

FATHER'S DAY: CALLED TO BE BRAVE

Houses of Light Church • June 19-20, 2021 • Pastor Netz Gómez

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. **In the same way we have honored femininity and motherhood;** today we would like to honor masculinity and of course fatherhood. As is now known to all, the attack on manhood is open. On the one hand, men are required to be the leader but at the same time they are attacked by calling them macho; on the other hand, they are censured for their lustful attitude, while they are exposed to seduction by all the mass media; Man is also asked to be moderate but at the same time all kinds of "legal" addictions are made available to him.
- B. **This is precisely why God calls us all to be brave: men to assume our role and women and children to dare to support God's order.** Courage is a quality of manhood but it is also a calling for all of God's people, men and women alike.
- C. **Many things in the Christian life require courage:** persisting in doing what is good, sharing the word, continuing to believe even if the circumstances do not change, when you see that everyone else is moving forward and it seems that you stay, to be persistent and not give up, etc. **It takes courage to set boundaries and to break out of stagnation; to correct our own especially when they get upset with us.**
- D. We all want to be brave, no one wants to be a coward. **You were designed to be brave.** What it is to be brave? Courage has been defined as the ability to overcome fear, but this ability is not a virtue in itself because it can also be used for evil. **Courage is always appreciated, but it is only commendable when you sincerely put yourself at the service of others.** Courage has merit when it is accompanied by generosity and sacrifice for others.

II. IT IS THE TIME OF THE JOSHUAS

Jos. 1:1-2 "Now it came to pass after the death of Moses the servant of Jehovah, that Jehovah spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, 2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel."

- A. Moses had already died and maybe Joshua was saying, 'I'm not like Moses' but Joshua was never supposed to be Moses, **God just asked him to obey and be courageous.** Your victory is between you and God, **it is not how strong someone else has been or if you are more or less brave than others. The fact is that you are the one who should be brave and you leave the rest to God.** God does not want a substitute or a copy of another, He wants you.
- B. **Joshua was Moses' servant.** There are great things that God gives to those who serve. The servant can be given orders and he obeys, he is told: **"Be brave"** and he is brave because they ordered him not because he feels that he is that or not.

C. v.2 "*now therefore arise,*" **Getting up is getting into action.** Here the word (qum) means: "**Become powerful ...**" **It is not about being full of oneself but full of faith.** David was a man who had the right attitude, had the faith that allowed him to be bold but at the same time humble.

III. ONLY BE STRONG AND VERY COURAGEOUS (Jos. 1:6, 7 y 9)

Jos. 1:6 "*Only be strong and very courageous...*"

- A. **Courage is not a concept, it is a decision, which is not only given at the beginning of the action; it needs to remain.** Not only can you treasure the courage you had in the past; courage is only given in the present. On the other hand, wanting to be brave next week is not enough either. An imaginary hero is actually a coward. Although the one who is constantly anticipating his bravery is also a show-off.
- B. When the Lord says to Joshua: "**Just be strong,**" the Hebrew word (*khawazak*), he means: "**Become strong**" have confidence. It is the only thing that God asks of you. And the second command is: "**Be brave,**" the word (*aw-mats*) means, **be bold, become determined, persist. These two things are commandments, not feelings.**

IV. JOSHUA HAD A CALLING AND A RESPONSIBILITY

v.1:6 "*...for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.*"

- A. God was telling him: **You have to be brave because you have to distribute the land that I gave them. A person who has a commission from God becomes brave. Your bravery is driven by God's purpose. What is preventing you is going to be removed, you are going to open your mouth and say: "I am more than a conqueror."**
- B. Joshua had to become brave because the responsibility was his and the fate of many others was in his hands: **When you overcome fears you get your reward and what others will receive through you.** You must be careful not to lose your sense of purpose and become ineffective.
- C. **If you are a believer then you have a great inheritance;** That promise will be fulfilled, maybe there have been hindrances, but if you continue to persevere, that barrier cannot continue. **The Lord is speaking to you of your character.**

V. BE BRAVE TO KEEP AND OBEY

v.7 "*Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.*"

- A. Always the key in everything is OBEEDIENCE. Without obedience fear cannot be overcome. **YOU MUST DECIDE TO WHAT FEAR YOU ARE GOING TO SUBMIT IF THAT OF GOD OR THAT OF MAN.** You decide which will be your strongest fear, if the circumstances or God.

- B. " **Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left.**" **Focus is required.** The devil wants to distract us to dry up the source of our strength and courage by diverting us with things that only dazzle us but have no eternal value.

VI. WE MUST PERSEVERE AND MEDITATE ON THE WORD

v.8 "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it"

- A. **We are called to meditate on the Word of God.** Instead of reading it quickly, let's take a short passage and take time to think about its content **because what we receive is God's perspective on our realities.** By applying it to our daily experience, the Bible becomes the compass of our lives. What Meditation on the Word Produces:

1. **It will calm our spirit.** As we focus on the Lord and his goodness, our fears will fade.

Psal. 46:10-11 "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" 11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."

2. **It will purify our hearts.** God's Word penetrates our being, showing us our thoughts so that we can confront our sins in light of his Word (**Heb. 4:12**).
3. **It will improve our perception and clarify our direction to keep us from straying from his ways (Psalm 119: 105).**
4. **Our faith will increase as we remember God's faithfulness and keep God's promises in mind.** Our almighty and loving God has everything available to him to guide and sustain us so that we may be "**more than conquerors through him who loved us**" (Rom. 8:39). It is so important what you declare according to Scripture, that must be what you speak. You must make statements to the enemy as Jesus did.

VII. THE REASON YOU CAN BE BRAVE

v.9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

- A. **The reason not to fear is that His presence goes with us (Heb. 13:5).** When a father says to his son: "*Don't be afraid,*" it is because he knows what he is saying. **Father's words always inspire confidence, we have the best of Fathers with us forever.**
- B. **Our sense of worth must be healed, because otherwise fear speaks louder than God's voice. The enemy is attacking your identity, he is trying to trap you so that you do not reach the place that God has for you.** He did it with me, for many years he did not want me to come to this place, but it was the grace of God that allowed me to get here and will still allow me to go further.
- B. **The devil knows he is defeated but sometimes the one who loses sight of that is you and he is going to challenge your destiny, your goals.** It is about

having victory in different areas of your life and you can because God is on your side. **You know who is the one who goes with you, that's why you cannot fear.** To fear is to doubt His presence or ignore it. This word **"I will not leave you,"** is also translated: **"I will not give up on you."**

- C. **Fear always starts in your mind. Fear brings torment. God has not given us a spirit of fear (2 Tim. 1:7) but of power, love, and self-control.** That is why you must first remain in the love of him who tells you: **"I will never leave you" to receive the other part of this promise. You must use the power of the Holy Spirit to conquer fear.**
- D. **"Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed"** Shyness is part of fear, and sometimes we don't recognize it. Someone said, *"Shyness is the polite way to call it self-centeredness."* **Fear is a great preacher, he preaches over and over and over again. There is a trick with fear, it sounds like your voice but in reality it is the voice of the enemy:** Fear of failure, death, rejection, the dark, fear of success, financial ruin. Some people are afraid that they will never be able to get married. **God commands you not to be afraid and not to faint.**

VIII. YOU WILL PROSPER

v.8 "For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

- A. **The word prosper here is succeed. God wants our triumph. Biblical faith and hope open them up and let you see what is going to happen and what God is already doing and this will make you give your best.**

Col. 1:9-11 "...we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy."

IX. IT'S TIME TO BE COURAGEOUS:

1. **It is time for you to do what you have not done: Define it and do it.**
2. **It is time to know that God called you and wants to use you and that you step up to do what the Holy Spirit has put in your heart.**
3. **It is time to be brave to ask for forgiveness and to forgive: Is there someone you have to ask for forgiveness or forgive?**
4. **It is time to be brave to acknowledge your pain and ask for help: It is time to get out of the confinement of isolation and passivity.**
5. **It is time to be brave to keep our priorities and say no to money and pleasure when they want to side track us.**
6. **It is time to be brave and correct with love those who need it.**