

THE LEGACY OF FATHER

Deuteronomy 6.1-9 cf. Joshua 24.15



Ps Alan Tay

Kum Yan Methodist Church

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“It doesn’t take
long to be a **FATHER**;
but it sure takes
a **lifetime** to become
ONE!”



US Studies have shown
FATHERLESS HOME
will cause problems for the
children in:

- Academic performance
- Social-emotional development
- Mental well-being
- Financial needs



*"If you are successful,
It becomes possible for you to
leave an **INHERITANCE** for others.
But if you desire to
create a **LEGACY**, then you need to
leave something in others.*

Thinking for a Change
John Maxwell



*When you **THINK** **unselfishly**
and **INVEST** in others,
you **GAIN** the **OPPORTUNITY**
to **CREATE A LEGACY**
that will **OUTLIVE YOU.**"*

Thinking for a Change
John Maxwell



Great Grandfather



Grandfather



Father



ME



Eldest Son



2nd Son



But as for me and my house,
WE WILL SERVE THE LORD."

Joshua 24.15 (ESV)



“But as for **ME**
and **MY HOUSE**,
WE will **SERVE**
THE LORD.”

Joshua 24.15

Outline of Joshua

Chap 1-5	Preparation for Conquest
Chap 6-12	Conquest of Canaan
Chap 13-22	Distribution of the Land
Chap 23-24	Covenant Renewed

Joshua's Last Mission

(1) He reminded them that *Abraham's forefathers* served other gods. cf. 24.2

*And Joshua said to all the people,
“Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel,
‘Long ago, your fathers lived beyond the
Euphrates, Terah, the father of Abraham
and of Nahor; and **they served other gods.***



“But as for **ME**
and **MY HOUSE**,
WE will **SERVE**
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Joshua 24.15

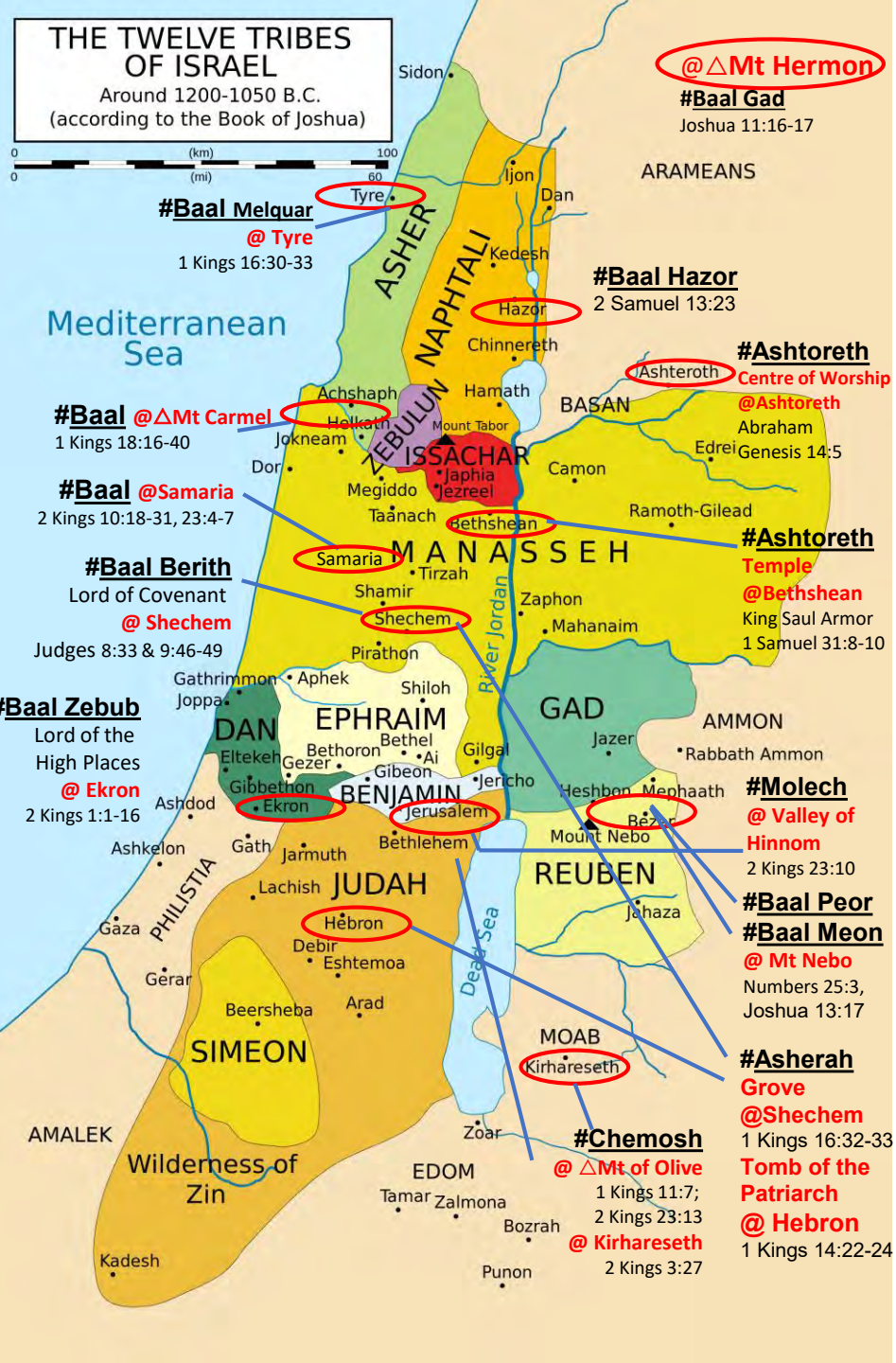
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Joshua's Last Mission

(2) He pointed out to *them* to put away the idols *their father* served. cf. 24.14

*“Now therefore **fear the Lord and serve him** in sincerity and in faithfulness. **Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.**”*



“But as for **ME**
and **MY HOUSE**,
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“Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.” #Baal, #Ashteroth, #Asherah, #Chemosh, #Molech



**“But as for ME
and MY HOUSE,
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Joshua 24.15-65**

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**Why is Joshua so confident that
his household will serve the Lord,
while many Israelites have not?**



1. FEAR THE LORD

¹ “Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to **teach you**, that you may **do them** in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, ² **that you may fear the Lord your God**, (1) you and (2) your son and (3) your son's son, by **keeping all** His statutes and his commandments, which I **command you, all the days of your life**, and *that* your days may be long.

Deuteronomy 6.1-2 (ESV)



2. HEAR THE LORD

³ **HEAR** therefore, **O Israel**, and be careful to do them, that it **may go well with you**, and that **you may multiply greatly**, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, **in a land flowing with milk and honey**.

Deuteronomy 6.3 (ESV)
cf. Deut. 5.1-7, 24-27.



2. HEAR THE LORD

⁴ “**HEAR**, O Israel: The Lord our God,
the Lord is one.”

⁵ YOU shall **LOVE THE LORD** your God with all
your **HEART** and with all your **SOUL** and with
all your **MIGHT**. ⁶ And these words that I
command you today shall **be on your heart**.

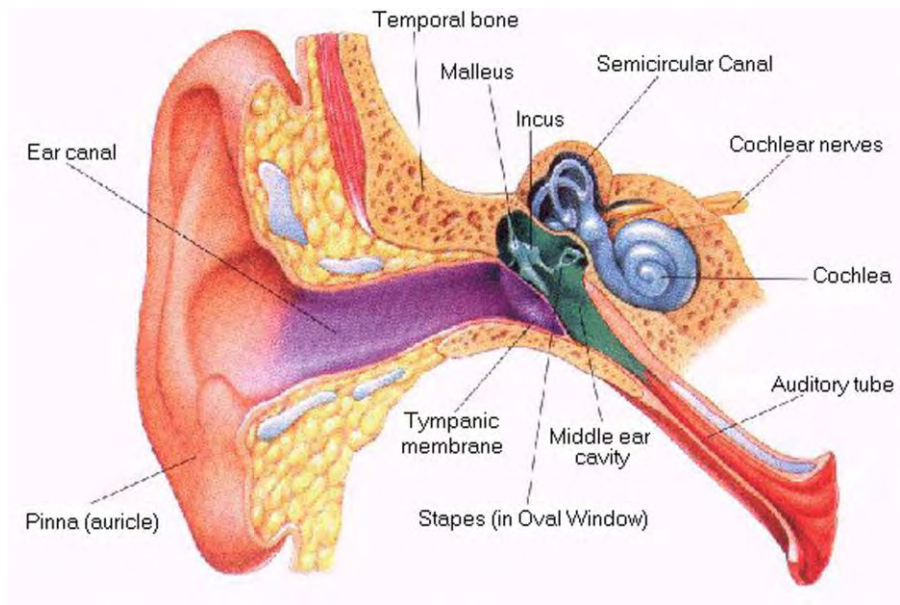
Deuteronomy 6 (ESV)

LOVE *'āhab* - To Desire or “Breathe After”

HEART *lēbāb* - Mind & Will

SOUL *nepeš* – Emotion

MIGHT *m^ʾōd* - Exceeding much, or “very”





3. SHARE THE LORD

**4 “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God,
the Lord is one.” ...**

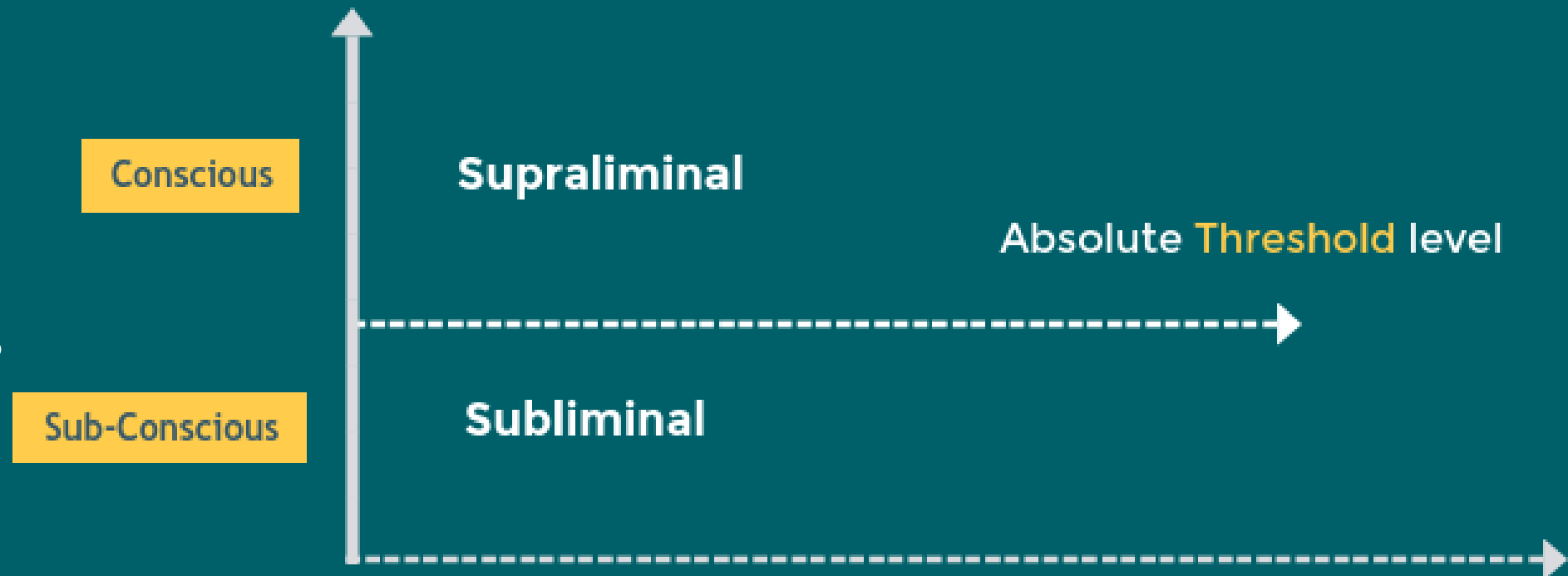
7 You shall TEACH THEM DILIGENTLY to YOUR CHILDREN, and shall TALK OF THEM when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a SIGN on your hand, and they shall be as FRONTLETS between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the DOORPOSTS of your house and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6 (ESV)

SUPRALIMINAL **vs.** SUBLIMINAL

37 SENSORY INPUTS TO SUBLIMINAL

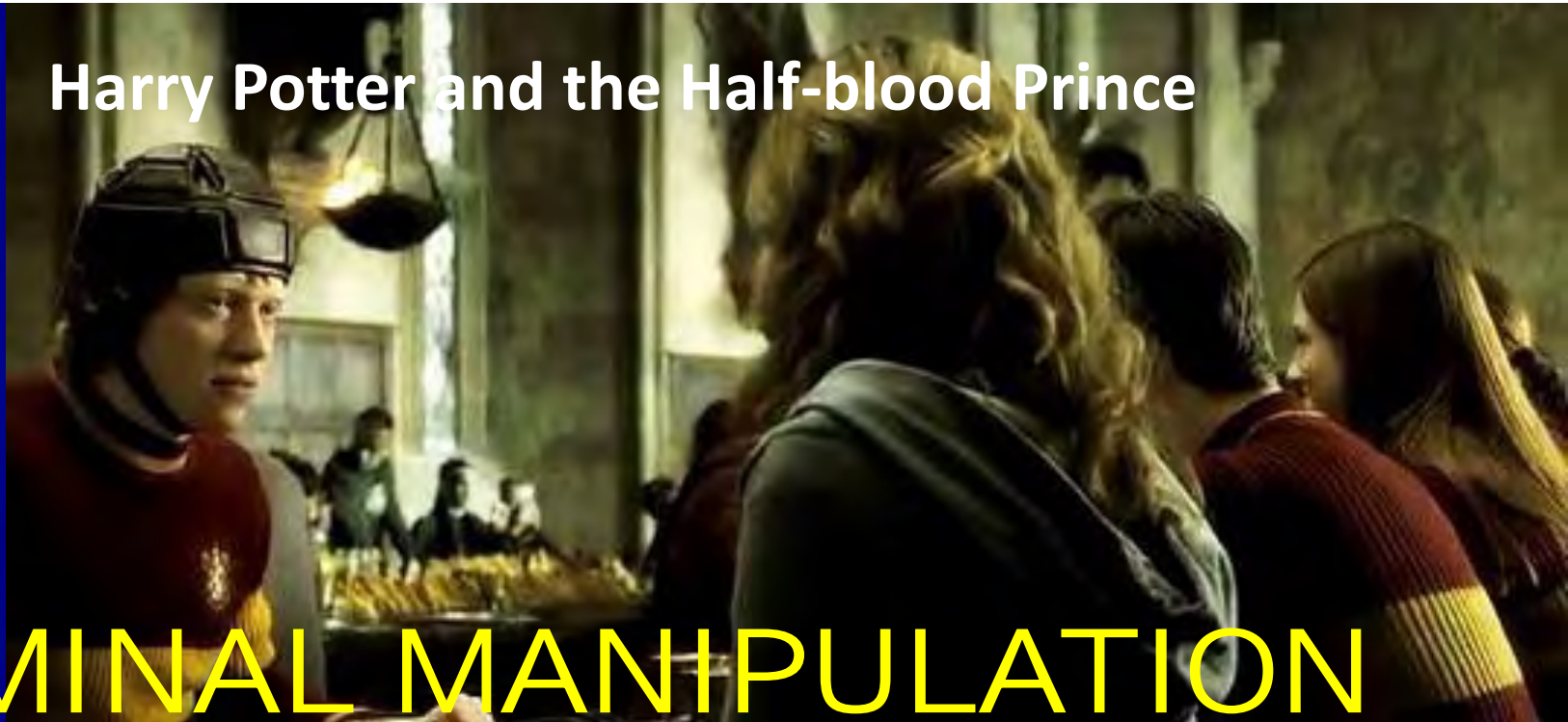
- Sight
- Hearing
- Touch
- Taste
- Smell
- Balance & Movement
- Body Awareness

Subliminal stimuli cannot be perceived with us being aware, even if we look for them. In contrast, supraliminal stimuli can be perceived by the conscious mind, although we often fail to notice them.





**Barbie
Mermaid
Tale 2**



Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince

SUBLIMINAL MANIPULATION



Beethoven (1992) 00:51:10

WARNING LABELS

To Protect Our Children



Dr Jonathon Haidt
US Surgeon General
American social psychologist
and author



What about me makes you proud?

<https://youtu.be/AgucISviIJl?si=hdg1exhuEHdr5oOy>

Reflection & Application

WARM UP: Share one person you will look up to for his or her spiritual leadership. Describe how you began to grow in your spiritual formation i.e. conformed & transformed into His image.

GOING DEEPER: [Bring a photo of your family & family of origin] Is spiritual leadership present in your home? If yes, elaborate it. If no, what is hindering it?

- 1. PRAYER is key to have a communion with God.** Just as the Israelites pray twice a day the “Shema Prayer” (Deut. 6.4). (i) Is prayer present in you and/or your family life? (ii) How can you deepen in your prayer life?
- 2. TEACHING & INSTRUCTING in how to walk in fear of the Lord is key to living.** (Deut. 6:1-2)
(i) Is the Word present in both you and your family life? (ii) How can help you deepen your word life? E.g. Join BSF or Precepts Course (iii) How can your family grow in it together? E.g start a family prayer altar?
- 3. LOVING GOD with all our heart, soul, and might.** What is the connection between hearing i.e. attune to His voice and loving God i.e. in tune to His love? How will this changes the way we love God & people?

CONCLUSION: Share specifically how Joshua 24.15, *“But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”* can be realized in your life as we practice prayer, living out the Word & loving God? How can the cell group help one another & our families to serve the Lord together?

Additional Readings by Richard J. Foster - <https://renovare.org/articles/four-degrees-of-love>