Joshua 7-8

Rob West · Joshua 5:13–15 · Series: **Bible Class - Joshua**

INTRODUCTION

- So we left off at the end of Joshua chapter 5. We're picking up in verse 13.
- Preparing for the beginning of the conquest of Canaan. We've been leading up to this first battle.

1 The Commander of the Army of the Lord

Joshua 5:13–15; 1 Corinthians 3:5–7

- I think we can gather that it's deity of some kind, whether it's Christ or the Holy Spirit or God or whatever it is.
- He gave them the battle plan, but also I think it's a reminder to Joshua where the victory is coming from.
- So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.
- It's not through our strength that anything's going to be attained. It's through God.

2 Jericho Shut Up and the Big Plan

Deuteronomy 9:1

- Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out and none came in.
- So it's a very difficult thing to do. It would take a large number of people and a long period of time in order for this to happen.
- So no battering rams, no trenches, no batteries, nothing erected to scale the walls. Does this sound like a logical military plan?

3 By Faith the Walls of Jericho Fell

Hebrews 11:29–30

- By faith, the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days.
- The important thing I think that's included in these lists of examples of faith is that they believed something that seems unbelievable.
- When God's plan doesn't make sense to us, when we want to do things our way, we've got to trust.
- Faith is belief. Faith is believing what he says he will do, he will do.
- Things that seem impossible are possible with God.

4 Everything Devoted to God

- But you keep yourselves from the things devoted to destruction. Lest when you have devoted them, you take any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel a thing of destruction.
- They weren't taking the city of Jericho for personal gain. This is all belonging to God.
- And they needed to have the self-control to destroy it, to have the faith to do it God's ways.

5 Defeat at Ai: No Consultation With God

- Do you see any consultation with God? Do we see any direction from God?
- We don't need that many people. We have 40,000 men of war. We'll just take 3,000 of them. This is going to be an easy battle.
- While Joshua is an extreme man of faith and an example of a leader for us, he's still human.
- When we suffer defeat, maybe our first inclination is to blame God.

6 Israel Has Sinned: Nothing Is Hidden From God

- Israel has sinned. They have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them. They have taken some of the devoted things.
- Obviously, from here, nothing is hidden from God.
- And our mistake can cause transgression to fall upon other people.
- It doesn't matter how small we think a commandment of God is or an instruction from God is or an example from God is, we need to follow it.
- Being saved, being in Christ does not make me better than someone else. It makes me obligated.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **We've got to always remember how serious sin is. There are no minor sins that we can just commit and it's not a big deal.**

MY NOTES