

Year C #702
Ark of the Covenant
030805-2

Hello! This is Dorothy -

I am reading from **Joshua chapter 3**. I do hope that with an open heart you will follow. I also hope that if you want spiritual help, you will be sure to write to us here at the studio. There are excellent books to help you. So, please, do feel that you can reach out and we will be here for you spiritually. In **Joshua chapter 3**, we read a little verse as the children of Israel were to follow when the ark of the covenant was to be taken by the priests into the middle of Jordan, which by the way, was at full flood tide at the time.

4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it . . . - the ark of the covenant. In other words, they were not to go crowding up to it . . . and the little verse I love – . . . **for ye have not passed this way heretofore.** Perhaps I am speaking to a person who loves the Lord. You feel very defeated. You are working and you are trying, but somehow something is very lacking in your life. You don't know what it is. Oh, come on now, let's go over the Jordan; let's see what God has on the other side! I want you to come on this little adventure of faith today.

Notice in Joshua's time, they had to keep their distance from God. I can only think of that amazing verse in **Hebrews chapter 10 -**

19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. We don't have to keep our distance from the ark of the covenant. We can go in because Jesus when He died on the Cross and cried out, **It is finished!** accomplished the work of paying the price for your sin and for my sin and giving us - oh!- the wonder of being a vessel for His wonderful resurrection life to live and to perform through us. At that very time, the veil of the temple was rent by God from top to bottom. So, of course, by the Blood of Jesus, as we go on and read in **verse 20 of Hebrews 10 -**

20 By a new and living way . . . We don't have to keep our distance from the ark of the covenant. Aren't you glad you can just run to the Lord at any moment, day and night? He is right there; you can talk to Him. . . . **which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;**

22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold fast the profession of our hope without wavering . . . Don't think, "Oh, I don't know whether I want to go over Jordan. I am rather comfortable on this side. At least I know what I am doing." . . . **without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised:)**

24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works. It is meant to be that we are all being told to

go over. Not just a few; every one. In fact, the priests made sure everybody got the message clearly. They went amongst them. They did not just give out a command over a loud speaker; they moved amongst them so that they should all pass over Jordan. Then a very key way this is so -

25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. That is the glorious day of Jesus coming for His Church very soon now. So let's get ready.

Let us see in the Scriptures what happened as the priests went forward. For it goes on and says in **Joshua 3** -

5 And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you. Will you let God do that separating work in your life? Be ready to be one hundred percent committed and available for the Lord to do His work. So they went forward with Joshua leading them.

11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the earth passeth over before you into Jordan. This is not some little local idea of what you are going to do. It is Lord God of all the earth, and, therefore, He had strategy. With that strategy, He said in **verse 12**:

12 So now take -call out - twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. He is saying, "Let these come and let

them carry My ark which represents all the people as they carry it.

13 **And it shall come to pass - *it shall be*- as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above - *that is in that town of Adam* - and they shall stand upon an heap.**

14 **And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;**

17 **And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground. . . Are you ready to step out? The waters parted, we read. . . . *(they) stood firm on dry ground until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.***

I am so excited! Wouldn't you like to see this flood tide? God holds up the waters and suddenly it is dry and you walk over. There they are seeing this wonderful God of all the earth - the God that can deal with your problems and my problems. This is the God in Whom we have the joy of knowing in our hearts if we have received Him.

If you do not know this God, do let us help you. Receive Him today. Write to us.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.