

## For Further Application and Growth:

**Take Heart!** God's Plan, Promises and Purposes are eternal  
(Matthew 28:18-20)

**Keep the past in perspective** (Philippians 3:13-14)

- Recognize and Appreciate those who went before  
(Hebrews 13:7, 17)
- Respect and Build on past, but don't bow down to, be ruled by
- Learn from it, but don't mindlessly repeat it, unless guided by God
- Change is not the same as improvement. Think about that!

**“Moses My servant . . .”** What a lofty eulogy. Let's live to hear God say: “well done, good and faithful servant . . .” to us  
(Matthew 25:23)

**Be scrupulous about knowing, obeying, not changing** God's Word (Psalm 1, Psalm 119)

**What prompts and promises do you need to reclaim** so you can move ahead in obedience?

**Confidently act on** God's promises, provisions and protection knowing God is with you (Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 4:11-19)

**“Keep your life free from the love of money. Be satisfied with what you have, for he himself has said, I will never leave you or abandon you. Therefore, we may boldly say,**

The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can man do to me?”

(Hebrews 13:5, 6—CSB; cf. Psalm 27:1; 56:4, 11; 118:6)

**A Discipleship Tool of Christ Community Fellowship**

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## TRUTHS TO TRUST WHEN TIMES ARE A CHANGIN'

Eternal, Enduring Constants in the Face of Change  
—from Joshua 1:1-11

Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher, said: “change is the only constant in life”—sorry about that death and taxes. Change can be hard and scary, and it can be exciting. When the status quo becomes “uh oh!,” when the familiar and comfortable become unknowns, fear and anxiety can creep in. Thankfully, we have God—His unchanging nature and Word: “For I am the Lord, I change not . . .” (Malachi 3:6—KJV).

In today's passage, the LORD is encouraging, and exhorting Joshua. He has the daunting task of picking up Moses staff, and trying to fill his sandals. The people of Israel followed Moses out of Egypt and around the wilderness for 40 years. But now, Moses is dead. But God is not! His plans and purposes for His people remain.

After time to absorb the news, and grieve (see Deuteronomy 34), the Lord speaks to Joshua, Moses' apprentice. He blesses and bolsters Joshua with powerful words to help him lead through this transition. The hope and encouragement given to Joshua and the Lord's people offer the same to us. Let's learn from the Lord's timeless truths to help us trust when change again comes our way.

“After the death of Moses, the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant: 2 “Moses my servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites. 3 I have given you every place where the sole of your foot treads, just as I promised Moses. 4 Your territory will be from the wilderness and Lebanon to the great river, the Euphrates River—all the land of the Hittites—and west to the Mediterranean Sea. 5 No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. I will be with you, just as I was with Moses. I will not leave you or abandon you.

6 “Be strong and courageous, for you will distribute the land I swore to their fathers to give them as an inheritance. 7 Above all, be strong and very courageous to observe carefully the whole instruction my servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right or the left, so that you will have success wherever you go. 8 This book of instruction must not depart from your mouth; you are to meditate on it day and night so that you may carefully observe everything written in it. For then you will prosper and succeed in whatever you do. 9 Haven’t I commanded you: be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people: 11 “Go through the camp and tell the people, ‘Get provisions ready for yourselves, for within three days you will be crossing the Jordan to go in and take possession of the land the Lord your God is giving you to inherit.’” **(Joshua 1:1-11—CSB)**

## Eternal Constants in Times of Change

### God and His Mission do not Change (vs. 1-5)

- Accept it: Leaders, conditions change (vs. 1, 2)
- God Keeps His Promises, Fulfills His Plans (vs. 3, 4)
- God Still Protects His People (vs. 5; Romans 8)
- The Lord is still with His People (vs. 5b; Matthew 2:18-2)

### We Can and Must Be Strong and Courageous (vs. 6)

- It is necessary to wait on, trust the Lord to keep His word (2 Peter)
- It is necessary to keep, obey His word. Obedience requires courage!

### Above All: Follow All of His Word (vs. 7-9)

- Obey with great care and courage! Scrupulously! See Psalm 119!
- Don’t Change, Deviate from His Perfect Playbook (Psalm 1; Revelation 22:18 -20)  
“I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people.” (Jude 1:3—NIV)
- Have it in your heart, mind, mouth—make it an earworm! (Psalm 1; 119)  
Have to know it to do it (John 8:30-32; Colossians 3:17, 18)  
Obedience brings blessing (John 15:1-7; James 1:22)  
His Word builds courage, fights discouragement, reminds of His presence

### Don’t Stay Camped Where You Were (vs. 10, 11)

- When it is time, “Head ‘em up, move ‘em out!”
- Faith and Courage are Contagious: Be infectious!
- This is a team endeavor. Go with God’s people, as He goes with you.
- Remember your why!

