

## JOSHUA CHAPTER 3

<sup>1</sup> And Joshua rose up early in the morning, and departed from Shittim; and they came as far as the Jordan, and lodged there before they crossed over. <sup>2</sup> And it came to pass after three days, *that* the scribes went through the camp; <sup>3</sup> and they commanded the people, saying, "When you shall see the ark of the covenant of the Lord our God, and our priests and the Levites bearing it, you shall depart from your places, and you shall go after it. <sup>4</sup> But let there be a distance between you and it; you shall stand as much as two thousand cubits *from it*. Do not draw near to it, that you may know the way which you are to go; for you have not gone the way before." <sup>5</sup> And Joshua said to the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord shall do wonders among you." <sup>6</sup> And Joshua said to the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and go before the people." And the priests took up the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and went before the people.

<sup>7</sup> And the Lord said to Joshua, "This day do I begin to exalt you before all the children of Israel, that they may know that as I was with Moses, so will I also be with you. <sup>8</sup> And now charge the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, 'As soon as you shall enter on a part of the water of the Jordan, then you shall stand in the Jordan.'" <sup>9</sup> And Joshua said to the children of Israel, "Come here, and listen to the word of the Lord our God. <sup>10</sup> Hereby you shall know that the living God *is* among you, and will utterly destroy from before our face the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, the Amorite, the Girgashite, and the Jebusite. <sup>11</sup> Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passes over the Jordan. <sup>12</sup> Choose for yourselves twelve men of the sons of Israel, one from each tribe. <sup>13</sup> And it shall come to pass, when the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the covenant of the Lord of the whole earth shall rest in the water of the Jordan, the water of the Jordan *below* shall fail, and the water coming down from above shall stop."

<sup>14</sup> So the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, and the priests bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord before the people. <sup>15</sup> And when the priests that bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord entered the Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord were dipped in part of the water of the Jordan (now the Jordan overflowed all its banks about the time of wheat harvest), <sup>16</sup> then the waters that came down from above stopped; there stood one solid heap very far off, as far as the region of Zaretan, and the lower part came down to the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, till it completely failed; and the people stood opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup> And the priests that bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry land in the midst of the Jordan; and all the children of Israel went through on dry land, until all the people had completely crossed over the Jordan.