

# BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS

Text: Rom. 8v31, I Sam 17v45-51

**W**hen the leadership of the children of Israel was handed over to Joshua he was very afraid. He knew it will take a lot of wisdom to resolve conflict and deal with complaints among his people. He had also seen how they faced with huge obstacles in the past. The challenge of the red sea, lack of food and water in the wilderness, enemies coming against them from every corner. He has also observed how this stiff-necked people gave Moses a lot of headache. I Sam. 17v45-51.

Joshua was sure he will need a special anointing to overcome such obstacles if they come up again. God however knew that with fear in the heart of Joshua, he will not be able to lead the Israelites to the promised land so we had to remind him. Joshua 1 v 9. Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of good courage, be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Beloved if you will succeed in your divine purpose and assignment on this earth you must be strong and courageous confident that God is with you at all times. Fear is the strategy of the devil to limit you and presents false evidence against reality to make you panic so as to doubt God. Never allow fear to dwell in your heart. No matter how great a task is as long as God is with you, you have already succeeded already. The Israelites were afraid of Goliath and would have been delivered into the hands of the philistines but for David's godly confidence I Sam. 17v24.

Despite the fact that David was young the moment he stepped into the situation with courage everything changed. All God needed to deliver His people was courage and not fear and not necessary skills. Your abilities are not sufficient to guarantee your success. God is however more than enough to help you succeed. All the needs is your courage not experience, not connections or skills just

courage.

Good courage is taking steps in the face of fear, difficulties and danger with the confidence that God is with you and will give you victory. And if God is with you, you must radiate His confidence. Radiating His confidence is to carry His presence everywhere you go.

To carry His presence anywhere you go is to trust Him, believe Him and walk in his ways. To carry his presence also mean to obey and have absolute faith in Him. This will make you to be strong like a lion and with a good courage. It also means to rely and put all your confidence in Him because He that is in you is greater than he that is in the world. Also, if God is with you, who can be against you. Our confidence and hope must be built on trust and relationship with God through his son our Lord Jesus Christ. So, as you go out this week be strong and courageous stand in his strength, trust in His ability and He will help you to overcome every challenge of life and give you victory. However, one will lack the courage and boldness to trust in God's ability if one has not genuinely surrendered to the authority of Jesus Christ. It is only in Jesus that we can find redemption and light. It is only in Him that we can find strength and comfort that will give us the confidence to be courageous and bold. This is because Jesus Christ is the author and finisher of our faith and it is only in Him we can have the true meaning of life and existence. So, if you are reading this message and yet to surrender your life to Him it is not late. The

time is now. Just bow down your head and confess your sins, ask Him for forgiveness and promise that henceforth you will live to please Him. If you have not been going to a Church before now look around your neighborhood for a bible believing Church and begin to join them to worship God. And you will discover that your life will never remain the same again.

