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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

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Joshua, Israel's New Leader.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

At long last, the Children of Israel had arrived near the borders of the Promised Land. What an exciting time it was for them! After their long years in the wilderness, they were looking forward to settling down with homes of their own. Their parents and everyone over the age of 20 when they left Egypt had died because of their unbelief. When the way was easy they had obeyed. But when extra troubles had come on them, they had given up on their faith, and had grumbled against Moses and against God.

God's servant Moses had faithfully led his people for forty years. He had loved them even when they were against him. He had prayed many, many times to God for them. He had been true to the Almighty God, and he had been true to his people. But Moses had disobeyed God once in front of the whole tribe. Once when the tribe was desperate for water, God had told Moses to **strike** the rock and plenty of good water had poured out. But later on, Israel again could find no water. God had told him to **speak to** the rock this time and it would give water to the thirsty people. But Moses disobeyed. He was angry at everyone's grumbling, and he struck the rock a second time.

Because of this disobedience, God did not allow Moses to go into the Promised Land.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

Now the Children of Israel were again close to entering the Promised Land. The Bible book Deuteronomy, last chapter, says Moses at 120 years old was as strong as ever and his eyesight was still good. So the hard life in the wilderness had done him no harm but it was time for him to be replaced by a new leader.

Joshua had been a personal attendant to Moses since he was young. He also showed military skills and led the Israeli army in the first battle they had to fight. When Moses knew he was about to die, he laid his hands on Joshua so all the people would accept Joshua as the new leader. It was Joshua's job to get the people over the flooded Jordan River and divide up the land to the different tribes. God promised Joshua that He would be with Joshua all the days of his life just as He had been with Moses.

You may think God was very hard not to allow Moses into the Promised Land, but there is a very good reason for this. The Tabernacle and everything in it were pictures pointing forward to the Lord Jesus Christ. And in the same way the Rock that gave out pure, lifegiving water, also pointed forward to Him.

In the Bible book 1 Corinthians, chapter 10, the apostle Paul said this, "Remember, my brothers, what happened to our ancestors who followed Moses...all drank the same spiritual drink. They drank from the spiritual Rock that went with them. And that rock was Christ Himself." The rock which Moses struck with his stick, the first time gave life as its water flowed out. Christ, Who is our Rock, gave eternal life through His death on the Cross. God through that great sacrifice struck Jesus **once.**

The Bible book Hebrews, chapter 10, says this,

"Because Jesus Christ did what God wanted Him to do, we are all purified from sin by the offering that He made of His own body, <u>once</u>, <u>and for all</u>." It also says this, "Christ offered <u>one</u> sacrifice for sins, an offering that is <u>effective for ever</u>." Because Jesus was God as well as man, He was pure and without sin. He cannot suffer a second time. His one-time sinless sacrifice is enough to pay for the sins of all mankind.

In the Great Depression of the 1930's jobs were hard to get and food was scarce for those with no money. In one neighbourhood a mother had no food for her little child. Two men living nearby understood why the child was always crying. So they resolved to do something about it. Although they had no money either, they went to a shop and begged the owner to give them a baby's bottle and some milk. And after a lot of persistence, the store owner gave them what they asked for. They took the food back to their neighbourhood and knocked on the mother's door. When they tried to give her the milk for the baby, she refused to accept it. If she couldn't pay for it, she would not have it. Her pride stopped her from helping her own child.

Did you know that pride is the main reason that many people refuse to come to the Lord Jesus and ask Him to forgive their sins? If they could give something in some way towards the payment of their own sin, they would be happy. But they can't. Jesus paid the full price of our salvation and we have to accept this salvation as a free gift.

Do you know there is only one sin that God will not forgive? There is only one sin that can keep you out of heaven? This is the sin of refusing to turn to Jesus, the attitude that says, "I will find my own way to heaven." The great and holy God will forgive any other sin, when we are truly sorry and turn to Him.

But He will not forgive the sin that refuses to come to Him through the sacrifice of Jesus.
The Lord Jesus Christ paid the debt for <u>your</u> sins on the cross. Will you turn and receive His
forgiveness now?
MUSIC - Integrity Music.
That was Chris Rodriguez with the song "A Stronghold."
The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.
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