

Notes: Reverse the Curse

Joshua 3

¹⁴ So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵ Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, ¹⁶ the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

Exodus 14

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, ²² and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

We will not be the generation that gets delivered and dies in the desert. We will be the generation that crosses over and *becomes* what God promised.

"I refuse to repeat what God redeemed me from. I will walk into what God promised me."

"God didn't split the sea so you could circle the desert. He split the sea so you could step into destiny."

INTRO — SAME GOD, DIFFERENT SEASON

The Bible says in **Joshua 3** that *"the people crossed over on dry ground."*

But this is not the **first** time Israel stood on dry ground.

They stood on dry ground at the **Red Sea**. **Now** they're standing on dry ground at the **Jordan River**.

At the Red Sea:

- Israel is **running from Pharaoh**

- They are **slaves coming out**
- They are led by **Moses**

At the Jordan River:

- Israel is **stepping into promise**
- They are **sons coming in**
- They are led by **Joshua**

The Red Sea breaks chains. The Jordan builds faith.

From Deliverance Living to Destination Living

"Out of bondage is not the same as into promise."

God did not just save Israel **from** something. He saved them **for** something.
One crossing broke chains. The other crossing built a future.

1. Deliverance Living – "Getting Out"

Red Sea Faith (Exodus 14) This is the miracle that **rescues you from what had you.**

2. Destination Living – "Going In"

Jordan River Faith (Joshua 3) This is the miracle that **positions you for what God promised.**

3. The Wilderness Is What Happens When You Get Out But Never Go In

Israel was delivered in one night. But it took **40 years** to get Egypt out of their thinking.

4. Compare & Contrast – Out vs. In

Red Sea – Deliverance Living

- God does the work
- The people watch
- Chains are broken
- Enemies are defeated
- Identity is formed ("We are free")

Jordan River – Destination Living

- God waits for obedience
- The people move
- Land is possessed

- Cities are built
- Legacy is formed ("We belong here")

Deliverance gives you a testimony. Destination gives you an inheritance.

POINT 1 — RED SEA FAITH VS. JORDAN FAITH

Red Sea (Exodus 14)

- The enemy is **behind them**
- Fear is loud
- God moves **before** the people move
- The water parts **first**
- Then the people walk

This is **rescue faith**. "God, save me before I step."

Jordan River (Joshua 3)

- No enemy chasing them
- Promise is **ahead of them**
- God waits for the people to move **first**
- The priests step **into** the water
- THEN the water parts

This is **mature faith**. "God, I'll step even when I don't see it yet."

Red Sea faith says: "If You do it, I'll believe." Jordan faith says: "Because You spoke it, I'll step."

POINT 2 — FROM PANIC TO PREPARATION

At the Red Sea:

- The people panic
- They complain
- They say, *"Wasn't Egypt good enough?"*

At the Jordan:

- The people **consecrate themselves**
- They prepare
- They follow instructions

Joshua 3:5

"Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you."

You don't cross into promise casually. You cross prepared.

Some miracles require desperation. Others require **discipline**.

POINT 3 — THE ROLE OF LEADERSHIP HAS SHIFTED

At the Red Sea:

- Moses lifts his staff
- The people stand still
- Leadership does the miracle

At the Jordan:

- The priests carry the Ark
- The people follow
- Everyone has a role

POINT 4 — THE ARK GOES FIRST

At the Red Sea:

- The presence of God is implied

At the Jordan:

- The **Ark of the Covenant** goes first
- The presence leads the people

You don't walk into promise by strategy alone. You walk in by presence.

Joshua tells them:

"Keep your eyes on the Ark."

In other words: "Don't follow the crowd. Don't follow fear. Follow God."

POINT 5 — DRY GROUND AGAIN... BUT DIFFERENT

Same miracle. Different meaning.