



June 2007

# “Day Dreamers” - a word from Chris Hill



Volume 2, Issue 5

Inside This Issue

“General Joshua instructs the children of Israel to build a memorial or monument of praise to the Lord. So they make this monument just after crossing the Jordan and they form it out of the river rocks that lined the basin of the Jordan River. The stones carried on the shoulders of chosen men became the lasting testament to the fact that God is able to open the closed path and to make a way out of no way. The aim was that the generations yet unborn would look at these rocks of testimony and ask a question. ‘What meaneth these stones?’”



## A Permanent Praise

In the early books of Joshua, General Joshua instructs the children of Israel to build a memorial or monument of praise to the Lord. So they make this monument just after crossing the Jordan and they form it out of the river rocks that lined the basin of the Jordan River. The stones carried on the shoulders of chosen men became the lasting testament to the fact that God is able to open the closed path and to make a way out of no way.

I think it is significant to note that when Moses crossed the red sea they built no such monument. But here Joshua tells 12 chosen men to chose and pick up 12 stones and to carry them to the other side of the Jordan and to build a monument to God that would last throughout the generations.

The aim was that the generations yet unborn would look at these rocks of testimony and ask a question. "What meaneth these stones?"

What strikes me as so important is the permanence of this praise. The praise was designed to speak longer than the problem that produced the praise.

I think sometimes we dwell so long on worrying about our problems. So long talking and paying lip service to the dilemmas that so normally beset us that when God delivers us from the wilderness of our pain we are too quick to say a loud "thank you" and then walk away without really allowing ourselves to rehearse the magnitude of the miracle that we have actually received.

Human nature wants to close the chapter and move on. Our emotions cry out for closure so we give to God praise and move on --I think too fast.

Joshua instructs the Israelites to do more than a dance as they did when they crossed the Red Sea. He says this time don't just dance and walk away. This time we need to build

something tangible that will cause the generations following to remember the miracle.

We don't need to be episodic with our problems or with our praise but we need to see our life and generations in their totality and in view of the eternal plans of God.

For every great miracle God performs in our lives we owe Him a great praise. I believe the time we spend worrying about the problem should be shorter than the time we spend praising Him for the breakthrough.

What would happen if we made our praise to be so substantial and so "monumental" that when others saw our praise or heard our testimony they would be forced to enquire for generations after the miracle: "What meaneth these stones?"

Chris Hill  
January 2007  
Sydney, Australia