

Arise and Enter the Door of Hope

I. Contending for the Promises

A. Time of Great Contending

We are ALIVE in a history-making hour of **turning** for the earth ... a time of **birthing** revival, awakening, and reformation!

You might feel like you're in a wilderness... God is at work!

Hos. 2:14 “Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and **bring her into the wilderness**, and **speak tenderly** to her.¹⁵ And there I will give her her vineyards and **make the Valley of Achor a door of hope**. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

Holy Spirit is leading the church OUT of **Survival** INTO **Revival!**

In the words of Isaiah, it is time to

Is. 60:1 Arise, shine, for your **light** has come, and the **glory** of the LORD has risen upon you.

2 For behold, **darkness** shall cover the earth, and **thick darkness** the peoples; but the LORD will arise **upon you**, and his **glory** will be seen upon you.

3 And **nations shall come** to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

This tells us that in seasons of great darkness, God's glory rises upon His people. We are in the birth contractions of the greatest harvest the earth has ever seen.

II. Joshua in the Valley of Decision

Joshua was faithful to the Lord and to Moses, but he is shaken.

Moses has died. He has no strong leader to rely upon, no trusted oracle. He is surrounded by a nation of wandering tribes who only know the wilderness. Across the swollen, flooded Jordan

River, lies the Land of Promise that only he and his old friend Caleb have actually seen **38 years** earlier.

YHWH, the uncreated eternal one speaks to him.

A. Instructions to Enter into Promises

Josh 1:1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD **said** to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant,

2 "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore **arise, go over *this*** Jordan, you and all this people, **into the land** that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel.

1. ARISE— STAND UP, or take a stand

1 Cor 15:57 But thanks be to God, who **gives us the victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2. CROSS THE BARRIER –

What holds you back?

What seem uncrossable, insurmountable?

1987 – We were in a time of loss. Everything was burning up in our little world. Misunderstood. Judged. Slandered. Strife. None of our trusted leaders were available.

PRAYER. "I am it's you." Sold our house. 10 days later, 8 days in a U-Haul. We left the world we knew. Arrived in a torrential rain. No welcome wagon. "Your kids won't fit here. You won't last long."

What seems uncrossable to you?

If nothing can separate you from the love of God?

If death is defeated?

If you've died to your own failings and false identities, and your life is hidden with Christ in God?

If Christ is in you, the hope of glory?

If you've been justified, sanctified, and glorified by the election and foreknowledge of God?

If you've been baptized in uncreated love and limitless power by the Holy Spirit?

If you're a new creation and all the old junk has been vaporized by the atomic energy of the blood of the Lamb?

If God is with you and with God ALL things are possible AND if you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you?

If in His presence is fullness of joy?

If the joy of the Lord is your strength?

What holds you back? What's your Jordan?

In Jesus you've ALREADY been BAPTIZED into that impossible flooded barrier! You ALREADY died to it and have been raised to life. The muddy waters have been rolled back all the way to a place called Adam

Now, as one raised from the dead, do you think you can cross it?

Now therefore **arise, go over *this*** Jordan, you and ***all this*** people, ***into the land*** that I am **giving!**

He **is** giving it **as** we enter it!

3. EXPLORE THE GIFT. Your FOOT explores the PROMISE. EVERY PLACE.

3 **Every** place that **the sole of your foot** will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.

Notice, **no** exceptions. **EVERY** place...

“When you put on the hat, you get the stuff” Dave Fitz

Walk into it.

There will be strategic **battles**, but most days it will be a walk.

When you get to your assignment, WALK. That’s normal life. The sole of YOUR foot. He HAS given it to you.

4. THE PROMISE IS BIGGER THAN YOU & YOUR LIFETIME

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon **as far as** the **great** river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the **Great** Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory.

It’s bigger than your personality, and your lifespan, but you can set something in motion that will reverberate through the centuries.

B. Instructions to POSSESS the Promises

1. WITH HIM, YOU ARE UNSTOPPABLE

5 No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you.

This isn’t about someone else; it is about you in your assignment. How long do the conditions last? All the days of your life.

2. YOUR COURAGE IS CONTAGIOUS

6 Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to **inherit*** the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

*The verb **nāḥal** basically signifies ... **receiving property** which is part of a **permanent possession** and as a **result of succession**.¹¹¹

— The greatest thing about faithfulness, is it amplifies as an empowering and equipping for others to inherit the Lord's promises to them. My assignment and yours are part of someone else's prayers and promises.

Abraham, Jacob, John 17, William Penn, von Zinzendorf.

Lord, deliver us from self-focused lives. May our focus be on our assignment, not on our abilities.

3. STRENGTH is NOT OPTIONAL

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.

ONLY – limit your options to this and this alone!

(Acts 1:8 – **Power** is a **prerequisite**) HIS strength is made complete in our weakness

4. FILL YOUR MIND WITH The VOICE of the LORD

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.

For then **you** will make **your way prosperous**, and then you **will have good success**.

PSALM 1! You will be fruitful! Beatitudes. Christ is IN You!

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."

Arise, cross over, inherit by walking (5k or 10k steps?), Avoid distractions

As we **position** ourselves just as Joshua did, setting ourselves to

seek the Lord,

hear His voice, and

put our trust in Him to fight for us,

we will CROSS INTO and INHERIT

VI. The Voice of the Lord Shatters the Enemy!

Pray with me:

Lord, let Your voice be louder than the voice of the enemy.

Your words are life to me.

I submit myself to You,

I resist the enemy and he must flee.

As I take a stand and cross the line into my assignment,

Your Word and your grace will

Give me victory in every battle.

In Jesus' name.

Psa. 100:1 **Make a joyful noise** to the LORD, ***all the earth!***

2 **Serve** the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

3 **Know** that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4 **Enter** his gates with **thanksgiving**,
and his courts with **praise!**

Give thanks to him; **bless** his name!

- 5 For the LORD is **good**; his **steadfast love** endures forever,
and his **faithfulness** to all generations.

He renews our MINDS with his AFFECTION (kiss of love)!

V. God of Hope

Rom. 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. **[SLIDE 13]**

STAY IN LOVE;

STAY BOLD;

DO NOT GET CANCELED;