

Leaving a Wilderness Mentality

Joshua 5:2-12

I think that a great gift God gave man is not the gift of sight but the gift of vision. Sight is a function of the eyes, but vision is a function of the heart.

Miles Munroe

Moving from sight to vision (Joshua 5:2-8)

Even God's presence wasn't enough to overcome a wilderness mentality; their point of identification became irrelevant.

Passing into the Promised Land, they still had to overcome obstacles to be restored:

The death of Moses (ch. 1) by words of encouragement and exhortation;

The morale of the troops (ch. 2) by spying out the land and seeing God's hand;

The raging waters of Jordan (chs. 3-4) by dramatic demonstration of God's power; and

The spiritual condition of the people (ch. 5) by renewal of their relationship as the special people of God.

Why it's more than a ceremony

Their wilderness mentality didn't just affect them; it affected others' estimation of God.

Getting Ready with New Vision (Joshua 5:9-11)

Celebrating the Passover moved their focus from the wilderness to the mighty acts of God.

It got them ready for service.

The road wouldn't be easier, but their vision would be lifted (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

Moving on to maturity (Joshua 5:12)