



Lesson 49 – The Fall of Jericho

based on Joshua 5:13-15; 6.

The Hebrews had entered Canaan, but they had not subdued it; and to human appearance the struggle to gain possession of the land must be long and difficult.

- 1) What did the Task at hand look like for possessing the land?

Deuteronomy 9:1-2 Hear, O Israel: Thou art to pass over Jordan this day, to go in to possess nations greater and _____ than thyself, cities great and fenced up to heaven, A people great and tall, the children of the _____, whom thou knowest, and of whom thou hast heard say, Who can stand before the children of Anak!

Deuteronomy 9:3 Understand therefore this day, that the LORD thy God is he which goeth over before thee; as a consuming fire he shall destroy them, and _____ shall bring them down before thy face: so shalt thou drive them out, and destroy them quickly, as the LORD hath said unto thee.

One of the strongest fortresses in the land, the large and wealthy city of Jericho, lay just before them, but a little distance from their camp at Gilgal. On the border of a fertile plain abounding with the rich and varied productions of the tropics, its palaces and temples the abode of luxury and vice, this proud city, behind its massive battlements, offered defiance to the God of Israel.

- 2) What did the LORD do for Joshua?

Joshua 5:13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his _____ drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

- 3) What was the reply?

Joshua 5:14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did _____, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

Joshua sought an assurance of divine guidance, and it was granted him.

- 4) Did Joshua immediately understand who he was talking to?

Joshua 5:15 And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy _____ from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

It was Christ, the Exalted One, who stood before the leader of Israel. Awe-stricken, Joshua fell upon his face and worshiped.

- 5) What assurance did the LORD give to Joshua?

Joshua 6:2 And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into _____ Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.

- 6) Was Jericho aware of their presence?

Joshua 6:1 Now Jericho was straitly _____ because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.



7) What were God's instructions?

Joshua 6:3-4 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city _____. Thus shalt thou do six days. And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the _____.

No assault was to be made. They were simply to make the circuit of the city, bearing the ark of God and blowing upon trumpets. First came the warriors, a body of chosen men, not now to conquer by their own skill and prowess, but by obedience to the directions given them from God. Seven priests with trumpets followed. Then the ark of God, surrounded by a halo of divine glory, was borne by priests clad in the dress denoting their sacred office. The army of Israel followed, each tribe under its standard. Such was the procession that compassed the doomed city. No sound was heard but the tread of that mighty host and the solemn peal of the trumpets, echoing among the hills and resounding through the streets of Jericho. The circuit completed, the army returned in silence to their tents, and the ark was restored to its place in the tabernacle.

8) What did they do on the seventh day?

Joshua 6:15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner _____ times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

Joshua 6:16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, _____; for the LORD hath given you the city.

As the seventh circuit was completed, the long procession paused, The trumpets, which for an interval had been silent, now broke forth in a blast that shook the very earth. The walls of solid stone, with their massive towers and battlements, tottered and heaved from their foundations, and with a crash fell in ruin to the earth. The inhabitants of Jericho were paralyzed with terror, and the hosts of Israel marched in and took possession of the city.

9) Were they allowed to keep any of the items from the destroyed city?

Joshua 6:18 And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye _____ of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a _____, and trouble it.

The Israelites had not gained the victory by their own power; the conquest had been wholly the Lord's; and as the first fruits of the land, the city, with all that it contained, was to be devoted as a sacrifice to God. It was to be impressed upon Israel that in the conquest of Canaan they were not to fight for themselves, but simply as instruments to execute the will of God; not to seek for riches or self-exaltation, but the glory of Jehovah their King.

10) What became of the defiant inhabitants of Jericho?

Joshua 6:21 And they utterly _____ all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

11) Except for...

Joshua 6:23 And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out _____, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her _____, and left them without the camp of Israel.



The city itself was burned; its palaces and temples, its magnificent dwellings with all their luxurious appointments, the rich draperies and the costly garments, were given to the flames. That which could not be destroyed by fire, **“the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron,”** was to be devoted to the service of the tabernacle.

Like the men before the Flood, the Canaanites lived only to blaspheme Heaven and defile the earth. And both love and justice demanded the prompt execution of these rebels against God and foes to man.

12) What did Paul have to say about Jericho?

Hebrews 11:30 By _____ the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

It was to be impressed upon their minds that their strength was not in the wisdom of man, nor in his might, but only in the God of their salvation. They were thus to become accustomed to relying wholly upon their divine Leader.

God will do great things for those who trust in Him. The reason why His professed people have no greater strength is that they trust so much to their own wisdom, and do not give the Lord an opportunity to reveal His power in their behalf. He will help His believing children in every emergency if they will place their entire confidence in Him and faithfully obey Him.

13) What became of Rahab and her family?

Joshua 6:25 And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot _____, and her father's household, and all that she _____; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

14) Where else is she mentioned in Scripture?

Matthew 1:5 And Salmon begat Booz of _____; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;

Rahab was included into the lineage of Jesus, what an amazing testament of love, that God should use the unlikeliest of people and place them in places of honor.

Zechariah 4:6 Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Can you see the battle isn't ours?

Would you like to enter the final Promised Land?

When is it time to listen to God?