua.

- I. JOSHUA IS A TYPE OF JESUS.
 1. “Joshua” in the Hebrew is the same as “Jesus” in the Greek. Each means “Jehovah-Saviour” or “Jehovah is salvation.”
 2. Joshua (Jesus) did what Moses (law) could not do.
- II. JOSHUA WAS WILLING TO DO LITTLE THINGS. In Numbers 11:28, we read that he was a servant. Several Scriptures refer to Joshua as a “minister” to Moses. How refreshing! Many preachers are too dignified to visit. Many Sunday school teachers are too important to call on class members. Many deacons have no time for lowly jobs. Many young people would not consider a job that promised no public recognition. See Matthew 25:14-30.
- III. JOSHUA RAN WITH GOOD COMPANY. See Exodus 24:12-18. Find Moses, and there you will find Joshua. Joshua stayed with the man of God. Dr. John Rice said, “Bad company will ruin anyone.” Samson, Peter, and others are proof of what the wrong company will do for us.
- IV. JOSHUA WAS LOYAL. Notice Numbers 11:27-29. Joshua was not the great Spirit-filled prophet in this instance that he was to be in later years. His spiritual discernment was a little dull, but thank God for the loyalty that he displayed. In a day of “turncoats,” broken marriage vows, crooked city officials, etc., may God make us loyal to the Saviour, the Book, the church, friends, etc.
- V. JOSHUA HAD FAITH IN GOD. Tell the story given in Numbers 13:30 - 14:10. Joshua kept his faith in spite of the following: (1) opposition, (2) giants, (3) faithless thousands, and (4) threat of death.
- VI. JOSHUA WAS A SPIRIT-FILLED PROPHET. Joshua found out early in life where the source of power was found. Read Exodus 17:8-14. Joshua saw such victories as the following: (1) the passage over Jordan, (2) the capture of Jericho, (3) the sun standing still, (4) the conquering of the land, etc.
- VII. JOSHUA WAS FAITHFUL IN OLD AGE. Read Joshua 24:14, 15.

CONCLUSION: Someone in recent history said, “It remains to be seen what God would do with a man wholly dedicated unto Him.” This is not true, for Joshua and Caleb were indeed such men. See Joshua 14:8-14. Joshua and Caleb wholly followed the Lord!