

Crossing the Jordan (Joshua 3:1-17)

Water of Life

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Review of Joshua 2

Background for Joshua 3

Exposition

Joshua led Israel from the Acacia Grove to the Jordan River, where they stayed three days (3:1-2)

Officers commanded the people to follow the ark (at least 3000 feet behind it) as it crossed the Jordan (3:3-4)

The people were to sanctify themselves in preparation for God to work miracles among them the next day (3:5)

Cf. Exodus 19:10-13

Joshua commanded the priests to cross with the ark before the people (3:6)

The LORD promised to start exalting Joshua before the people as with Moses, telling him to command the priests who would carry the ark to stand in the Jordan (3:7-8)

Joshua told the people that the [sign] that the living God was among them is that He would drive the squatters from the land (3:9-10)

Joshua told the people to watch the ark as it would be carried into the Jordan and for them to choose one man from each tribe (3:11-12)

Joshua announced the [sign], when the priests' feet rest in the waters of the Jordan that the river would be dammed upstream (3:13)

When the priests carrying the ark stepped into the Jordan at its annual harvest-time flood, the waters at Adam (Damiya) were dammed and all the people crossed on dry ground (3:14-17)

Cf. Joshua 5:10

Conclusion