

Crossing Over of Jordan

Scripture Reading: Joshua 3 and 4

Once a young mountaineer climbed the mount of Alps with the help of an expert guide. While returning, he loosed himself from the safety rope that was attached to the guide and tried getting down with his own skill. After some time he stepped on a heap of snow. His feet slipped over it and he met with a fatal accident. The only mistake he did was to separate himself from the guide. He would've survived if he just obeyed the instructions of the guide.

Now the Israelites had reached the shores of the mighty river Jordan. They did not have boats or bridges. The width of the river was 150 meters. Women, children and the old cannot cross it by swimming. The priests led the way. None of them can cross over it. But God was with them and they trusted in Him. He will never leave or forsake those who trust Him. After three days they were prepared to cross the river.

First the priests were commanded to go forward carrying the covenant box followed by the people. All the people did likewise. Though they almost reached the shores of the river, there was no visible change in the flow of the water. This did not stop them; they proceeded in faith and stepped over the water. Then God did the miracle. The river was split and it gave way through the dry land. The waters stood like a wall on the either side and the people passed through the river. The priests stood in the middle of the split river till all the people crossed over to the other side. The people rejoice saying, "Just like the red sea was dried up before us, God divided the mighty Jordan and made us walk through the dry land".

The people had to sanctify themselves. Not just in their bodies and clothes, they had to sanctify their hearts before the Lord. The pure in heart shall see God and they shall receive blessings from God.

Questions:

- 1) What was the greatest challenge that the Israelites had?
- 2) How did the Israelites overcome their greatest challenge?
- 3) Who will be able to receive blessings from God?