

A Summer of Faith

“Creating A Faith Environment”

Joshua 23:1-11

“By grace you have been saved through faith,” Ephesians 2:8,

“But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.” But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.” (Hebrews 10:38-39)

Now I am about to go the way of all the earth. You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed., Joshua 23:14.

“After a long time had passed and the Lord had given Israel rest from all their enemies around them, Joshua, by then a very old man, summoned all Israel—their elders, leaders, judges and officials—and said to them: “I am very old.” (Joshua 23:1-2)

1. An environment of faith

You yourselves have seen everything the Lord your God has done to all these nations for your sake; it was the Lord your God who fought for you. Joshua 23:3

a. Remember God’s Past Intervention

“Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering.” (Hebrews 10:32)

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” (James 1:17)

“Remember how I have allotted as an inheritance for your tribes all the land of the nations that remain—the nations I conquered—between the Jordan and the Mediterranean Sea in the west. The Lord your God himself will push them out for your sake. He will drive them out before you, and you will take possession of their land, as the Lord your God promised you..” (Joshua 23:4-5)

b. Anticipate God’s Future Intervention

“Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.” (Hebrews 11:1)

c. Allow God’s Present Intervention

“Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left.” (Joshua 23:6)

i. Obey God

“Meditate on God’s Word day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it.” (Joshua 1:8)

Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. Joshua 23:7

ii. Be Holy

“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.” (1 John 2:15)

“If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.” (James 4:4)

So be very careful to love the Lord your God (Joshua 23:11)

iii. Follow God

“Look, today I am giving you the choice between a blessing and a curse! 27 You will be blessed if you obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today. 28 But you will be cursed if you reject the commands of the Lord your God and turn away from him and worship gods you have not known before.” (Deuteronomy 11:26-28)