



Joshua

Part #8 –
Taking Jericho

Paul Idusogie
Senior Pastor, HELON House



Introduction

Key Scriptures

- And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them anymore, because of the children of Israel – Joshua 5:1
- ...by the way – Joshua 5:4; Joshua 5:5; Joshua 5:7
- 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 sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, *Art* thou for us, or for our adversaries? 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 worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest *is* holy. And Joshua did so. – Joshua 5:13-15



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, *and* the mighty men of valour. – Joshua 6:3
- And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, *and* when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him. – Joshua 6:5
- And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall *any* word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout. – Joshua 6:10



Keys

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

- ...by the way
- Extensive preparations in order to secure a desired outcome.
- The sound of instruments
- The hidden values in monotonous or repetitive routines
- ...straight before him
- Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, ...



In this lesson

- The weight of the instructions
- The weight after the instructions
- The weight of ignorance



The weight of the instructions

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

- The source of the instructions
- The ground where these instructions were given - considered by the Lord Holy ground – Joshua had to remove his shoes – demonstrating he understood the gravity of what was to follow
- The Lord takes command of the discussion – 5 verses in Joshua 6
- Precise instructions are given
- God is specific in His instructions



The weight of the instructions – Cont'd

- The details were to be measured, articulated and obeyed
- The Lord said – See! before they went into the land
- Success comes in cans; failure comes in can'ts
- No talent was necessary to take the land, just determination



The weight after the instructions

And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout. – Joshua 6:10

- My imagination ran loose in thinking of the types of conversations that might have ensued if there wasn't a gag order. Unfamiliar territory – Unfamiliar instructions – Unfamiliar strategy
- This was a strategy from the Lord! He controlled and dominated the conversation from vs 1-5
- This battle was the Lord's
- They did not understand the battle plan, or the strategy.



The weight after the instructions – Cont'd

- Although the **tongue** weighs very little, few people are able to hold it. – James 3:5
- It was best and very appropriate that they were commanded to hold their peace.
- It is better to be silent and considered a fool than to speak and remove all doubt.
- Never pass up a chance to keep your mouth shut – Proverbs 17:28
- No time for **ego** – Remember your ego is not your amigo!
- If you don't want the fruits of sin, stay out of the devil's orchard – 1 Thessalonians 5:22
- It is also noteworthy, there wasn't an extended **period between** the crossing of the Jordan River and the taking of the land. The promise was already been given and the land was still before them



The weight after the instructions – Cont'd

- Too many churchgoers are singing “Standing on the Promises” when all they are doing is sitting on the premises. – Hebrews 6:12
- A man is never in worse company than when he flies into a rage and he is beside himself – Proverbs 14:17
- Rising and executing early! -
- Negotiate early! - Luke 14:31-32
- Rahab and the rest of her family – Joshua 6:22,23,25



The weight of ignorance

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

- There was an accursed thing in the land of promise
- There were traps to be avoided at the entrance of the promise
- There were landmines that had to be removed
- They were in the land but they had to overcome the land
- Obedience was the key to their success
- Remember the word of the Lord, lest you ply contrary to it! – Joshua 6:26; 1 Kings 16:34



Conclusion

From the pages of Joshua

- The tongue was a major factor in entering into the promise. It still is today!



Next Week

We will continue next week, beginning with:

- Compromise and Short sightedness – Joshua 7