

Joshua 1:9-18

In this hafatarah for Deuteronomy 9, Joshua repeats the call of Moses to go into the Promised Land and defeat the Canaanites.

Joshua 1:3 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses."

Joshua 1:6 - "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."

"Be strong and of a good courage" is the theme, repeated several times.

Joshua 1:7 - "...turn not from it to the right hand or to the left..."

The rabbis said this was a command to neither subtract anything (to the left) or add anything (to the right) of the Law.

Joshua 1:9 - "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

Joshua is a type of Christ, who leads us into the Rest (the Promised Land).'

But Joshua's conquest did not bring the spiritual rest that was promised, because of the unbelief of the people.

- **Hebrews 4:8-9** - "For if Jesus (Joshua) had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God."

This applies to us now, because we need to be "strong and courageous" in resisting the inner Canaanites and giants - the voices within us that try to keep us out of the rest - worry, regret, self-seeking personal agendas, pride, guilt - the list goes on and it different for each of us.

God will fight for us, but we need to show up for the battle and "labor to enter into the rest."

Paul says when these enemies assail us - "have a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled." (**2 Corinthians 10:6**)