

“Don’t Look Back”

07 February 2024

Techie M. Rodriguez
Elder-Founder



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

“Don’t look back” means to go in the direction God asks us to go without looking back at our past. When God leads us to unfamiliar places, our minds and hearts may be tempted to recall the past which burdens our journey with Him. In the book of Joshua, God instructed Joshua to continue Israel’s journey and to lead the nation of Israel to the promised land (Josh. 1:1-2). Despite the loss of their great leader, Moses, God asked them to go and fulfill the covenant between God and the nation of Israel. Like Joshua’s, our faith must be strong, and never waiver despite the past challenges and the incoming trials we might face.

1. **The test of leadership lies ahead.** When Moses died, the nation of Israel mourned, but God instructed Joshua to continue (Josh. 1:1-2). Joshua was qualified to be the leader as God appointed him (Josh. 1:1-2): he witnessed the plagues and Israel’s exodus from Egypt, he was Moses’ aide for 40 years, and lastly, he was one of the two spies who trusted the Lord in conquering the promised land. The transition of leadership is part of the organizational process, and every community must train future leaders. A Christian community chooses leaders who share the same vision as the current leaders (Acts 1, Acts 6). However, God will ultimately decide who will lead the community in the future.

2. **The Test of Faith lies ahead.** Every Christian must know that God will always allow tests on assigned tasks. We must prepare and be confident that there is also a solution to every challenge. Moses was tested many times in the book of Exodus.

3. **The Work of Faith lies ahead.** When Joshua started his leadership for the nation of Israel, God gave him specific instructions to succeed in the claim to the promised land. Our faith requires action (Jm. 2:17) and obedience. We must also remember that our Lord Jesus Christ is the author and finisher of our faith (Heb. 12:2).

4. **The Battle of Faith lies ahead.** There are instances when we will face crisis in our faith while doing the works of God. In the battle of Jericho, God reminds us that the battle is not ours but the Lord’s. We must put our trust in God’s ways to solve the crisis (Isa. 55:8-9).

5. **The Victory of Faith lies ahead.** There are instances in our journey with God when our plans are approved by God, but we do not do our part. Let us not delay and proceed with haste (Deut. 1:5-6). God also gave Israel 10 commandments to separate them from the pagan nations through their behavior and obedience to Him. Israel is identified with God Himself.

6. **Why did Israel delay longer than planned?** God had prepared the promised land for them, but they did not dare to take it due to these reasons:

- 6.1 They heard an evil report about the land.
- 6.2 They believed in the evil report instead of God.
- 6.3 They did not have a walk-by-faith attitude.
- 6.4 They did not act immediately.
- 6.5 They were afraid to face natural obstacles.
- 6.6 They preferred to retreat than move forward.
- 6.7 They were ungrateful & forgetful.

Similarly, today, we should not have this kind of attitude.

Conclusion:

As Christians, we must move forward according to God’s plan, since His intention is for our prosperity. We must push ahead on the Lord’s vision to fulfill His will for the furtherance of the kingdom.

Reflection:

1. What obstacles have you faced in fulfilling God’s will?
2. How do you strengthen yourself against temptations and distractions?

Prayer: “Father God, we ask for your wisdom and strength so that we may continue our tasks for your glory. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

SCRIBES MINISTRY: Transcribed by: Rem Sagarino

<https://lordsflock.org/teachings/digests>

Tags: #Obedience