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Fall of Jericho Joshua 6 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

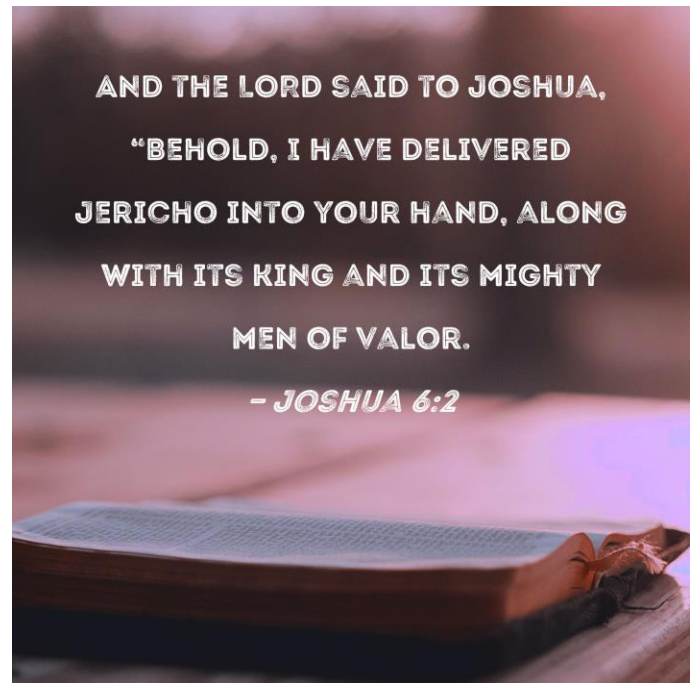
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



The 6th Chapter of Joshua is one of the more well known chapters of the book. Joshua is told to march around the city each day for 6 days and on the 7th day to march around 7 times. After this the walls of Jericho fell down, and the Israelites were able to take the city without breaching the walls. God miraculously delivered Jericho to Joshua. Sometimes God works in mighty and unusual ways. Join us this week as we talk about how God is working in our lives.



The Conquest of Jericho

6 Now Jericho was tightly shut because of the sons of Israel; no one went out and no one came in. **2** But the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have handed Jericho over to you, with its king *and* the valiant warriors. **3** And you shall march around the city, all the men of war circling the city once. You shall do so for six days. **4** Also seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark; then on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. **5** It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight ahead."

6 So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant, and have seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark of the LORD." **7** Then he said to the people, "Go forward and march around the city, and the armed men shall go on ahead of the ark of the LORD." **8** And it was so, that when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward and blew the trumpets; and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them. **9** And the armed men went ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while they continued to blow the trumpets. **10** But Joshua commanded the people, saying, "You shall not shout nor let your voice be heard, nor let a word proceed from your mouth, until the day I tell you, 'Shout!' Then you shall shout!" **11** So he had the ark of the LORD taken around the city, circling *it* once; then they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp.

12 Now Joshua got up early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD. **13** Then the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark of the LORD went on continually, and blew the trumpets; and the armed men went ahead of them, and the rear guard came after the ark of the LORD, while they continued to blow the trumpets. **14** So the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp; they did the same for six days.

15 Then on the seventh day they got up early at the dawning of the day and marched around the city in the same way seven times; only on that day did they march around the city seven times. **16** And at the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city. **17** But the city shall be designated for destruction, it and everything that is in it belongs to the LORD; only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in the house shall live, because she hid the messengers whom we sent. **18** But as for you, only keep yourselves from the things designated for destruction, so that you do not covet *them* and take some of the designated things, and turn the camp of Israel into something designated for destruction and bring disaster on it. **19** But all the silver and gold, and articles of bronze and iron are holy to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD." **20** So the people shouted, and the priests blew the trumpets; and when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, everyone straight ahead, and they took the city. **21** They utterly destroyed everything in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, sheep, and donkey, with the edge of the sword.

22 And Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, "Go into the prostitute's house and

bring the woman and all she has out of there, just as you have sworn to her.” ²³ So the young men who were spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all she had; they also brought out all her relatives, and placed them outside the camp of Israel. ²⁴ Then they burned the city with fire, and all that was in it. Only the silver and gold, and the articles of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. ²⁵ However, Rahab the prostitute and her father’s household and all she had, Joshua spared; and she has lived in the midst of Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

²⁶ Then Joshua made them take an oath at that time, saying, “Cursed before the LORD is the man who rises up and builds this city Jericho; with *the loss of* his firstborn he will lay its foundation, and with *the loss of* his youngest son he will set up its gates.” ²⁷ So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame was in all the land.

🕒 **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

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2 Explore His Word (Interpretation) (For Community group discussion)

What does God MEAN?

1. Why was no one going in or out of Jericho?
2. Why do you think God has them march around the city so many times?
3. Why might God tell them not to keep any gold or silver for themselves?
4. Why would God have them kill everything, women, children and livestock?
5. Is God righteous in having them kill the women and children?
6. Why was Rahab the only one that seems to be offered a way to join Israel?

7. Why do you think Jericho was cursed?

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

8. God gave specific instruction to kill everyone and every animal in Jericho. Many people use this to say God is not righteous. How do we know God is righteous in the way He deals with us today?

9. The fall of Jericho is a miraculous victory. Does God still grant us these types of victories today?

10. What is the main point of this passage and how does it apply to you today?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes