Final Assurance

Read Deuteronomy 31:1-8

God used Israel's years in the wilderness to help them experience His presence in a special way - at the Red Sea, at Mt. Sinai, through the tabernacle that moved everywhere with them, and as they faced one crisis after another. Isolated from every source of supply but God Himself, desperate need repeatedly tested their faith. Often they failed, but God proved Himself more than faithful to His promises and ever present with His people.

Moses was now 120 years old. He had been through an incredibly difficult time. He had led a rebellious, complaining people for 40 years in the desert. Now it was God's appointed time to turn over the reins of leadership to his younger assistant, Joshua.

Israel and Joshua were facing an equally difficult task: taking control of the land that God had promised to them. It was occupied territory, and Israel would have to seize it by force, city by city, nation by nation.

Moses told Israel and Joshua what the Lord had clearly told him: he, Moses, would not cross the Jordan. He would die before entering the promised land.

Israel was facing the loss of a long-term leader just when they faced their most difficult challenge. Drink in the truth with which Moses encouraged them:

"Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the Lord your God is the one who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6, NASB)

And to Joshua, facing the most challenging of jobs at the most challenging of times, Moses offered similar encouragement:

"The Lord is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." (Deuteronomy 31:8, NASB)

Face your most daunting challenges with the same mighty truth: Sovereign God is with you. He is unchanging, and His power is absolute. He has never failed anyone who trusted Him - no one, ever. He will not fail you.

Listen & Sing: Almighty God Is Near! (from LNWhymns.com)

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