

STEPS FOR SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

OR

STEPS FOR LIVING IN CANAAN

Intro: Here in chapter one we find several steps for progress in SPIRITUAL THINGS: i.e. the things of God.

Let's look at these steps in order that we might prepare ourselves for a successful walk in Christ.

I. We must first realize that WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST JESUS.

- A. Ambassadors - representatives in the service of another; or in the name of another.
- B. We are to go forth in His name, and by His authority.
- C. II Cor. 5:17. Vs. 18 tell us how and by what means we are going.

II. WHAT WE DO FOR THE LORD MUST BE DONE BY FAITH.

- A. What does that mean?
- B. We must take God at His Word.
- C. Josh. 1:3. Read.
 - 1. Faith takes what God has provided.
 - 2. God provided Canaan for Israel.
 - 3. They must act upon faith and take it.
- D. God has provided a complete life for the Christian.
 - 1. A life of victories is ours for the taking.
 - 2. But we must walk by faith-"the just shall live by faith".
 - 3. We cannot, must not, sit back and twiddle our thumbs and do nothing, expecting God to perform miracles in our life.
 - 4. We must walk on, a step at a time for the God, and by faith, taking that which He has provided.

III. Let us learn NOTHING CAN WITHSTAND OR STOP FAITH WHEN IT IS IN ACTION.

- A. Joshua 1:5.
- B. Nothing can stop God's workings when God's people are operating by faith.
- C. Phil. 4:13.
- D. Joshua 2 - Rahab knew that the Israelites were going to win the battle.
 - 1. Because they were God's people.
 - 2. Because of the knowledge of the Red Sea experience.

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3. The people were afraid.
4. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

IV. WE SHOULD BE BOLD!!!

- A. We are ambassadors for Christ, the King.
- B. Notice the admonishment and commandment- "Be of good courage, be strong". "Be not afraid".

V. WE MUST KNOW THE SECRET OF CONTINUOUS SUCCESS. Josh.

1:8.

- A. Here is the only place where we find the term "good success".
- B. Deut.6:6-11.
- C. The secret is daily devotions, or meeting with God in His Word and in prayer.
- D. Ps. 1:2,3.
- E. It is the Word of God that makes and keeps us strong.

Let us learn that WE MUST HAVE A DETERMINATION AND A STRONG WILL TO GO FORWARD IN THE THINGS OF GOD.

- A. Satan will try to make us careless or indifferent in our attempt to serve God.
- B. But Joshua said, "Prepare ye victuals...."
- C. Joshua 1:16-The people responded.
- D. Josh.3:5. Joshua again told them what they needed to do. They were set apart to serve God.
- E. Notice 3:9.

CONCLUSION: The Christian life is a progressive life. God leads us step by step and from one victory to another when we are obedient and follow His will. Otherwise He will kill us in the wilderness.