

"But you are a **chosen generation**, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, **His own special people**, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who **called** you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now **the people of God**, who had not obtained mercy but now have **obtained mercy**." 1 Peter 2:9-10



# JUST STEP INTO THE JORDAN!

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Eternally Speaking Now

**"If you had only 6 months left to influence those around you for My kingdom, what would you do?"**

This is the question the Lord asked me as 2019 began. It has already reshaped my year in many ways.

Don't worry-- I didn't get a sense that I was being warned of pending death. It was more like an impression of **urgency**-- that the prophetic clock **continues** to tick, and people around me **continue** to perish.

The following verses seem to confirm this **urgent** prompting:

*For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2*

*Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth. Proverbs 27:1*

**As I pondered this question God asked me in the new year, the Holy Spirit led me to the **cool and refreshing shores** of my own personal **Jordan River.****

The Jordan is mentioned almost 200 times in the Bible, so my writing here is far from exhaustive. As I studied the **miraculous** events that took place at this special river, though, a series of "sentences" seemed to **float to the surface**. These "sentences" are in blue below.

Is this a timely word from the Lord for His Bride? Maybe.  
At the least, I pray you are motivated as I have been,  
to do all we can each hour to further the Gospel of Christ.

Following is what God showed me:

- Abraham and Lot **parted company** near the Jordan (Genesis 13).

**Let us fix our eyes on the Lord,  
going when and where He says "Go," even if  
it is to unfamiliar or foreign territory.  
*Part company with the deceptive, entrancing  
distractions of our worldly, abased culture.***

- The Israelites entered the Promised Land by **crossing** the Jordan River. God miraculously **parted the waters** for them, *but it was only **after** the **priests** set the soles of their feet into the water. **Please don't miss this.*** The **priests** also carried the Ark of the Covenant with them as they crossed, and they did not pass through completely until all **God's children** arrived safely on the other side. (Joshua 4)

**It's time to behave like the priests of the Lord.  
What has God called you to do this year?  
Do it. Now.  
If He's called you, then He'll be with you.  
Get your feet wet!  
Be willing to lead, to be the first to step out in faith.**

- At the end of his ministry, Elijah, through the power of the Holy Spirit, **lifted his mantle** and **parted** the Jordan. He and Elisha **crossed** over on dry ground to the other side of the River. *Many watched this miracle from a distance.* Elisha then **asked** for a double portion of Elijah's spirit. Elisha was granted his request, and Elijah departed to the heavens in a chariot of fire. Elisha then **took the mantle and parted** the Jordan again, **crossing** back to the other side. (2 Kings 2)

*Wow. I'd like to have seen that.*  
Better yet, I'd like to be the one God uses to do it again!

*Jesus said in John 14:12,  
"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me,  
the works that I do he will do also;  
and greater works than these he will do,  
because I go to My Father."*

Is this happening much today? Why not?  
Maybe it's because **God's people aren't  
crossing** the Rivers He's called us to step into...  
(Yikes. Oh Lord, help us!)

**Hunger and thirst for more of the Holy Spirit--  
Ask, seek, knock!  
He wants to use us to do miracles for His glory. Today.**

- The Jordan River is where John the Baptist conducted most of his ministry. He was sent to **prepare the way for Jesus.** (Matthew 3)

**Let us prepare the way for the Lord's second coming.  
He is coming soon!**

- Jesus was **baptized** by John in the Jordan River. (Matthew 3)

**Open the heavens, Lord, and may  
Your Holy Spirit descend upon us--  
ourselves, our families, our neighbors, our nation.  
May we surrender ourselves to the power of the  
Holy Spirit and His anointing.**

## **CHALLENGE**

What's your personal Jordan River?  
What has the Lord called you to **step into** by faith?

Is it something you've held back from doing, waiting for God to "part the waters" first?  
After all, He did that for **His people** at the Red Sea, right?

When the Israelites found themselves caught between the Red Sea and Pharaoh's army,  
God didn't tell them to step in first. **He just swooped in and parted the waters.**  
But there is a big difference between the Red Sea Parting and the first Jordan River  
Parting:

At the Red Sea, **God's people** had just left Egypt, and all they knew was idol worship  
and a pagan culture. Decades and a generation later, their descendants **knew better**,  
having experienced the Presence of God throughout their years in the wilderness. They  
found themselves standing at the shores of the Jordan River-- the thing separating them  
from the Promised Land-- being told by Joshua to have **the priests step in  
first. Then the water would part.**

**What has God called you to do?**  
By faith, **step into** your personal Jordan River,  
and trust that **after** your feet have gotten wet,  
*He'll part the waters.*

It's time for us to live like who we are--  
the **people of God**,  
His **chosen generation**,  
**a royal priesthood.**  
(1 Peter 2:9-10)

So I ask you the same question the Lord asked me in this new year:

**"If you had only 6 months left to influence those around you  
for His kingdom, what would you do?"**

As you step into the River, He will part the waters. You have His Word that YOU won't drown.

**But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob,  
And He who formed you, O Israel:**

**“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by your name;**

**You are Mine.**

**When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.”**

**Isaiah 43:1-2a**

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