



DATE: 19 June 2024 WED

TEXT: **Joshua 1:8**

TITLE: **:: Like Joshua**

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Joshua 1:8

REVIEW

Think like David: God's created works

Think like Asaph: God's previous actions

Think like John: God's marvelous love

Think like Haggai: God's great forgiveness

Think like Malachi: God's familiar names

INTRODUCTION

- **JOSHUA** was born in Egypt during the time of Israel's bondage

his father's name was Nun, the Egyptian moon god

this might indicate he had some things to overcome...in his family, his heritage, or just in his own mind

- in his life, Joshua served as a **GENERAL** in the army of Israel during the wilderness wanderings

Exodus 17:8-16

Exodus 17:14

And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

- later, Joshua would become Moses' **PERSONAL ASSISTANT** on Mount Sinai and in the camp

Exodus 24:13

- ultimately, Joshua was chosen to take Moses' place as the **LEADER** of the nation of Israel

Deuteronomy 1:37-38

- after the death of Moses, God instructed Joshua to meditate on the five books the great lawgiver had written (Genesis - Deuteronomy) and in doing so, he would prosper and have success

prosper = to bear fruit; to have sure steps

success = to gain understanding; prudent

Isaiah 55:11

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Psalms 37:31

The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

- so the logical question to answer is this: *Why meditate and study the Word of God?* Joshua was told to think on them night and day

The Bible reveals the secrets of our hearts

The Bible reveals Jesus Christ to us

The Bible shows us how to have eternal life

The Bible tells us God's expectations for our life

Knowing the Bible makes us wise

Meditating on scripture provided power to avoid sin

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

1. STEER YOUR MIND

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart...

It was God who originated the idea that "ignorance of the law is no excuse"

He had it written down and expected His people to understand and abide by it

Psalms 119:11

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

let = to allow; make provision for

dwell = to occupy a house; to reside

the only way to get the Word into your heart is to focus your attention on it, and then **HIDE** it there...memorize the Word

NOTE: article, *How To Memorize Scripture*

2. STAY YOUR MIND

...thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

satan's greatest weapon against a Christian is controlling our thought life

if he can get us to focus on anything other than Christ, he's got us conquered

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

NOTE: in **Luke 4**, the devil used *hunger*, *power*, *impatience*, and *self-promotion*, as temptations against Christ...and he hoped Jesus didn't know the scriptures

this passage suggests four specific times when our minds might tend to be unfocused:

when we wake up in the morning

when we go to sleep at night

when we are driving/walking somewhere

when we find ourselves waiting

NOTE: walking and memorizing scripture go together

what we typically think about during these particular times will influence our character

Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

2 Corinthians 10:5

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Romans 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

3. STEEP YOUR MIND

And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

to this day, devout Jewish people attach a brass box, called a *mezuzah* and containing the words of this passage (The Shema), to their front doors

many also attach *phylacteries* to their foreheads or their arm with scripture verses inside a small box

we might, however, fill our surroundings with pictures or written scriptures so as to focus our mind on the Word of God

the more we **SEE** His truth on display,
the more likely we are to **THINK** about
His truth and live it

Romans 2:15

[The Gentiles, which have not the law] ...shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another...

Ephesians 2:2-3

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Ephesians 4:23

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind...

Psalm 1:1-2

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Revelation 1:3

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

100 Bible Verses Everyone Should Know By Heart
by Robert J. Morgan

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THINK reading list:

Psalm 119 John 6:63-69



THINK playlist:

Wonderful Words of Life

Word of God Speak Mercy Me