

## **LESSON 13 - JOSHUA LEADS INTO THE PROMISED LAND**

### **Joshua I - II**

**THEME:** *To show that possession of God's blessings depends upon taking hold of that which God's Word promises.*

With our swords and shields, we are going to be fighting battles as we travel on PROMISE ROAD. You will learn the secret of how to get and enjoy the blessings of the Christian life.

Moses, the faithful servant of God, died and God buried him. A new leader, Joshua, was appointed to lead Israel into the PROMISED LAND. Joshua was appointed because he had shown his faith at Kadesh-bamea when the unbelieving spies had feared to go into the land. During the 40 years of wandering, the cowards and unbelievers had died and Joshua was to lead the new generation on to the conquest of the land. God spoke to Joshua and made definite promises to him:

"Every place the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given you." Joshua 1:3.

"As I was with Moses so I will be with you." Joshua 1:5.

"You will have good success if the words of this book do not depart from your mouth." Joshua 1:7-9.

Joshua's success depended upon him believing and obeying the book of the Law. Israel came near to the first great city, Jericho. Joshua sent two spies ahead. The spies came to the house of Rahab who saved them from death. They promised her that she would be saved when the city was taken if she would hang a scarlet cord from her window. Joshua 2:18-21.

Next, Israel crossed over the Jordan River. God rolled the waters back for them to pass through the river. Joshua 3:17. Then, in the 6th chapter of Joshua, Israel was given directions for the conquest of Jericho. They must march around the city, as directed, for six days. The seventh day the priests must blow the trumpets, the people shout, and the walls of the city would fall down flat! Joshua 6:20.

Doesn't it seem a strange way to win a battle? The people of Jericho fearfully watched as the Israelites marched around their city without talking. God wants us to learn that His ways are not our ways. He wants things done so that He will receive the glory, and not man. We will ask ourselves some questions.

*What made the walls of Jericho fall down? Faith in God and obedience to His*

commandment or Word. Hebrews 11:30.

*What saved Rahab?* Faith in God and obedience to His Word as He spoke through the spies. Hebrews 11:31.

*What made Joshua successful?* Faith in God, his unseen Captain. He proved his faith by obeying the orders of his Captain. The word did not depart from him. He trusted and obeyed even though the orders seemed strange.

*What will bring success to us who live over at GRACE AIRPORT?* We also have a battle to fight and a "promised land" to claim as we travel on *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE*. There are things to notice about our battle:

1. Our "promised land" is all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies. Ephesians 1:3, Ephesians 2:6-7.
2. Our enemies are principalities and powers of darkness in the heavenlies. Ephesians 6:11-12.
3. Our victory is accomplished through faith in the Word of our Captain, the Lord Jesus Christ. We prove our faith by acting upon His Word. God has promised all that could be desired to make us joyful and successful in the Christian life. In Christ we have all spiritual blessings such as joy, peace, wisdom, power. Our enemy would try to keep us from enjoying these things, but if we do like Joshua and claim them, God will surely be faithful and give them to us.

Sad to say, after the battle of Jericho, Israel never fully conquered the land of Canaan because they did not fully obey God's Word. They did enter in, however, and divided the land as God directed.

Are you unsaved today? If so, you are like Rahab, living in a place which is doomed to destruction, but you can be saved by faith just as Rahab was. You show your faith by confessing that Christ is your Saviour. Then you can bring others of your family into the place of safety in Christ just as Rahab brought her family into her house and saved them from destruction.

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Have not I commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be dismayed; for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9.

## LESSON 13 - WORK SHEET

1. Who became Israel's leader after Moses died? Joshua 1:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why was he appointed? Deuteronomy 34:9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What three special promises did God make to Joshua?  
Joshua 1:3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua 1:5 \_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua 1:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Choose the correct word to complete the following statements:

4. Joshua's success depended upon ( hard work      obedience  
good organization ). Joshua 1:8.
5. It was by ( praying      fighting      faith      pushing ) that the walls of Jericho fell down. Hebrews 11:30.
6. Rahab was saved because she ( was good      was bad      kept the Law  
had faith). Hebrews 11:31.

The experience of those who live now in the Day of Grace is like the experience of the Israelites in many ways. Look up the following Scriptures and fill in the spaces.

7. Israel had many promised blessings in the land of Canaan and we have many promised blessings in the \_\_\_\_\_. Ephesians 1:3.
8. Israel's enemies were the ungodly people of Canaan and our enemies are \_\_\_\_\_ in the heavenlies. Ephesians 6:12.
9. Victory for Israel depended upon believing and obeying, and victory for us depends upon \_\_\_\_\_. Ephesians 6:13,17.
10. Write Joshua 1:9 from memory. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_