



Joshua vs. Jericho Joshua 6

Lessons Learned for the Battles of Life:

- Even when I cannot see, God's right there in front of me! (*Elisha vs. the King of Syria – 2 Kings 6*)
- Even when I can't see Him, God is fighting for my victory! (*David vs. Goliath – 1 Samuel 17*)
- **Today's Lesson:** Even when I do not understand, I need to obey and let God handle the miracle.

Let's Understand the Facts:

- God had promised Moses and the Israelites to return them to the land He had promised Abraham:
 - To Abraham: **Genesis 13:14-17; 15:7**
(*Things happened and Abraham's descendents moved*)
 - To Moses: **Exodus 3:7-8**
(*Time and circumstances don't change God's plans*)

BIG TRUTH: God ALWAYS keeps His promises

- God rescued His people from Egypt and led them in the direction of the Promised Land. (**Exodus 13-Numbers 13**)
- Despite numerous miracles, that generation refused to believe God's promise (**Numbers 14**) and they were punished. **Numbers 14:28-30**
- That generation served as an example to everyone who followed of what not to do. **Hebrews 3:5-14**
"Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled, when they tested me in the wilderness..."
- God raised *another* generation and restated His original promise, this time to Joshua (**Joshua 1:1-5**)
- Then entered Canaan (**Joshua 3-4**), but now they faced Jericho

Jericho was a BIG Obstacle!

Obstacles are a reality in life (even if you are abiding)

"Now the gates of Jericho were tightly shut because the people were afraid of the Israelites..." Joshua 6:1

- Obstacles are simply tests along the way.
- Tests (*gr. Peirasmos*) can lead to faith or temptations (**James 1**)
 - Faith: Greater trust in God
 - Temptation: Find an easy way out

"Don't be misled... whatever is good and perfect comes down to us from God our Father..." (James 1:16-17)

When facing an obstacle, return to God's promises

"But the Lord said to Joshua, 'I have given you Jericho, its king, and all its strong warriors..." Joshua 6:2

- What has God promised us as His children?
- What has God promised us in specific situations?
- What has God shown you in your walk with Him?
(*Spiritual markers; clear direction, etc...*)

You are a part of what God will be doing

³ *You and your fighting men should march around the town once a day for six days. ⁴ Seven priests will walk ahead of the Ark, each carrying a ram's horn. On the seventh day you are to march around the town seven times, with the priests blowing the horns. ⁵ When you hear the priests give one long blast on the rams' horns, have all the people shout as loud as they can. Then the walls of the town will collapse, and the people can charge straight into the town."*

- You have to show up – God works through His people.
 - You can't just sit around and wait on a miracle
 - You can't expect a miracle on demand
- You have to show up spiritually prepared (**Joshua 5**)
 - The importance of spiritual disciplines
 - **Joshua 1:6-9**

Obedience is the key to the miraculous

"March around the town... Do not shout, do not even talk... Do not take" (6:6-19)

- Obey God even when it doesn't make sense
- Obey God even when others disagree

God always keeps His promises, but we must continue to obey (6:20 & 7:1)

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