

# Sermon Outline

NOBC

#1 Joshua 1:1-2 (page 177)

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## Joshua: Claiming God's Promises

### The Continuity of God and The Changing of God's Servants: Part One

God's purposes and plans always continue, but man, even God's servants, pass on.

Even the greatest of men must come to the end of their lives. Each person's time is limited. Thus, each person should strive to be the person that God wants him to be while he is here. No man will serve God in a perfect way. Even Moses did that which displeased God and deprived himself of the blessing of going into the promised land (Numbers 20:1-12).

While Moses was an unusually great man, and the only leader the Israelites had known, his time came to an end. But God was prepared to continue His purposes and had already selected a successor to Moses. That man was Joshua. God had been preparing Joshua to be Moses' successor, to continue God's plans and to lead God's people.

Even when God's leaders pass on, God continues with His plans — God always has someone He can use to accomplish His purposes. Since we do not know or understand who God will choose to use today, each of God's servants should always consider himself to be "in training" for God's use.

## I. THE SIGNIFICANT BACKGROUND

### A. Moses Had Been Called By God To Do God's Will

Moses had faithfully fulfilled his assignment from God to do the following:

1. To deliver God's people from bondage Exodus 3:1-5:2
2. To present God's Law Exodus 19:1-20:26
3. To lead God's people through the wanderings in the wilderness to the edge of the promised land Deuteronomy 3:21-28

### B. The Enemies of God Continue Even When God's Men Pass On

Sometimes new leaders think that they can work with and change God's enemies, but the enemies of God will always fight against God, His Laws and His ways by fighting against God's servants. One example is Amalek, the Amalekites.

1. Amalek was a descendant of Esau Genesis 36:12, 15
2. Esau & Jacob were Isaac's twin sons, but Esau made choices that turned his heart against God Genesis 27:1-40
3. Esau hardened his heart against God so God rejected Esau; the conflict continued for years as Esau's descendants fought against God 1 Samuel 15:1-35; Romans 9:13; Hebrews 12:16-17; 1 Chronicles 4:41-43

### C. God's Preparation of Joshua

1. Began when Joshua fought with Moses against God's enemies Exodus 17:9-14
2. Joshua continued as a servant, and minister to Moses Ex. 24:13; 33:1 1  
Joshua had to learn humility and faithfulness as a servant before God could use him as a leader. The principle is still the same — humble submission to authority always precedes delegated authority in God's service! James 4:10
3. Faithfulness and Obedience are essential in God's servants Ex. 13:16; 14:6-19,30
4. God's servants must be willing to stand in the minority with God. God will always reward their faithfulness. Numbers 26:65

## II. GOD CHOSE JOSHUA

### A. Joshua Was God's Choice and Had God's blessing Deu.1:37-38; 3:21-28; 34:7-9

### B. God Determined That Joshua Would Lead His People to Inherit the Land and God made the same promises to Joshua that He had made to Moses Joshua 1:5