

# CONQUER IN CHRIST

Serve the Lord

## IT IS FINISHED ...

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 21:44** And the LORD gave them rest on every side, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers, and no one of all their enemies stood before them; the LORD gave all their enemies into their hand. <sup>45</sup> Not one of the good promises which the LORD had made to the house of Israel failed; **all came to pass.**
  - Abrahamic covenant and the promises to Moses and Joshua concerning the land have been fulfilled

## BACK TO SHECHEM

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:1** Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel and for their heads and their judges and their officers; and they presented themselves before God.



## COVENANT PREAMBLE

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:2** And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'From ancient times your fathers lived beyond the River, namely, Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, and they served other gods.'
- History between God and the people
  - Joshua 24:3-12
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:13** 'And I gave you a land on which you had not labored, and cities which you had not built, and you have lived in them; you are eating of vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.'

## COVENANT OFFERED

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:14** "Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup> "And if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

## COVENANT ACCEPTED

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:16** And the people answered and said, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup> for the LORD our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and who did these great signs in our sight and preserved us through all the way in which we went and among all the peoples through whose midst we passed. <sup>18</sup> "And the LORD drove out from before us all the peoples, even the Amorites who lived in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He is our God."

## COVENANT RATIFIED

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:22** And Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen for yourselves the LORD, to serve Him." And they said, "We are witnesses." <sup>23</sup> "Now therefore, put away the foreign gods which are in your midst, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." <sup>24</sup> And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the LORD our God and we will obey His voice." <sup>25</sup> So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. <sup>26</sup> And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God; and he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

## THE LESSON

- God first shows his love, compassion, grace, mercy, and faithfulness to his elect.
  - <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 21:45** Not one of the good promises which the LORD had made to the house of Israel failed; all came to pass.
- God then enters into covenant with his elect
  - <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:25** So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day ...
- Covenant faithfulness of the people should come from love and gratitude, not greed or fear
  - Covenant blessings and curses are merely carrots and sticks

# APPLICATION

## INVITATION TO COVENANT RENEWAL

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:14** "Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **2 Timothy 1:8** Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me His prisoner; but join with *me* in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S DELIVERANCE

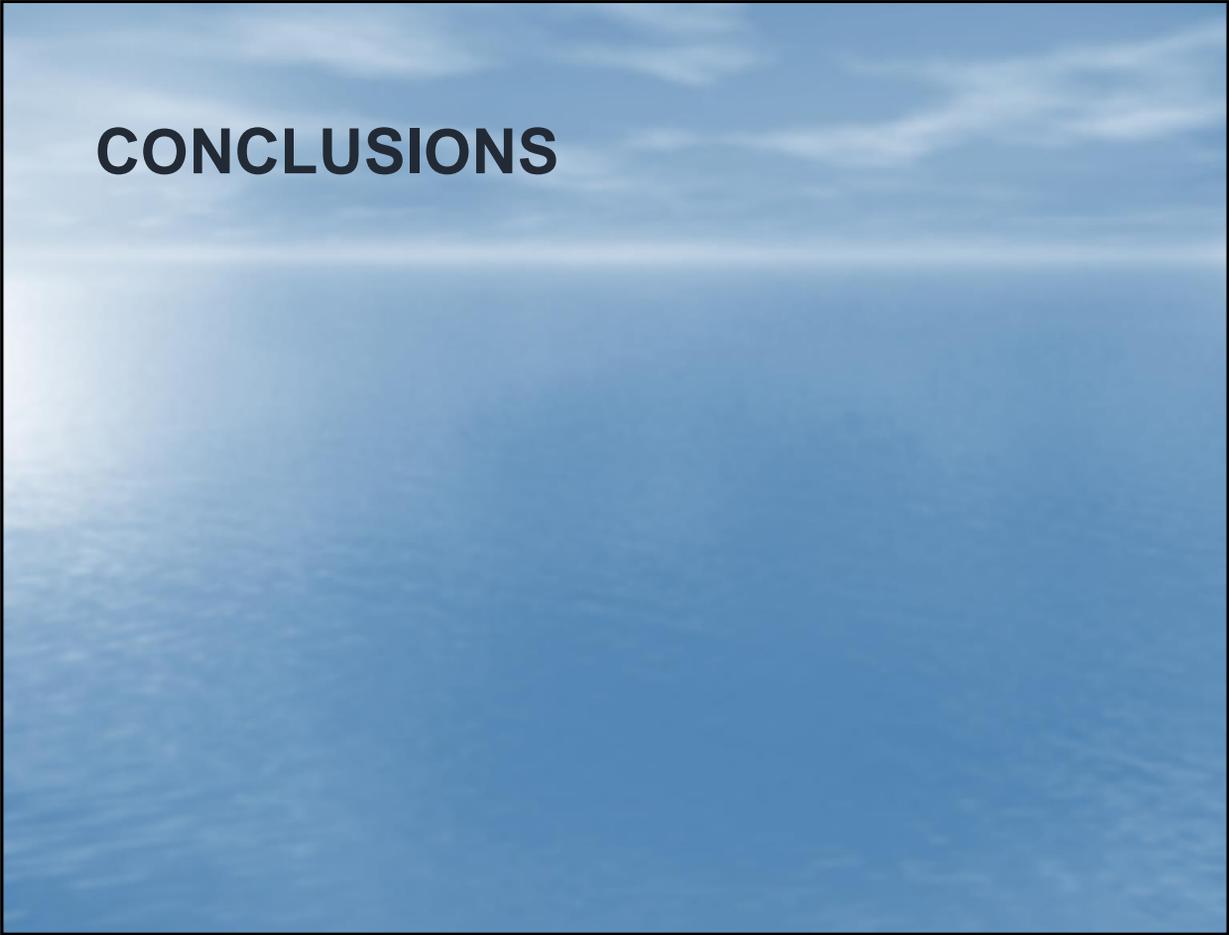
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:17** for the LORD our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and who did these great signs in our sight and preserved us through all the way in which we went and among all the peoples through whose midst we passed. <sup>18</sup> "And the LORD drove out from before us all the peoples, even the Amorites who lived in the land...
- <sup>NAS</sup> **2 Timothy 1:9** who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, <sup>10</sup> but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

## DECLARATION OF TRUST

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:15** "... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
- <sup>NAS</sup> **2 Timothy 1:12** For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

## CALL TO RESPONSE

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 24:23** "Now therefore, put away the foreign gods which are in your midst, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel."
- <sup>NAS</sup> **2 Timothy 1:13** Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup> Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.



# **CONCLUSIONS**

## THE LORD IS FAITHFUL

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Joshua 21:45** Not one of the good promises which the LORD had made to the house of Israel failed; all came to pass.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **1 Corinthians 1:9** God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Revelation 19:11** And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True
- <sup>NIV</sup> **2 Corinthians 1:20** For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ...

## OUR SALVATION IS SECURE

- <sup>NAS</sup> **2 Timothy 1:9** who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity... <sup>12</sup> ... I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Romans 8:38** For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Philippians 1:6** For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

## ABIDE IN JESUS

- <sup>NAS</sup> **2 Timothy 1:13** Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 15:5** "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **John 15:9** "Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. <sup>10</sup> "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **1 John 3:24** And the one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And we know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

## GUARD YOUR TREASURE

- **NAS 2 Timothy 1:14** Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.
- **NAS 2 Corinthians 4:6** For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. <sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not from ourselves;
- **NAS 2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

## SERVE THE LORD

- <sup>NAS</sup> **Romans 13:12** The night is almost gone, and the day is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.
- <sup>NAS</sup> **Galatians 5:25** If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.