

PREPARATION FOR LEADERSHIP #7 “Heritage”

Josh 1:1-7

Looking at Joshua preparing for Leadership. Where it begins and ends is with Heritage. Called “The Son of Nun.”

I. HERITAGE

A. God plans for destiny involve connections to other people

1. The major identifying mark of Joshua: His connection to others
 - a. *VI Joshua the son of Nun...29x identified this way; A son!*
2. God’s plan of destiny involves **heritage**: *A possession/something passed on/handed down*
 - a. We inherit things that have been paid for by others – at great cost!
 - b. We know things – because others have learned them and passed them on to us
 - c. We can do things because others have imparted them to us

1. Numbers 27:18 And the LORD said to Moses: "Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him;

B. We can’t achieve our destiny by ourselves

1. *Joshua the son...* No one ever became a son by themselves!
 - a. *If you ever see a turtle sitting on a fence post, you can be sure he had help getting there*
2. God builds this into all of salvation
 - a. *The God of Abraham/Isaac/Jacob b. Saul: Knocked down/blinded – needing people*
 1. *Family: VI Son of Nun*
 2. *Pastor: V3 As I said to Moses...*
 3. *Church*
 4. *Fellowship*
3. Heritage involves the choices of God: Birthright...no choice in our birth!
 - a. *Psa 47:4 He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. Selah*
 1. *Saved here! Grafted in here! This church/this fellowship!*

II. DESPISING HERITAGE

A. The problem is that we often do not appreciate heritage

1. We fail to appreciate God’s plan of heritage
 - a. We don’t value – therefore we lack gratitude for what we’re connected to/what we’ve been given
 1. *Like prodigal son – we have no value for what he had been given*
2. We can allow success to make us forget our connection to heritage
 - a. *Heb 12:16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.*
 1. *Pride: I know some things/I can do some things... How do you know them??!!*
 2. *I want to carve out my own niche/make my own way/name for myself*

B. This is incredibly displeasing to God: He’s not impressed when we despise our heritage

1. *Deu 27:16 'Cursed is anyone who despises father or mother.' And all the people will reply, 'Amen.'*
 - a. Cursed: Things don’t work well – dominion/blessing is missing
2. Violating God’s order of salvation/destiny

III. VALUING HERITAGE

A. Inheritance/heritage must be valued

1. **We must think about our heritage:** *Opposite of profane (without thought) is with thought – carefully/reverently*
 - a. *Finding out where we came from/why we do what we do/repenting of pride/reproducing/passing on*
2. **We must develop a gratitude for our heritage:** *Thanking God/thanking people*
 - a. *Paul’s letters overflow with gratitude: He names/recognizes/thanks many people*
3. **We must deliberately connect with our heritage:**
 - a. *Joshua stayed connected to Moses; He had it written that he was the “Son of Nun”*
4. **We must fight to maintain our heritage:**
 - a. *2 Tim 1:14 Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.*
 - b. *2 Tim 2:2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*
 1. *The same! Pioneers saved in fellowship go out and change everything/discard heritage!*

B. Blessing flows through heritage

1. Supernatural grace is released through heritage
 - a. *Joshua 1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*
2. Your destiny is fulfilled as you are connected to heritage
 - a. *Joshua 1:6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.*