



# The Uncertain Future

<https://upliftforservants.com/podcast/the-uncertain-future/>

(Pastor Weems accepted Christ as Savior in Memphis, TN and eventually called of God to preach. He and his wife have been married for 45 years. Pastor Weems has led First Baptist Church of Atoka, TN for 36 years.)

In Joshua, they had just gone through the situation with the harlot, Rahab. They were getting ready to invade the land. Rahab emphasized how the people of Canaan feared the Israelites. When the spies came back and reported to Joshua, they said the hearts of the people of the lands failed them for fear. I am concerned that sometimes we get defensive in what we are doing. We are not on defense but rather offense. The book of Matthew says that the gates of hell shall not prevail against us. The gates do not move. They do not assault us, we assault them. God is on the throne. He is moving. We are in the greatest work we could ever be.

*And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host; And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it. Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore. Joshua 3:2-4*

A lot of us are doing things we have never done before, new areas we have never been, meeting pastors we do not know. You may be beginning deputation, or you may be over the hump and on the downhill slide. Maybe you are about to cease deputation and getting ready to start the work you have been preparing for the past few years. So, sometimes the future is uncertain. I have jotted some things down about the uncertain future.

## **The uncertain future means we need a Guide.**

The Lord will guide us by His counsel and afterward when He's through with us, He'll receive us to glory. We can seek our Father and the leadership of the Spirit. We have the word of God to help us know what decisions to make and things to do. Remember that we need a guide and our God is our Father.

## **The uncertain future always involves battles and hardships.**

We had a missionary family stop in on Wednesday night. He had his in laws with him. They were just a great family. They had been given a 15 passenger van. So they traveled cross country to get it, but it broke down. They were not down too long, but they were down several hours. I am sure this was a frustration for them at the time. We are going to go through hardships. Serving God does not mean we do not have problems. Being right with God does not mean we do not have problems. In the Old Testament, the evidence of walking with God was that they were at peace with their enemies. In the New Testament, the Bible talks about manifold temptations. I wish everything was all good. The hardships in front of us are not going to deter us because we have the right armaments. Ephesians talks about the whole armor of God.

**The uncertain future sometimes involves defeats.**

This was the hardest thing for me as a young pastor. We do not always win. Things go badly sometimes. Look at Jeremiah, the weeping prophet. He had the message of God, but Israel never responded. They kept going on in their wicked ways. Sometimes God does not intend for us to have the success that we anticipate for ourselves. It is up to the Lord. Thank God for the triumphs. Trumpet those loud and long when God does something for us. The Scriptures say we must be thankful when we pray. If we are not thankful when we pray, then we are really not praying but just trying to get things for ourselves.

**The uncertain future holds choices.**

Seek counsel, but God also gives wisdom. You are going to have to have some wisdom. But the Bible tells me that Jesus is made unto wisdom. As choices to make, we have to make the best decision we can based on the information that we have, and move forward with that. If God wants something else and our heart is right, He will show us the way to go.

**The uncertain future holds the promises of God.**

The future holds the promises of God. Tomorrow the promises of God are going to happen. The future is filled of the promises of God. Do not let your difficulties hinder and discourage you. God is on His throne. And if God has called and set you aside for a ministry, He will fulfill his calling for you. Philippians 1:6 says that He will continue the work He started in you. He will not fail. I want to encourage you. Yes, the future is uncertain, but the promise is sure. We can rely on God's promises.