

MORNING WORSHIP

23 August 2026

Text: Joshua 14:9-11

Title: "The LORD has kept me alive" Joshua 14:10

INTRODUCTION

1. Caleb's testimony

- a) He began his ministry at 40 years
- b) He had wholly followed the Lord for 45 years

2. Testifying of faith in God

- a) God features in Caleb's life
- b) He acknowledged God's hand in his life

TESTIFYING OF GOD'S INVOLVEMENT

And now, behold, the Lord has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the Lord spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old.

Joshua 14:10

1. Forty years in the Wilderness

- a) To survive is no easy feat
- b) Caleb would have to struggle too
- c) He would have to undergo 40 years in the Wilderness

2. The Lord has kept me alive

- a) A whole generation of the children of Israel had perished
- b) Divine punishment was carried out
- c) But Caleb would be preserved especially, kept by the Lord!
- d) Caleb was conscious that he was now 85 years old

TESTIFYING OF STRENGTH

As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.

Joshua 14:11

1. A candid testimony

- a) These words were not uttered boastfully
- b) They were spoken candidly
- c) Caleb and Joshua were fast friends for decades
- d) One does not boast to a close companion

2. The remarkable strength of Caleb declared

- a) I am as strong this day
- b) As on the day that Moses sent me
- c) Just as my strength was then
- d) So now is my strength for war
- e) Both for going out and for coming in

3. An analysis of Caleb's Strength

- a) Physical strength
- b) Strength that came from his valiant spirit
- c) There was deep moral strength
- d) There was strength from the Lord sustaining him

THE PROMISE OF STRENGTH

²⁴ *And of Asher he said:*

*"Asher is most blessed of sons;
Let him be favoured by his brothers,
And let him dip his foot in oil.*

²⁵ *Your sandals shall be iron and bronze;
As your days, so shall your strength be.*

²⁶ *"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun,
Who rides the heavens to help you,
And in His excellency on the clouds.*

²⁷ *The eternal God is your refuge,
And underneath are the everlasting arms;
He will thrust out the enemy from before you,
And will say, 'Destroy!'*

Deuteronomy 33:24-27

1. Strength is a promise from God
2. It is a special blessing
3. "As your days, so shall your strength be"
4. God's part
 - a) He will give help
 - b) He will be our refuge
 - c) He will sustain us
 - d) He undergirds us with His everlasting arms
5. Caleb the Kenizzite
 - a) He had believed fully
 - b) He was blessed greatly

RENEWAL OF STRENGTH

*²⁸ Have you not known?
Have you not heard?
The everlasting God, the Lord,
The Creator of the ends of the earth,
Neither faints nor is weary.
His understanding is unsearchable.*

*²⁹ He gives power to the weak,
And to those who have no might He increases strength.*

*³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary,
And the young men shall utterly fall,*

*³¹ But those who wait on the Lord
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.*

Isaiah 40:28-31

1. God promises to give power to the weak
2. To those with no might He will increase strength
3. He will give renewal of strength
 - a) Mounting up with wings like eagles
 - b) Running without being weary
 - c) Walking strongly without fainting

4. The key

- a) To wait on the Lord
- b) To seek the Lord faithfully
- c) To exercise trust in Him fully

CONCLUSION

1. Returning to the Lord
2. Seeking Renewal of strength
3. Dedicating our strength to serve the Lord