

“BE STRONG AND VERY COURAGEOUS”

3-2-2025 AM

INTRO.

A. Read text: Joshua 1:1-7.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Israel was to take the land which God had promised.
2. However, they were not strong and courageous.
3. Moral courage is rarer than physical courage — but it is much more important.

I. SOMETIMES MORAL COURAGE REQUIRES PHYSICAL DANGER.

A. True and deep commitment to the Lord is not without its physical dangers (Hebrews 11:32-38).

1. Our lives may be required of us: Revelation 12:11.
2. Paul's attitude serves as a good example (Acts 20:22-24; 21:10-14).

B. It may be that such courage might be required of us today.

II. WE ARE THREATENED BY UNSEEN DANGERS.

A. Peter shows that it is possible for a person to have physical courage and still lack real courage.

1. Matthew 26:33.
2. John 18:10.

B. Peter denied the Lord three times.

1. John. 18:15-18, 25-27.

C. Satan knows very well the kinds of things we are most afraid of: Might be... Being “labeled a religious fanatic”; Loss of friends; etc.

D. There are those who stand only when little is at stake.

1. The faithful are those who obey regardless of the danger.
 - 1) Psalm 118:6.
 - 2) Daniel 3:16-18.
2. The faithful are faithful in any situation.
 - 1) Daniel 6:10.
 - 2) Philippians 1:20.

III. OUR COURAGE IS GROUNDED IN THE PROMISE OF VICTORY.

A. It is through Christ that we can “do all things” (Philippians 4:13).

1. John 14:27.
2. John 16:33.

B. There is no need for fear.

1. 2 Timothy 1:7.
2. Psalm 27:1.
3. Hebrews 13:6.

C. Those in fellowship with the Lord cannot be defeated.

1. Isaiah 41:10.
2. Romans 8:31.

IV. CONCLUSION.

A. We are “more than conquerors through Him...” (Romans 8:35-39).

B. There is more joy in one moment of integrity and moral courage than there is in a lifetime of bowing to the pressure of evil.

C. The softest pillow upon which we may rest our heads at night is that of a clear courageous conscience.

D. What is there in your life today that requires courage?