

Matt 2:1-12

HOPES realized

- **ACTING ON OUR HOPES**
 - **JOSHUA 3:1-3; 9-17**

1. ACTING ON HOPE GAVE THE PEOPLE A NEW IDENTITY.

A. CHANCE TO OVERCOME THE “DEMONS” OF THEIR PAST (NUM 14):

1. PLACE WHERE FAITH HAD FAILED.
2. PLACE WHERE A RETURN TO SLAVERY SEEMED A BETTER OPTION.
3. PLACE WHERE THEY SAW THEMSELVES AS “GRASSHOPPERS.” NUM 13:33

2. THE PEOPLE PLACED THEIR HOPE IN GOD NOT IN THEMSELVES.

- **LAMENTATIONS 3:21 BUT THIS I CALL TO MIND, AND *THEREFORE* I HAVE HOPE: ²² THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD NEVER CEASES; HIS MERCIES NEVER COME TO AN END; ²³ THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS. ²⁴ “THE LORD IS MY PORTION,” SAYS MY SOUL, “THEREFORE I WILL HOPE IN HIM.”**

3. THE CROSSING WAS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HOPE TO BE REALIZED.

- JOS. 3:10 AND JOSHUA SAID, "HERE IS HOW YOU SHALL KNOW THAT THE LIVING GOD IS AMONG YOU AND THAT HE WILL WITHOUT FAIL DRIVE OUT FROM BEFORE YOU THE CANAANITES, THE HITTITES, THE HIVITES, ... (ESV)
- CHANGED A BARRIER (RIVER) INTO A HOPE-ANCHOR FOR THE FUTURE.

APPLICATION

A. WHICH SIDE OF THE “RIVER” ARE YOU ON TODAY? HOW CAN YOU TAKE A STEP OF FAITH BASED ON HOPING ON HIS FUTURE FOR YOU?

B. CONSECRATE YOURSELF.

- 1. ASK HIM TO CHANGE YOUR HEART TO KNOW AND LOVE JESUS.**
- 2. PUT YOUR EYES ON JESUS OUT FRONT.**