



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Sermon Series // Joshua; Judges; Ruth

Supports Session 4: Winning Strategy

Sermon Title: "Victory by Faith" (Joshua 6:12-25)

Connection to Session 4

In session 4, God's power led God's people to victory. The people obeyed God even when it seemed impossible and were able to see God work in powerful ways. In addition to the winning strategy, this sermon points to the truth of God's forgiveness and mercy. Rahab not only received salvation by trusting God, but she also was placed into the lineage of the Messiah, proving that God can use anyone at any time for His glory.

Introduction/Opening

Jericho stood as the first major obstacle in Israel's conquest of the promised land. The fall of the city is not merely a military event; it is a theological statement. God delivered victory through obedient faith and extended mercy to those who trusted Him. Joshua 6:12-25 highlights both God's power in judgment and His grace in salvation.

Outline

- 1. God accomplishes victories through obedient faith** (vv. 12-20)
 - a.** Continuing to march emphasized trust in the Lord (vv. 12-14). The best way to show trust in the Lord is to do what He says, even when it does not make sense. God does incredible things when we trust Him and follow His instructions.
 - b.** Silence while marching showed submission to God's instructions (vv. 10,16). The temptation exists to partially follow God's instructions. The devil likes to put doubt in our hearts so that we question, "Did God really say . . . ?" (see Gen. 3:1). Staying silent while marching around Jericho seemed unusual, but it was the instruction the Lord gave, so the people obeyed.
 - c.** The walls fell. This confirmed that the victory was divine and not because of human power (v. 20). When God acts, there is no mistaking His power for man's power. The people of God saw His power and strength through simply obeying what He told them to do. Today, Christians can also experience the undeniable power of God by obediently following the Lord.

2. **God executes judgment according to His holiness** (vv. 21-24)

- a. “Devoted to destruction” (v. 17) is the Hebrew phrase used in this passage. Jericho was wicked and subject to the judgment of God. God would not be mocked. The people of Jericho had the opportunity to follow God, because they had heard of the things He had done (Josh. 2:8-11). Their lack of repentance led to their destruction.
- b. The destruction of Jericho is a reminder of the seriousness of sin. God does not take sin lightly. He is a just and holy God who does not tolerate sin. He shows great grace and forgiveness through salvation to any who will follow Him, but He will destroy those who do not repent.
- c. The city’s complete destruction is a sign of God’s victory (v. 24). There was no question who won the battle—God had once again given His people victory. No matter what circumstances we may face, if we walk in obedience to God, then our enemies will be put to shame, and God will be victorious.

3. **God extends mercy to those who trust him** (vv. 22-25)

- a. Rahab and her family were saved as promised in Joshua 2:14. Rahab is an example of the opportunity of salvation that everyone has if they will trust God. And God showed his faithfulness to her by placing Rahab in the lineage of Jesus (Matt. 1:5).
- b. Salvation comes by faith, not heritage (Heb. 11:31; Jas. 2:25). God’s mercy triumphs even during times of judgment. No one is beyond God’s saving grace. Everyone has the opportunity to repent and trust only in God for salvation.

Conclusion

Joshua 6:12-25 reminds us that God saves and judges according to His perfect character. Victory comes through obedient faith, judgment reveals His holiness, and mercy displays His grace. Rahab’s story points forward to the gospel, where faith in God brings salvation. God sometimes uses unexpected people for His purposes. Salvation is available to anyone who repents and follows Him

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