

Joshua 1:10-18

1:10 –

1. Joshua relays the Lord’s message to his “officers”
2. “officers” is the Hebrew word “*soterim*” most likely referring to administrative officials and not to military leaders. Although the word “officers” is used of men who were over the units of the army as commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds in Numbers 31:48, for example.

1:11 –

1. “three days”
2. “provisions”

1:12 –

1. 1:12-15 are addressed to the 2 ½ tribes on the east side. But, all 12 tribes respond in 1:16-18
2. Numbers 32
3. Deuteronomy 2:26-3:20

1:13 – Moses command is quoted here

1:14 –

1. “ready for battle” or “formation” (*hamusim*) means literally “a five-fold arrangement of army troops” is a military word suggesting they were prepared for war. Maybe meaning lined up in battle array in groups of fifty.
2. “all your fighting men”
 - a. Numbers 26:7, 18, 34 show 110,000 men capable of bearing arms
 - b. Joshua 4:13 shows only 40,000 warriors from the 2 ½ tribes
 - c. Likely, only the best, youngest went across to fight, while the others stayed with the women, children and animals

1:17 –

1. “Just as we obeyed Moses”- not very assuring considering how rebellious the people had been
2. “only” (*raq*) is not translated by the NIV. But reads like this in the ESV, “Only may the Lord your God be with you as he was with Moses.”
 - a. This “only” (*raq*) before an imperfect verb as it is here expresses something which either contradicts or varies from that which precedes it (info from HALOT and NAC commentary). The point is Joshua is NOT going to be able to rely on the people, but the Lord.
 - b. Or, this is the condition that Joshua needs to meet for the people to continue to follow him. The Lord’s presence must be evident in Joshua’s leadership.

