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YouTube Prayer Link

Don't take the glory of God from your ego

The Book of Joshua (Chapter 3)

3:10 And Joshua said, Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord in all the world shall pass before you into the Jordan. Therefore you will know that there is an eternal God among you.

In this world, people often seek self-fulfillment and personal glory, but sometimes we lose sight of greater power and higher beings. The phrase "don't put yourself first, take away the glory of God" reminds us not to forget humility and gratitude as we pursue our own accomplishments and status.

When we let go of our self-centered thinking and begin to appreciate what we have in front of us, we will find that our environment and talents come from a larger, broader existence. This may be a kind of faith, or a reverence for nature and the universe. Either way, it reminds us to honor and cherish this gift from a higher being.

It's part of human nature to strive for success and achievement, but in the process, we should also reflect on the strength and value we rely on. When we realize that what we have comes not only from our own efforts, but from some greater, higher power, we will face the world with more humility.

There are many passages in the Bible that refer to the glory of God, and here are some of them:

Exodus: In the book of Exodus, it speaks of the manifestation of God's glory and how God's glory filled the tabernacle (tabernacle):

Exodus 40:34-35: And when the tabernacle of the congregation was erected, and a cloud covered the tabernacle of the congregation, the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Moses could not

go into the tabernacle of the congregation because the cloud rested on it and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

Isaiah: The book of Isaiah contains many prophecies and descriptions of the glory of God

Isaiah 6:3 And two seraphs stood beside him, each with six wings: two wings over the face, two wings over the feet, and two wings for flying. They cried out to one another, "Holy, holy, holy, holy, the Lord Almighty, whose glory fills the earth." ”

Psalms: The Psalms also speak of the glory of God:

Psalm 19:1: The heavens admonish, and the heavens declare the glory of God.

Psalm 24:7,10: Lift up your head at your ancient gates, and lift up the eternal gates! The King of glory will come in! Who is the King of glory? The mighty LORD, the mighty One, who himself will become a warrior.

These verses are just a part of the Bible's account of God's glory, and they describe how God's glory manifests at different times and occasions, reminding people to fear and praise God's greatness and glory.

There are different ways in which Christians can be thankful in their daily lives and put God at the center of their lives:

Prayer and worship: Christians can express gratitude through prayer for God's grace, provision, and blessings. Worship is also a way of expressing gratitude and honoring God.

Understanding God's Grace: Recognize God's works and grace in life and see it as the source of all good deeds, including the little things and the big things in life.

Attitude of gratitude in life: Live a life of gratitude, and be grateful and respectful of the people and things around you. This can manifest as kindness and care for others, as well as resilience and confidence in life's challenges.

Share God's love: Share God's love and grace with those around you, and show God's love through deeds and words.

Obey God's will: By being obedient to God's will and teachings, putting God at the center of your life, seeking to respect God's will and guidance in all things.

Knowing God's Word: By reading the Bible, you can learn about God's Word and Will, draw wisdom and strength from it, and apply it to your daily life.

These are ways in which Christians can put God at the center of their lives and approach everything in life with gratitude. This not only helps the individual's relationship with God, but also influences and changes the surrounding environment and relationships.

Let's pray together:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for giving us this opportunity to come to You and pray and worship You. We thank You for the kindness and glory you have shown us. Help us to put Your glory above all else and let Your light shine in our lives.

We acknowledge that in our daily lives, we sometimes neglect Your glory and put ourselves first. Help us to let go of our egos, seek Your will, and let Your glory guide us in our actions.

May we learn to be thankful for all that You have given us, whether it is joy or challenge, let us be thankful for You. Help us understand what You are doing in our lives and let Your love and grace stir up endless gratitude in our hearts.

Molded us into those who will manifest Your glory to the world, so that our words and deeds and our way of life may reflect Your greatness and glory. May we seek You in all and be witnesses of Your glory.

These are our prayers in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

Joshua chapter 3

Jo. 3:1 Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over.

Jo. 3:2 After three days the officers went throughout the camp, Jo. 3:3 giving orders to the people: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, who are Levites, carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it.

Jo. 3:4 Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards between you and the ark; do not go near it." Jo. 3:5 Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you."

Jo. 3:6 Joshua said to the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant and pass on ahead of the people." So they took it up and went ahead of them.

Jo. 3:7 And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so that they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.

Jo. 3:8 Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: 'When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river.'"

Jo. 3:9 Joshua said to the Israelites, "Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God.

Jo. 3:10 This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites,

Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites.

Jo. 3:11 See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you.

Jo. 3:12 Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe.

Jo. 3:13 And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD — the Lord of all the earth — set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap." Jo.

3:14 So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. Jo. 3:15 Now the Jordan is in flood all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, Jo. 3:16 the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. Jo. 3:17 The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

Chapter 3 begins with the Israelites camped on the eastern side of the Jordan River, preparing to cross over into the land that God had promised them. Joshua tells the people to consecrate themselves, or make themselves clean and holy, because they are about to see the power of God. As the people begin to move towards the river, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant go ahead of them and step into the river. As soon as their feet touch the water, the river stops flowing, and the water piles up in a heap, allowing the people to cross over on dry land. God instructs Joshua to have one man from each tribe pick up a stone from the middle of the river and carry it on their shoulders as a memorial of this miraculous event. These stones are to be a reminder to future generations of God's power and faithfulness to His promises. After the people have crossed over, God tells Joshua to have the priests carrying the ark of the covenant come out of the riverbed, and as soon as they do, the water begins to flow again. The Israelites then set up camp at a place called Gilgal, which would serve as their base of operations for their conquest of the land.

Chapter 3 demonstrates the power of God and His faithfulness to His promises, as well as the importance of obedience and consecration in the Israelites' journey to possess the land. It also highlights the significance of memorials in remembering and passing down the stories of God's faithfulness to future generations.

Joshua chapter 3 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it." (Joshua 3:3)
2. "Joshua told the people, 'Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.'" (Joshua 3:5)
3. "Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the Lord—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap." (Joshua 3:12-13)
4. "So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them." (Joshua 3:14)
5. "And the priests came up out of the river carrying the ark of the covenant of the Lord. No sooner had they set their feet on the dry ground than the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and ran at flood stage as before." (Joshua 4:18) These verses contain important messages about obedience, faith, and trust in God's power and provision. They also highlight the importance of consecrating oneself and seeking God's guidance before

embarking on a new journey or endeavor. The miraculous crossing of the Jordan River emphasizes God's faithfulness and His ability to do the impossible, even in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

In Joshua chapter 3, we witness a pivotal moment in the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land as they prepare to cross the Jordan River. This chapter provides us with valuable insights about faith, obedience, and the miraculous power of God.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of faith and trust in God's guidance. The Israelites are instructed to follow the ark of the covenant, carried by the priests, as it leads them across the Jordan River. This act symbolizes their reliance on God's presence and His ability to lead them into the land He had promised them. The crossing of the Jordan required a great amount of faith from the Israelites because the river was at flood stage, presenting a formidable obstacle. However, they obeyed God's command and stepped out in faith, demonstrating their trust in His power to make a way for them.

The miraculous nature of the river crossing also highlights God's faithfulness and His ability to perform extraordinary acts on behalf of His people. As the priests carrying the ark stepped into the water, the Jordan River miraculously parted, allowing the Israelites to cross on dry ground. This event mirrors the crossing of the Red Sea during the Exodus from Egypt, further emphasizing God's power and His commitment to fulfilling His promises.

Additionally, the chapter emphasizes the importance of consecration and preparation before entering into God's presence. The Israelites are instructed to consecrate themselves and to maintain a distance of about 2,000 cubits (approximately 1,000 meters) between themselves and the ark, signifying the holiness of God's presence. This underscores the need for the Israelites to approach God with reverence and purity of heart, recognizing His holiness and their own unworthiness.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 3 teaches us several important lessons. It reminds us of the significance of faith and trust in God's guidance, even when faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles. The chapter encourages us to step out in faith, knowing that God is faithful to fulfill His promises and make a way for us. It also highlights the power of God to perform miracles and intervene in extraordinary ways on behalf of His people.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of consecration and preparation in our relationship with God. It prompts us to approach Him with reverence, recognizing His holiness and seeking to align ourselves with His purposes.

Overall, Joshua chapter 3 demonstrates the faithfulness and power of God and provides us with valuable insights about faith, obedience, and the importance of preparing ourselves to enter into

God's presence. It encourages us to trust in God's guidance, step out in faith, and approach Him with reverence as we journey through life and seek to fulfill His purposes.

