**The Answer of the 1st 2nd 3rd RUTC:**

**Conquest of Jordan River and God’s Kingdom (Joshua 3:7-13) 8/30/2020**

We have been discussing the blessings of God’s Kingdom that saved people of God must enjoy. In simpler words, God’s kingdom is the state in which you are under God’s governance. First, we talked about the blessing of God’ kingdom in Eden. That was complete happiness. Second, it was the blessing of the Ark during Noah’s flood. It was the protection and preservation of God’s people. Last week, we shared the blessing of God’s kingdom of the tabernacle in the wilderness. God perfectly guided their paths. Even if every day is filled with anxiety, you can receive God’s governance. Today we will talk about the blessings that allow us to conquer and win over problems and obstacles that come our way. In life, we face so many obstacles. What do we do then? There are people who give up under immense stress. There are also people who stake their lives on trying to figure it out despite the pressure. They become unwell and unhealthy. God wants us to enjoy the kingdom of God. Enjoy the blessing of God’s interference in your life’s problems.

**1. First, the Israelites must be sure of the reason they are crossing the Jordan River and heading to Canaan.**

When problems come, we must hold onto the absolute plan, absolute goal, and the absolute covenant of God. We must hold onto the three absolute reasons that guarantee God’s work. We must be able to apply this in everything that we go through.

**1) The Israelites must save the land of Canaan, which is filled with idols and corrupt cultures.**

What is God’s absolute plan for us? He desires to save us to save the world, heal us to heal the world, and bless us to bless the world. That is why he saved you first, and he will turn your pain and tears into evidence to raise you as a witness (Acts 1:8). “Lord, raise me up to be a witness that will save the world.”

**2)The Israelites must save the land of Canaan because it will be the land that their posterity will live in.**

**① What is God’s absolute goal that we must fulfill until the end? We are to prepare the future for our next generation**. This gospel and blessing that we enjoy must be relayed onto our posterity. It must be inherited. It must be completed.

**② That is why we must relay the covenant (Deuteronomy 6:4-9), pray for them (Luke 23:28), and give true devotion (Matthew 25:40).** When the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, the representatives of each tribe brought out a rock with them to make a monument (Joshua 4:6-7). Give your truest devotion to your physical children, the children of the church, and the children of the field that we must save. Before them, all their obstacles will crumble, and God will give us absolute evidence.

**3) There is a bigger reason. It is because Christ was to come to the land of Canaan as promised in the Bible.**

**① This is the absolute covenant we must hold onto for eternity.** We are waiting for the Lord to come again. What we must do in the meantime is share the gospel with the world (Matthew 24:14).

**② Those obstacles will crumble is we truly hold onto the covenant of evangelism and missions. That is the absolute reason.** Interpret everything in your life with evangelism and missions. Hold onto evangelism and missions as your life’s conclusion. God will govern, take responsibility of, and bless the lives and the paths of those evangelists.

**2. How will we enjoy God’s kingdom and experience the obstacles fall before our eyes?**

The priests carrying the ark of the covenant went first (8), and all people listened to the word of God (9). When we truly hold onto the promised word of God, God will work according to those words. This is why Jesus told his disciples to hold onto the word (John 15:7). This is why the members of the Early Church held onto the word being relayed by the apostles (Acts 2:42). When they hear and believe the word as God’s word, God himself will work (1Thessalonians 2:13). The passage promises that God will work in three ways.

**1) God promised to drive out all enemies that stand against the people of God (10).**

God said he himself will fight our enemies. When? When we hold onto the word. As God governs over the world with his kingship (Psalm 103:19), he will send angels when we hold onto the word to fulfill that word and move his heavenly army to fulfill his will. (Psalm 103:20-21). We must experience how Satan runs away in fear of the word that we held onto (Matthew 4:1-11).

**2) God’s Ark of the Covenant will pass before us (11).**

**① What were the three things that were inside the Ark of the Covenant? Inside was the covenant of blessings that God granted us.**

Aaron’s staff with a sprout was God’s absolute power. Manna was God’s absolute supply. The Ten Commandments, the word of God, was his absolute covenant. Because we cannot keep the ten commandments, Christ came to complete that covenant (Matthew 5:17). He fulfilled all and finished all (John 19:30). This is what we call the gospel.

**② Because we are lacking, God went ahead and completed it (Micah2:13).**

The life in which we experience God’s lead is the kingdom of God. Do not try to go ahead, but let God go before you. Enjoying that blessing is the walk of faith. That is why God confirmed the fact that despite the Jordan River, He will lead the way before you.

**3) When the disciples step into the Jordan River, it will split (Vs.13).**

**① What do the priests who are carrying the Ark of the Covenant and the twelve representatives signify?** In terms of the church, they signify the pastors and elders that must hold onto the covenant and stand before the people. Spiritual leaders. The faith of the spiritual leaders in the household is very important. When fathers possess that spiritual leadership, works of Holy Spirit will arise. If not the father, the mother must hold onto the covenant and the faith the step into the river.

**② The Jordan River was flooding at the time the Israelites were about to cross it (Vs.15). That is when they stepped in.** This is what God’s CVDIP - seeing ahead, holding onto it ahead, conquering ahead, and fulfilling ahead – means. It may seem like the water is flooding and things are getting worse. But when you show your faith, God’s absolute power will show. Does it seem like everything is getting worse? Hold onto the covenant now, because this is the time to show true faith. God must have control over our soul, heart, and mind. That is the prayer that will seek and enjoy God’s kingdom.

**Conclusion –** “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel”(Vs.7) He said it in the introduction, but that was the conclusion. It seems like a problem, but it is the opportunity to go to the true summit. This is the conclusion. May this time become your opportunity to listen to the word, enjoy God’s kingdom, and reach the summit of saving the world and the posterity.