

A
RULE
OF
SUCCESS
JOSHUA 1:1-9

A couple of Sunday evenings ago we talked about
courage.

Twice God tells Joshua to “Be strong and of good
courage.” Joshua 1:6, 9

Joshua 1:7

“Only be strong and very courageous.”

Christians also must have courage.

I Corinthians 16:13

Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous,
be strong.

God also gives Joshua a rule of success.

Joshua 1:8

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

This same rule is valid today for us as Christians.

This Book Of The Law Shall Not Depart From Your
Mouth.

We must hear God's law.

Proverbs 28:9

One who turns away his ear from hearing the law,
even his prayer shall be an abomination.

Matthew 7:24

“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and
does them...”

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the
word of God.

Israel was commanded to hear.

Deuteronomy 4:1

"Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to observe, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers is giving you."

Deuteronomy 6:4

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!"

We too must listen.

Matthew 17:5

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"

Hebrews 1:1-3

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days He has spoken to us by a Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of His nature, upholding the universe by His word of power. When He had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

We must speak God's law faithfully.

Galatians 1:6-9

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Acts 20:27

For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

“But You Shall Meditate On It Day And Night”

Our meditation determines who we are.

Proverbs 23:7

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.

We must be regular in our meditation.

Psalms 1:1-2

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night.

What is the Christian's meditation?

The Word of God.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart; you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

II Timothy 2:15

Study to show yourself approved unto God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Acts 17:11

These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

That You May Observe To Do According To All That
Is Written It.

God has always required obedience.

Matthew 7:21

Not every one who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Israel was to obey.

Joshua 1:8

Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. (NIV)

As Israel was to obey, we also ought to obey.

I John 2:3-6

And by this we may be sure that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says "I know Him" but disobeys His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him truly love for God is perfected. By this we may be sure that we are in Him: he who says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked.

Hebrews 5:8-9

Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

An inactive religion is a vain religion.

James 2:22-26

Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

We were put here on this earth to obey God.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

Paul gives a warning.

I Corinthians 4:6

I have applied all this to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brethren, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.

What is The Result?

Joshua 1:8

For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

God made this promise to Israel.

Deuteronomy 11:26-28

Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.

If we want to be prosperous and successful
then we must:

Not let the Word of God depart from our mouth.

Meditate on His Word day and night.

Be careful to obey His word.

Then God will fulfill His promises to us just as he did
to Joshua and the children of Israel.

All things work out for good.

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Freedom from sin.

Romans 6:17-18

But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Right to the tree of life.

Revelation 22:14

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

A Crown of Life

James 1:12

Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been proved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

II Timothy 4:6-8

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

An entrance into heaven.

Matthew 7:21

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

II Peter 1:10-11

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

HOW DO YOU JUDGE
SUCCESSFULNESS?

BY MAN'S STANDARDS?

OR BY GOD'S?

ONLY THE OBEDIENT WILL
BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE
EYE'S OF GOD!