

“FAITH TO CONQUER YOUR JERICHO”

Joshua 6:1-3, 5,16,20

This story is more than just a story about a wall falling down. There is a deeper revelation that is fresh and relevant that God wants to bless someone with on today.

Jericho was a strong and powerful city. It was built with walls all around it. It has been said that the walls were 50 feet high and 50 feet wide. (I read somewhere that it was equivalent to a four story building. It looked like a city that could not be conquered. Everything about the city said, “stay out.”

All the inhabitants of Jericho lived within those walls. When Jericho had heard about how God delivered the children of Israel from Egypt and allowed them to conquer two Kings of the Amorites (Sihon and Og), they knew that they served the real God and felt that their destruction was imminent. But they felt protected inside the walls of Jericho and did not allow anyone to come in . No traffic was permitted in or out of the city.

God had promised Joshua and the Israelites a land that flowed with milk and honey and they had set out to receive that promise with the hope of conquering Jericho.

That is what the devil will do, he will always be sure that there is a great wall or obstacle that stands between you and the promises that God has made to you. He does all that he can to stand between you and your God given dreams, your potential or your goals.

I don't know what kind of wall you are facing today. It may be a financial wall. It may be relational. It may be a wall of bad health. It may even be a wall that you have set up because of prior hurts and abuses in your life.

Today, we are going to learn through the word of God how to allow God to break down the walls.

In Chapter 5 the Bible says in vs. 13-15 that Joshua was by Jericho and looked up and saw a man with a sword drawn. Joshua asked, "Are you here for us or for our adversaries?" The man answered, "As Captain of the Host of the Lord I have come."

Joshua recognized from that, that he was a representative of God. When you need a divine intervention God shows up not to take sides, but to take over.

We have to learn not to focus too much on the problem but to look for the presence of God in your situation. Be more God conscience than problem conscience.

Faith is not blind. Faith does not ignore the problem. It sees the problem but it sees the power of God which is bigger than the problem.

As they obeyed the strategy of God, the walls did in fact come down.

When we face the Jerichos in our lives, we must allow God to give us a strategy. After he gives it to us, do it HIS way. The only way that we can conquer Jericho is through faith in God. That is why Hebrews 11:30 says, "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down.

What was the strategy?

- a. Continued obedience (walk around the city 1 time for six days and on the 7th day walk around 7 times and on the 7th day when I tell you to shout, then you shout.
- b. Continued silence (don't say a word – 13 times they marched in all without saying one word.

Joshua knew as a leader that all it takes is one or two negative, criticizing people to get to talking and discourage the whole group so complete silence was required.

Why did they really experience the victory?

1. They had a word from God
2. They believed God
3. They acted in faith
4. They did it God's way
5. God gave them the victory

When we trust God completely and follow his plan, victory is inevitable. The walls can come down. No matter how high or strong the walls in our lives may be, through faith and the power of God, the walls will fall down.