

How To Guarantee Success

Joshua 1:1-9

A. Introduction

1. According to theory of aerodynamics, bumblebees should be unable to fly.
 - a. Wind tunnel experiments attest to this.
 - b. He goes ahead and flies anyway. (Sign in GM factory; symbol for MK)
2. Success is defined in varying ways.
 - a. Not successful until someone brags they sat next to you in grade school.
 - b. Don't have to stay awake nights to be successful, just days!
 - c. Behind every successful man stands a proud but surprised wife.
3. How does the Creator of the universe define success?
4. Our text guaranteed Joshua & Israel success if they would follow the directions of God.
5. This same pattern holds true for you and I today.

B. Discussion

1. Operate from the standpoint of strength (v. 6).

- a. Strength in what sense?
 - 1) *Chazaq* (khaw-zak) – “to fasten upon; to bind to.”
 - 2) Well assured confidence in the promise of God.
 - 3) God has proven Himself faithful throughout history...worthy of our trust!
- b. Strength from what source?
 - 1) (**Ep. 6:10**) The Lord is the source of ability.
 - 2) (**2 Ti. 2:1**) The grace that is in Christ is the source of our strength.

2. You must have courage (v. 7).

- a. This was a repetition of **Deuteronomy 31:6**.
- b. For Joshua, courage was needed in:
 - 1) Patience...the unfaithfulness of the people would put courage to the test.
 - 2) Proclamation...the challenge of preaching God's commands.
 - 3) Perseverance...to conquer the enemies of God.
- c. “*Courage is not the absence of fear, but the conquest of it.*”
 - 1) Daniel stood face to face with “the king of the jungle” (**Da. 6**).
 - 2) Paul warned by brethren not to venture into Jerusalem, “*I am ready not only to be imprisoned, but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.*” (**Acts 21:13**)

3. You must be informed (v. 8).

- a. How can we “do according to all that is written” if we do not know what is written?
 - 1) What happens when we do not know the Scriptures? (Josiah, **2 Ch. 34**)
 - 2) Untaught people “twist” the Scriptures to their own & others ruin! (**2 Pe. 3:16**)
- b. That's why He says, “meditate”!
- b. There is simply no substitute for knowing the Bible!
 - 1) What must immigrants do to gain citizenship in U.S.A.? Study for test!
 - 2) Interested in being citizen of heaven? < **INS Ques. below** > (cf. **Mt. 7:21**)

4. You must be fully obedient (v. 8).

- a. “Be careful...”
- b. “Do all that is written in it”
 - 1) Presupposes point #3... “You must be informed.”
 - 2) You cannot do all of something about which you are uninformed.
 - 3) (**1 Jn. 5:2-3**) He who loves God will want to know & do his will

C. Conclusion

1. Success is ours for the taking.
2. The Lord does not look at education, financial standing, or standing within community.
3. He defines it in this way...

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

2 Timothy 2:1

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus,

2 Peter 3:16

There are some things in them [Scriptures] that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.

Matthew 7:21

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

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services INS Citizenship Test

[What are the colors of our flag?](#)

[How many stripes are there in the flag?](#)

[What do the stripes on the flag mean?](#)

[What is the 4th of July?](#)

[What country did we fight during the Revolutionary War?](#)

[Who was the first President of the United States?](#)

[Who is the current governor of your state?](#)

[Who said, "Give me liberty or give me death."?](#)

[Which countries were our enemies during World War II?](#)

[What are the 49th and 50th states of the Union?](#)

[Who was Martin Luther King, Jr.?](#)

[Who wrote the Star-Spangled Banner?](#)

[Who was the President during the Civil War?](#)