

Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Theme: Restored in order to Conquer.**

Texts: Joshua 1:1-8

Preacher: Brother **Jhon BWALYA**

The Bible tells the story of a remarkable journey – the Israelites' quest for the Promised Land. After the promises made in Deuteronomy and forty years of wandering guided by Moses, leadership falls to Joshua. He inherits a challenging task: leading a new generation, one largely unfamiliar with the wonders witnessed by their parents, into a land already occupied. God's words to Joshua resonate: "**Be strong and courageous.**" Which means relying on God as the source of strength and courage. It's the inner quality that allows us to confront difficulties with calmness and boldness.

### **Key Lessons from Joshua's Leadership:**

1. **God was aware that Joshua would face obstacles:** Stepping into challenges with faith echoes Romans 8:37: "In all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." God, the "God of impossibilities," delivers when we trust Him. Unlike during Moses' time, God didn't part the Jordan River until Joshua and the Israelites stepped in, demonstrating their faith.
2. **God knew Joshua would face opposition:** Joshua faced internal and external opposition. Internally, he had to manage the Israelites' potential doubt and negativity. Externally, he confronted the Canaanites who occupied the Promised Land. These challenges mirrored the battles we all face in life, reminding us that opposition is inevitable but can be overcome with faith and perseverance.
3. **Alignment with God's Will:** Joshua had to remain vigilant in aligning his actions with God's will. We all grapple with desires that may contradict God's plan. The text emphasizes **the importance of meditating on God's word**, restraining from temptation, and **ensuring our actions align with His principles**. By doing so, we become "more than conquerors" in life's battles.

Brethren, as we reflect on Joshua's journey, let us ask ourselves: Where are we facing our own Promised Land? What obstacles stand between us and our goals? Do we have the faith and courage to face them, trusting in God's strength and guidance? Remember, His word is not just a roadmap, but a living promise. By aligning our lives with it, we can overcome any challenge and emerge stronger; by relying on God's strength, facing obstacles with faith, and staying true to His will, we, like Joshua, can become more than conquerors in life.