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NEW ERA

MARCH 2023



The Failure of a Leader

Joshua 24:29-33

**DR. VICTORY
GODSPOWER**
(International President)



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The Failure of a Leader

Joshua 24:29–33

As leaders, we may be good workers; but if we do not prepare leaders, we have failed. When I think of leaders, I think of supermen that distinguish themselves in many areas, but that usually fail in a very important one.

Joshua is my biblical hero. A great man of God that failed in a critical area.

Joshua had been Moses' right hand. He was chosen by God to replace Moses.

The shoes Joshua had to fill were big, but Joshua did a great job. He had the privilege of leading the people in the conquest of the Promised Land.

He had an exemplary and faithful family. At the end of his ministry, he challenged Israel:

Joshua 24:15 NASB95

"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."

He risked being rejected by the people, but he had decided to follow the Lord; a decision he had made for himself 40 years earlier, but now was deciding that his family would do the same. At Kadesh Barnea, together with Caleb, they were the only ones among the leaders who believed the promises of the Lord regarding the land. "The Lord will give it to us. He is with us."

Numbers 14:6–9 NASB95

Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; and they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. "If the Lord is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us—a land which flows with milk and honey. "Only do not rebel against the Lord; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the Lord is with us; do not fear them."

Numbers 14:6-9

Nothing negative is said about Joshua in any other biblical records. That does not mean he did not make any mistake! His failure was not preparing a successor. Such failure was the result of three big mistakes:

Nothing negative is said about Joshua in any other biblical records. That does not mean he did not do any mistake! He did three big mistakes:

He forgot that his leadership was temporary.

"Joshua...died being one hundred and ten years old" 29

No leader last forever.

Moses' leadership lasted forty years.

Joshua was 110 years old when he died (24:29). Therefore, his leadership lasted only 15 years (1405-1390 BC).

We should never forget that one day we'll die. Then what? After his death, period of the judges began. A period of 339 years characterized by one thing: its lack of leadership. No matter how healthy or young we are, one day, we will leave this earth or the ministry; for good or bad reasons!

After his death, period of the judges began. A period of 339 years characterized by one thing: its lack of leadership. After his death, period of the judges began. A period of 339 years characterized by one thing: its lack of leadership.

Judges 17:6 NASB95 In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes.

Judges 17 How long will your ministry last? 10,20,30? Do you know for sure?

The average pastorate in the same church last less than 3 years. 50% of those that start pastoring will not last five years. "Most are like migratory birds changing location every season of the year." No matter how healthy or young we are, one day, we will leave this earth or the ministry; for good or bad reasons!

He worked only for the present.

"Life can be only understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards." (Soren Kierkegard)

"The future depends on what you do today." (Ghandi)

Hard work is focused on the present.

Most leaders or pastors are hard workers and, very often, perfectionists. Perfectionists are, by nature, focused on the present task trying to make the best as possible. Seldom they allow others to do it, because they think that no one can make it as good as them.

Joshua dedicated himself to the present task of conquering the land, defeating the enemies, and

distributing the land according to the Lord's instructions.

He took to heart this instruction given to him by Moses: **Joshua 1:8 NASB95**

"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

He was obedient to it, day after day, and was a hard working general, but he forgot that we have to live as we will die tomorrow, but plan as we gonna live forever. That is "have vision", because vision is for the future.

Vision is for the future.

"Life is short, buy the glasses."

"Where there is no vision, the people will perish (are unrestrained, se desenfrena)."

Joshua did not think, What will it happen to this people when I am gone?

What did it happen to them? They were unrestrained! As expresses it:

Joshua did not think, What will it happen to this people when I am gone?

"In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes." **Judges 17:6**

Leaders are always busy, but sometimes they are too busy plugging holes to keep the boat afloat that they do not see where the boat is heading to.

We should think five or ten years ahead of us.

"Leaders are limited by their vision rather than by their abilities."

"The only thing worse than being blind is have sight but no vision."
Hellen Keller

He did not mentor a future leader.

Leaders are commanded to do it.

Paul said this way,

2 Timothy 2:2 NASB95

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. It is not optional, it is necessary!

We must reproduce ourselves in others. Reproduction is the key for the growth of the Church and the growth of leadership. The church dies when reproduction ceases. Not preparing leaders was the kryptonite of Joshua, my great hero.

Leaders should identify and train leadership prospects.

Caleb was as old as Joshua to take the reins. A few years later, he had to offer his daughter to anyone willing to attack Kiriath-sepher. Othniel, his nephew, did it. He was valiant warrior, but not a leader.

Paul saw leadership potential in Timothy. He trained him and mentor him and, eventually, Timothy became the pastor of the church Paul had started in Ephesus.

No matter the kind of ministry we have, we should be training and mentoring our replacement. If we get sick, our mentored one can cover us. If we need a break, who will replace us? If we die, who will continue the ministry entrusted to us?

Let's no make the same mistake as Joshua! Life is short, let's buy the glasses that will help us to identify prospects and let's start training them.

Jesus Publicly Condemns The Pharisees in Matthew 23:1-12; 23-28 (23:1-12).

1. The wickedness of these men **(23:1-7)**

a. They do not practice what they preach **(23:1-3)**.

b. They place heavy burdens upon the people **(23:4)**.

c. They do everything for show **(23:5, 7)**.

d. They demand to occupy the place of prominence **(23:6)**.

2. The warning against these men **(23:8-12)**: Jesus warns that whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted!

The idea in the text is that Goal of spiritual leadership is to not seek titles or prestige

Rabbi or Teacher

Father

Instructor/ Leader

Fourth judgment **(23:23-24)**

a. "You are careful to tithe even the tiniest part of your income, but you ignore the important things of the law—justice, mercy, and faith" **(23:23)**.

b. **Micah 6:8**

"You strain your water so you won't accidentally swallow a gnat; then you swallow a camel!" (23:24).

5. Fifth judgment **(23:25-26)**: "You are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence!"

6. Sixth judgment **(23:27-28)**: "You are like whitewashed tombs—

beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity.”

- ❖ Leaders that look the part, but in reality, its all smoke and mirrors.
- ❖ Leaders present as if they are righteous, but really, they are twice as wicked because they condemn others for what they secretly do.
- ❖ Leaders do this because they desire the Glory so they tear others down who are not apart of their system(s) that exalt them.
- ❖ This is why they are extremist and legalistic, it puts the focus on works not the Grace of God.
- ❖ Leaders and people create one sided systems where only the owners of the systems can win.
- ❖ This is why Mercy and True Justice is difficult and dispensed inappropriately.

· **Hebrews 10:1-18**

· The Goal of the Law was for man to recognize his sinfulness in light of a most Holy God. In return for forgiveness of Sin, Man his humbled towards God and demonstrate this

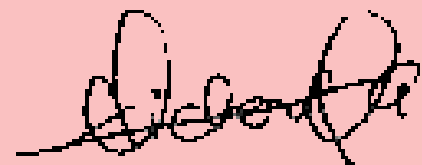
towards his fellow man offering the same blessings that he himself has received.

· **Romans 3:20-26**

This is what he means we he says they don't enter in and they don't allow others to enter. The Mercies of God are new ever morning
Lamentation 3:22-23. Psalms 32:1.

I hope this teaching is a blessing to you and help you in your leadership in the kingdom. Let's use this opportunity to welcome you to the month of March 2023. It's my prayers that God will do more than you asked for this month in Jesus Mighty Name. Amen.

Yours In His Vineyard!



Dr Victory Godspower
(TPI International President)

You Don't Want To Miss This March 2023 Global Church Leaders Meetings.

Get Ready For A Life Changing Encounter.

THE PLATFORM INTERNATIONAL
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RECHARGE YOUR LEADERSHIP

MONDAY 6TH MARCH 2023

Guest Speaker
DR. LONNY BINGLE
(USA)

DR. VICTORY GODSPOWER
(TPI International President)

zoom
Meeting ID: 879 1371 8618
Passcodes: 853358

SOUTHERN AFRICA 17PM	WEST AFRICA 16PM	EAST AFRICA 18PM	USA 11:00 AM (EST)	INDIA 20:30 PM (UTC + 5:30)	MAURITIUS 19:00 PM (UTC +4)
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LEADING WITH VISION

MONDAY 13TH MARCH 2023

Guest Speaker
PST. EVAN RAUTENBACH
(South Africa)

DR. VICTORY GODSPOWER
(TPI International President)

zoom
Meeting ID: 879 1371 8618
Passcodes: 853358

SOUTHERN AFRICA 17PM	USA 11:00 AM (EST)
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THE PLATFORM INTERNATIONAL
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RIVER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MONDAY 20TH MARCH 2023

DR. VICTORY GODSPOWER
(International President)

Guest Speaker
DR. KEITH POOLE
(UK)

zoom
Meeting ID: 879 1371 8618
Passcodes: 853358

SOUTHERN AFRICA 17PM	WEST AFRICA 16PM	EAST AFRICA 18PM	USA 11:00 AM (EST)	INDIA 20:30 PM (UTC + 5:30)	MAURITIUS 19:00 PM (UTC +4)
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Kingdom Legacy

MONDAY 27TH MARCH 2023

Guest Speaker
ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH OJO
(Nigeria)

DR. VICTORY GODSPOWER
(TPI International President)

zoom
Meeting ID: 879 1371 8618
Passcodes: 853358

SOUTHERN AFRICA 17PM	USA 11:00 AM (EST)
WEST AFRICA 16PM	INDIA 20:30 PM (UTC + 5:30)
EAST AFRICA 18PM	MAURITIUS 19:00 PM (UTC +4)

For More Info Visit www.theplatforminternational.org



FOR MORE ENQUIRIES
CONTACT:

45, Georginia Street, Horizon
Rooderpoort. 1724, Johannesburg,
South Africa.

☎ +27 102 134 388

✉ info@theplatforminternational.org

🌐 www.theplatforminternational.org

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🐦 @theplatformint1

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