

Joshua 3

At the end of Joshua 1, Joshua announced that the Children of Israel had three days to prepare for entering the Promised Land. This meant the beginning of the conquest of the land that God had promised. If you remember, God told the people through Joshua that it would begin from “here.” The Jordan River became the first obstacle for the armies of Israel and, at the same time, the first “miraculous proof event” to demonstrate God’s presence and His fulfillment of their “absence of fear!”

Israel’s army – Numbers 26:4 – Men 20 years old

First Census – two years into the wilderness – 603,550 fighting men

Second Census – Joshua’s army – 601,730 fighting men

Why does Joshua need to do this census?

Why does Scripture give us this detail – number of soldiers per tribe and then the total in Numbers 26:51?

What is faith according to Hebrews 11:1?

Israel’s first obstacle was the Jordan River. They needed to cross with a group numbering about two million people and all their possessions. The people of Canaan felt confident that they were safe because Joshua’s army was on the wrong side of the Jordan River.

As God demonstrated His blessing of Moses with the Red Sea Crossing on “dry ground,” God showed His blessing of Joshua with the Jordan River Crossing on “dry ground.”

Crossing the Jordan – Joshua 3

v. 1 Where was Israel camped before marching to the Jordan River?

v. 3 What were the crossing orders to the people?

What led the way?

v. 5 What was Joshua’s promise from the Lord?

v. 6 Who led the way for Israel?

This demonstrated that Israel’s hope was in the \_\_\_\_\_!

v. 7 What did God say to Joshua?

v. 8 What were the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant to do?

v. 9 How did Joshua connect all the dots for the Children of Israel?

He wanted all of Israel to know what?

- v. 10 What was this to prove to the people?
- v. 12 Why was a member from each tribe chosen?
- v. 13 When the priests' feet carrying the Ark touched the Water of the Jordan River, what would happen?
- v. 15 What made this miracle even more amazing?

How did this happen?

Read Bible footnotes – Is a rock slide up river a possible explanation?

Flood stage explanation – “dry ground”

- v. 16 How far did the water back up?

What happened to the water flowing into the Dead Sea?

- v. 17 What little detail from the verse proved this miracle of God?

Why is it important to include “the whole nation had completed the crossing on “dry ground?””

Detail – Miraculous power of God!