



HEBRON

Sunday, May 26, 2019

Dr. David Baker

## Canaan Conquest, The Sequel

Joshua 6:1-21

*Introduction: One of the most famous events in the Bible has the makings of a good Sci-Fi movie today except this is real and it happened in the 1400s BC. This could be Capturing the Promise Land, Part Two. They had their chance almost 40 years earlier and they didn't trust the Lord enough to take the land.*

### I. THE CHALLENGES

The giant wall around Jericho and it's inhabitants (v1) "Now Jericho was strongly fortified because of the Hebrews—no one leaving or entering."

A. The challenges were big from the human standpoint.

1. The wall was massive. (Numbers 13:28) ESV
2. The people were big and strong. (Numbers 13:28) ESV
3. The Israelites were outnumbered.

B. Just as the Israelites, if we follow God there will always be obstacles and challenges.

1. We all have walls that get in our way, some very big like at Jericho and some maybe not so big, but they still hinder us from growing in our spiritual walk with God.

a. Maybe it is a circumstance you face such as sickness or disease, or financial, family or legal difficulties.

b. Maybe it is a stronghold. (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)



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Do you have some strongholds in your life? Let's look at some Max Lucado points out in his book Glory Days.

- ✓ God could never forgive me. (the stronghold of guilt)
- ✓ I could never forgive that person. (the stronghold of resentment)
- ✓ Bad things always happen to me. (the stronghold of self-pity)
- ✓ I have to be in charge. (the stronghold of pride)
- ✓ I don't deserve to be loved. (the stronghold of rejection)
- ✓ I'll never recover. (the stronghold of defeat)
- ✓ I must be good, or God will reject me. (the stronghold of performance)
- ✓ I'm only as good as I look. (the stronghold of appearance)
- ✓ My value equals my possessions. (the stronghold of materialism)

c. Maybe it is another person. When People are BIG and God is Small by Edward T. Welch. His premise is that we often fear man more than God.

i. Welch says that there are 3 aspects of the fear of man:

- We fear people because they can expose and humiliate us.
- We fear people because they can reject, ridicule or despise us.
- We fear people because they can hunt, attack and threaten us.

d. God says fear me and me alone. (Matthew 10:28)



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- e. And although fear of man should not rule us when we have them, Welch says God provides the treatment to these fears.
  - i. To the shamed and humiliated, He covers and glorifies.
  - ii. To the rejected, He accepts and glorifies.
  - iii. To the threatened, He protects and glorifies.
- f. We live in a time where Christians are treated with contempt and are hated by many. Ultimately, whatever it is that we face it is a spiritual problem. (Ephesians 6:12)

## II. The Commitment – (v2)

And the Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor.” (Joshua 6:1-2)

- A. God promised that He would hand over Jericho to His people. The battle was already won. All they had to do was follow God’s instructions.
  - 1. Even the inhabitants of Jericho knew the Israelites would be victorious – remember what Rahab said to them. Joshua did not go out hoping to win. He knew that God had already won! (Joshua 2:9-11)
  - 2. The ram’s horns were used to indicate the battle had been won. (Joshua 6:3-4)

B. Just as God promised victory to the Hebrews, he has promised victory to Christians. Just as the ram’s horn celebrated victory, a battle already won...Jesus sounded the horn on the cross for believers. (John 19:30) (Matthew 28:6; Romans 8:28, 37-39; Philippians 4:13; 1 Corinthians 15:54b; Revelation 21:7-10)

- C. Too often we act like we are losers instead of winners.
  - 1. We worry, we complain, we run scared.



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### III. The Command

A. God gave them these marching orders – (vs. 3-5) <sup>3</sup> You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. <sup>4</sup> Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. <sup>5</sup> And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat,<sup>[a]</sup> and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him.”

B. We have been given a command to defeat the enemy.

1. Just as God gave a plan to the Hebrews, He has one for us also.  
(Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Corinthians 10:4)

“Israel could march, and the priests blow trumpets until all of them dropped from weariness, but if the Lord wasn't with them, there would be no victory. When we accept God's plan, we invite God's presence, and that guarantees victory.” –Warren Wiersbe

2. Sometimes we may think God's plan is foolish as I am sure some of the Hebrews did. (1 Corinthians 27–29; Isaiah 55:8-9)

3. We think the Lord needs our help, so we try to make it happen with our own power. (Genesis 17:17)

C. We get impatient. God is not working fast enough. Why do we need to march for seven days around Jericho? (Hebrews 6:11-12)



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D. We think His plan is simply not good enough for us. Remember Naaman in 2 Kings? He was a mighty man, a commander of the army of the King of Syria. When Elisha told him to dip seven times in the Jordan River, he got mad. (2 Kings 5:10-13)

#### IV. The Conquest (v20)

So the people shouted, and the trumpets sounded. When they heard the blast of the trumpet, the people gave a great shout, and the wall collapsed. The people advanced into the city, each man straight ahead, and they captured the city. <sup>21</sup> They completely destroyed everything in the city with the sword - every man and woman, both young and old, and every ox, sheep and donkey.

A. For the Hebrews – the walls crumbled down.

B. For Rahab and her family (Joshua 2:12-14; Joshua 6:22-23)

1. Notice the scripture said go to her house. But remember, her house was in the walls. (Joshua 2:15)

C. The Lord is always faithful to provide if we trust him in faith. (Hebrews 11:30-31)

1. Provide for physical needs. (Matthew 6:11; Matthew 6:32-34; Philippians 4:19; Psalms 37:25)
2. Provide for our spiritual needs (John 4:13-14; John 15:5)
3. This doesn't mean every trouble you have will tumble down like the walls of Jericho. It does mean God will provide for those who trust Him. (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

- a. Remember the Hebrew nation had many more battles to fight. Some they lost because of disobedience.
- b. Our battles and troubles will not be over until Jesus comes.