

Sabbath School Lesson #1 – Recipe for Success – 27 September-3 October 2025

Christ would have us be His faithful ministers as was Joshua whom Moses charged saying, “Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest” (Joshua 1:7). Of Joshua’s faithfulness, we read: “He read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the law. There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel” (Joshua 8:34-35). Now Joshua was Moses’ minister (Joshua 1:1) and faithful to his charge, and if anyone would aspire to be “a faithful minister of Christ” (Colossians 1:7), ought he not to urge upon his hearers all the words of the law of Christ, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in that law, omitting not a word of all that Christ has commanded? Then in the elite company with Paul he might like an echo boldly say, “I have kept back nothing that was profitable unto you. I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:20, 26-27). There are few such faithful ones nowadays, for since the death of Paul, “grievous wolves” (Acts 20:29) have entered in, not sparing the flock, and so far from endeavouring to root up every plant which our heavenly Father has not planted, they endeavour to root up every plant which He hath planted.

Sunday: A New Moses – Read Deuteronomy 18:15-22; who was Moses referring to as “the prophet” whom God would raise up from among the people? It is unclear if the Lesson writer imply that “prophet” was Joshua, who was “a prophet similar to Moses (Deut. 18:15).”

But Moses truly was not referring to Joshua, nay! “Moses pointed the people forward to Christ. He said, “The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet, from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken.” – Ellen White {1SP 343.2}. Moses prophesied of Christ, when he said to the Jews: “The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, liken to me; unto Him ye shall hearken” (Deut. 18:15). That this was understood, when the Jews wanted to know if John the Baptist was the Messiah, they simply asked, “Art thou that prophet?” (John 1:21). After Philip had obeyed Christ’s call, “Follow Me,” he found Nathanael, and said unto him, “We have found Him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of Joseph” (John 1:45). Jesus Himself said to the unbelieving Jews: “For if ye had believed Moses, ye would have believed Me; for he wrote of Me” (John 5:46). Said God to Moses, “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him” (Deuteronomy 18:18). Peter speaking of Christ, says, “For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you, of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you” (Acts 3:22). Says the Father, [Deut 18:18] “He shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.” Says the Son, [John 12:49] “The Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.”

Ellen White tells us: “Through Moses, God’s purpose to send His Son as the Redeemer of the fallen race, was kept before Israel. On one occasion, shortly before his death, Moses declared, “The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken.” Plainly had Moses been instructed for Israel concerning the work of the Messiah to come. “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee,” was the word of Jehovah to His servant; “and will put My words in His mouth; and He shall speak unto them all that I shall command Him.” Deuteronomy 18:15, 18.” {PK 684:3}. “Moses was a type of Christ. He himself had declared to Israel, “The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto Him ye shall hearken.” Deuteronomy 18:15.” {PP 480.1}.

Monday: Cross! Take! Divide! Serve! – The beginning of the work of Joshua is marked by the following words: “Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ minister, saying, Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.” “As I was with Moses, so I will be

with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee" (Joshua 1:1, 2, 5). Joshua was eighty-six years old when he received his commission to lead Israel across the Jordan into Canaan. Until his death, Joshua was in continual communication with God who gave him detailed instruction regarding all his work, – crossing the Jordan; taking Jericho, the great fortress at the entrance to Canaan; dealing with Achan in "the accursed thing;" the many conquests to be made; dividing the land to the tribes of Israel; the setting apart of the cities of refuge; and the loyal obedience Israel should forever render to all the just requirements of their Lord.

Tuesday: Heirs of Promises – Read Joshua 1:4-6 and Hebrews 6:17-18; what promise did Joshua have to strengthen his confidence in the Lord? After the death of Moses, the Lord said unto Joshua, "As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them. Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest." "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:5-7, 9). Those who make God their confidence can say with David, "When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell." "I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living" (Psalm 27:2, 13). Having seen the Lord's deliverance, David could say to others with all confidence, "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord" (verse 14). Like Joshua, we must believe the promises of God. Those who falter while looking at difficulties in the way, or at the greatness of the work, are like "the slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets" (Proverbs 22:13). The Scriptures declare that "the wicked flee when no man pursueth; but the righteous are bold as a lion." Proverbs 28:1. Of the righteous it is said that he "shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger" (Job 17:9).

Wednesday: Be Strong! – Read Joshua 1:7-9; how do those words to Joshua apply to you as a Christian for others in trouble? There are on every hand those who are in trouble, those who are afflicted, those who are sorely tried and in discouragement. They do not know God; they do not find Him and His comfort, His power, His strength, His courage. Christians are in the world to convey to these poor, troubled souls the comfort of God. Christians are here to say to them that are cast down. In God "there is lifting up" (Job 22:29); to say to the discouraged, "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33); "be strong and of a good courage" (Joshua 1:9); to the weak, "The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10). Christians are here to "comfort them which are in any trouble" (2 Corinthians 1:4).

Thursday: Prosperous and Successful – Without God, no true prosperity and success. Moses had told Israel, if they would keep the laws of God, the nations around them would say, "Surely this great nation is a wise, and understanding people" (Deut 4:6). There is a reason why men prosper when they receive the Word of God. The Word itself is bound to prosper. The Lord says of His Word that goeth forth out of His mouth, "it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11). The Word of God is sure to prosper wherever it is, and if we will not have it, it will prosper in others who will receive it. That is why God sends His Word to us, that it may prosper in us, and we will prosper too. To Joshua the Lord said, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." When David's time came to die, he charged Solomon his son to walk in God's ways, "that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself" (1 Kings 2:3). Many kings in Israel did not walk in the way of the Lord, and none prospered, but of King Hezekiah it is written, "he clave to the Lord, and departed not from following Him, but kept His commandments." "And the Lord was with him; and he prospered whithersoever he went forth" (2 Kings 18:6-7). Christ testified, "I delight to do Thy will, O My God: yea, Thy law is within My heart" (Psalm 40:8); and of Him it is written, "the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand" (Isaiah 53:10).