

March 24 Answers

- 1) Joshua had served God with distinction during Moses' leadership, but now the weight of **responsibility** was fully on his shoulders. It was one thing to be courageous when Moses was at the helm; it was quite another when everyone was looking to him for **leadership**. God broke through Joshua's fear and doubt with words of encouragement: "Have I not **commanded** you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be **frightened**, and do not be **dismayed**, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go" (Josh 1:9). This teaches us: (1) God never commands us to do something His **grace** will not help us to perform, (2) God never gives us a task without granting us His **authority**, and (3) God never send us into danger **alone**, for He are always right there with us. If we're surprised at how afraid Joshua was at the prospect of entering Canaan, we need to remind ourselves that he was about to face an enemy he had no chance of **defeating**. How many times have we faced much smaller challenges and yet been filled with fear and doubt? Rahab **testified** to the spies of her faith in God (Josh 2:10–11), and then **proved** it by her works (James 2:25). Imagine—a Canaanite woman who believed in Yahweh as the one true God! (cf. Matt 15:21–28). To the very end, God was reaching out to those who would turn to Him in **faith**. Hallelujah for a God whose mighty works evangelize the lost!