

CALVARY CHAPEL CHINO HILLS'

25TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

JOSHUA 4:1-9

A SPECIAL MESSAGE DELIVERED ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2015

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD” – PART 1

IT'S NOT A QUESTION BUT AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT THAT IS STILL...

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Joy, The Faithfulness of God, Service, Worship, Church

Introduction to the Text:

Joshua 4:1-9

Joshua 4:1-9

And it came to pass, when all the people had completely crossed over the Jordan, that the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying: 2 “Take for yourselves twelve men from the people, one man from every tribe, 3 and command them, saying, “Take for yourselves twelve stones from here, out of the midst of the Jordan, from the place where the priests’ feet stood firm. You shall carry them over with you and leave them in the lodging place where you lodge tonight.’ ”..... 4 Then Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the children of Israel, one man from every tribe; 5 and Joshua said to them: “Cross over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of the Jordan, and each one of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, 6 that this may be a sign among you when your children ask in time to come, saying, “What do these stones mean to you?’ 7 Then you shall answer them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.” 8 And the children of Israel did so, just as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones from the midst of the Jordan, as the LORD had spoken to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and carried them over with them to the place where they lodged, and laid them down there. 9 Then Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests who bore the ark of the covenant stood; and they are there to this day.

When We Approach the Bible:

We can do so in the pursuit of many different things and for an infinite amount of reasons.

Some of The Most Prominent, But Often Overlooked Events Recorded in the Bible are Those Instances When God’s People Set up a Monument to God!

Throughout The History of God’s People,
Great things have been done by Him.

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

1.) I can tell you about His **Tender Mercies**

December 24, 1957

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

2.) I can tell you about His **Amazing Grace**

June 20, 1977

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

3.) I can tell you about His **Wise Generosity**

June 30, 1979

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

4.) I can tell you about His **Willingness to Hear**

The Summer of 1981

On a Wednesday night after-glow service at CCCM

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

5.) I can tell you about His **Outrageous Claims**

The Summer of 1982:

Saturday Night Men's Prayer Meeting

Dr. Phil Anderson and Others...

The Word of Prophecy by the Laying On of Hands

A word of advice to you and our young people,

“**Show Up** to What's Available to You – God will lead you, when you show up.”

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

6.) I can tell you about His **Goodness**

In 1982 God blessed our lives with Rebekah and then Again in 1985, Ashley came to us.

From those weeks before our marriage in 1979 through the birth of our daughters; these years would be foundational!

Everything we did was "Jesus" stuff:
Jesus @ Work, Jesus @ Home, Jesus @ Church

Proverbs 3:4-7

And so find favor and high esteem In the sight of God and man. 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

7.) I can tell you about His **Unpredictable Ways**

In June of 1986 we Moved to Chino Hills...

And the Following Month,
We took a Walk to a Tree on a Hill Above our House...

It later became the city's logo and official seal.

LISA AND I - The Four of Us,
STOOD THERE – "AND I SAID, LETS LIFT OUR HANDS UP AND PRAY OVER THESE HILLS, THE VALLEY AND BEYOND – **WHAT IF GOD WANTS TO DO SOMETHING.**"

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

8.) I can tell you about His **Desire to take us seriously**

In September of 1987 - Something happened:

During All of This Time – Lisa, the girls, and I were making our trek from here to Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa.

Our friends were there, Our roots were there, and the beach was there – made perfect sense, to me.

A good friend of mine, John Kantorak, suggested we
Sign up for the CCCM men's retreat at Twin Peaks.

Enter – Pastor Mike MacIntosh:

"Stand Up and Raise Your Right Hand -- pledge yourself to God - go back to church and make myself available for whatever I am asked to do in obedience to God"

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

9.) I can tell you about His **Ability to remember**

Life happens - Work, Kids, House, Family, Bills,
But In the Summer of 1988:

I was asked by a pastor "*Hey, can you teach a home bible study?*"

"You Stood Up and You Raised Your Right Hand -
- You pledged to Me, that you would go back to church and make myself available for whatever I would ask of you" – why stand ye here?

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

10.) I can tell you about His **Choice of people**

In the Summer of 1988:

He not only gathered 8 whole people together, 8 of Them – Adults, But every week somebody invited somebody who invited somebody and.....

I began to Resist the God who had been doing all of this because He was really beginning to mess with my life.

Things Began to Make Sense (in a terrifying way).

Galatians 1:15-17

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, 16 to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Jeremiah 1:4-5

Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

Joshua 3:1-4

Then Joshua rose early in the morning; and they set out from Acacia Grove and came to the Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they crossed over. 2 So it was, after three days, that the officers went through the camp; 3 and they commanded the people, saying, "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. 4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, **for you have not passed this way before.**"

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

11.) I can tell you about His Word to His people

On Sunday morning, August 19th 1990:

**At the home of Mark and Mary Andrews,
The Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa Monday Night Home Bible Study,
Became a Sunday Morning Home Bible Study.**

The Growth was nothing short of "Just like Before",
slow, steady, few by few, until 4 other houses had to be used in the neighborhood,
(Our house, still our house, became the nursery to 6th Grade) and so on...

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

End of Study

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