



Standing at Our Jordan, A Time Transition  
Joshua 3:1-5  
Part 3  
Pastor Vincent B. Ligon  
Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Emmaus Bible Fellowship Church  
“GOOD MORNING”

INTRODUCTION – OUR NOW...IS NOW!



**Uncle Grandpa** is an animated television series for Cartoon Network that premiered on the network on September 2, 2013. **Uncle Grandpa** catchphrase is "Good morning!"

Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.

Benjamin Franklin

"Good morning!"

Those that would bring great things to pass must rise early.

*Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty.*

Joshua, Israel's set a good example to the officers under him, and taught them to **rise early**, and to all that are in public stations specially to attend continually to the duty of their place.

I. Israel's Morning

- A. The people were directed to follow the ark. Officers were appointed to go through the host to give these directions (vs. 2), that every Israelite might **know both what to do and what to depend upon**, that is, upon God himself, of whose presence the ark was an instituted sign and token.<sup>1</sup>
- B. They might depend upon the priests and Levites, who were appointed for that purpose to carry the ark before them.
- C. The people must follow the ark: Wherever God's ordinances are, there we must be; if they flit, that is to pass quickly or abruptly from one place to another, **we must move and go after them**.
- D. In following the ark, they must *keep their distance*, (vs. 4). They must none of them come within a thousand yards of the ark. **(Joshua 3:4 says 2000 cubits/ 1cubit = 18inches)**. They must thus express their awful and reverent regard to that token of God's presence, lest its familiarity with them should breed contempt.<sup>2</sup>

James 4:8

**"Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands..."**

- E. They were commanded to sanctify themselves, that they might be prepared to attend the ark; and with good reason: *For to-morrow the Lord will do wonders among you*, (vs. 5.)<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Matthew Henry, Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 293–294.

<sup>2</sup> Matthew Henry, Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 294.

<sup>3</sup> Matthew Henry, Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 294.

## II. “Morning” Defined

The period of time roughly between dawn and noon. ***Morning was an assigned time for worship, sacrifice and prayer.*** The morning light uncovers events of the night and provides opportunity for renewed daily activity. God’s blessings are received ***new every morning***, and the start of a new day symbolizes renewal and hope.

## III. “GOOD MORNING”

A. Morning as the start of a new day - The period of time created by God

**Genesis 1:5  
(NASB)**

5 God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

B. Morning as a symbol of renewed hope

**Psalm 30:5  
(NASB)**

5 For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; Weeping may last for the night, But a shout of joy comes in the morning.

C. Morning as an opportunity for activity

A time for travel

A time for battle

A time to begin daily labor

A time to begin important activity

A time to respond to nightly revelation

D. Morning as a time of revelation - A time of discovery - Genesis 28:18

E. Morning devotions - A time for offering sacrifices - Ezekiel 46:13–15 Exodus 29:38–40

**1 Chronicles 16:40 (NASB)**

40 to offer burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of burnt offering continually morning and evening, even according to all that is written in the law of the LORD, which He commanded Israel.

1) A time for prayer

**Psalm 5:3 (NASB)**

3 In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice; In the morning I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch.

**Mark 1:35 (NASB)**

35 In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there.

2) A time to praise God

**1 Chronicles 23:30 (NASB)**

30 They are to stand every morning to thank and to praise the LORD, and likewise at evening,

3) God’s blessings are received new each morning

**Lamentations 3:22–23 (NASB)**

22 The LORD’s lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

### CLOSING – Joshua 3:1-5

Folgers is promoted with the slogan **"The best part of waking up is Folgers in your cup!"** It is well associated with a jingle featured in almost every advertisement since 1984.

Those that would bring great things to pass must rise early.  
“GOOD MORNING!”