

BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY IN OBEDIENCE–PT 2
A FAITH THAT BRINGS DOWN WALLS
JOSHUA 6; HEBREWS 11:30

INTRODUCTION

We read in the **BIBLE** about many men and women of **GOD** who did great things for **GOD** in their days. Many of those are referred to in *Hebrews 11*, which is widely known as “**GOD’S HALL OF FAITH CHAPTER**”. There we find **GOD’S** people doing great things for **GOD’S GLORY** and in every instance they did it “*By Faith!*”

It has been, and always will be, the principle of “**BY FAITH**” if anyone ever accomplishes anything **GREAT** for **GOD**! It only makes sense then, that if **WE** want to accomplish anything **GREAT** for **GOD**, then **WE MUST DO IT “BY FAITH!”**

In order to know just what **EFFECTIVE FAITH** involves (and by **EFFECTIVE** I mean a **FAITH** that gets things done—that is, **A FAITH THAT WORKS**), we need to study **GOD’S** examples of folks who did things by **FAITH!** **JOSHUA** is one of those mentioned in the **HALL OF FAITH!**

The **BIBLE** says in *Hebrews 11:30*, “**BY FAITH the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.**” Tonight we want to see what was involved in this **FAITH** that brought these walls down?

I. IT WAS A FAITH THAT INVOLVED CONFIDENCE IN THE WORD OF THE LORD! (RELIANCE!!!) (Joshua 6:1-2)

Someone came up with the acronym **F-R-O-G**. You used to see a lot of merchandise in Christian book stores with that acronym. It stands for “*Fully Rely On God!*”

A. JOSHUA And The Children Of ISRAEL Had A Promise From The LORD! (Joshua 1:3-4; 6:2)

B. The Children Of ISRAEL Had Directions From The LORD! (Joshua 6:3-5)

1. **They Were To Compass The City. (Vs 3)**
 - a. All the men of war were to march around the city.

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- b. They were to go around it **once a day for six days.**

2. The Priests Were To Take Part. (Vs 4)

- a. By bearing **THE ARK OF THE COVENANT!**
- b. By bearing before **THE ARK seven trumpets of ram’s horns.**

3. The Seventh Day was To Be The Climax. (Vs 5)

- a. They were to compass the city **seven times on the seventh day.**
- b. They were to blow the trumpets, and make a long blast with the ram’s horn. At the sound of the trumpet the people were to give a great shout.
- c. **GOD** said, then the walls of the city would fall down flat, and the people would ascend up, every man into the city.

C. They Had GOD’S Track Record To Rely Upon.

1. The **RED SEA** Was An Obstacle, But The **LORD** Had Parted It!
2. The Flood Stage Waters Of The **JORDAN RIVER** Were An Obstacle, But The **LORD** Had Parted Them!

IT WAS A FAITH THAT INVOLVED CONFIDENCE IN THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Our FAITH Must Be The Same Way:

1. We Have The **PROMISES** Of **GOD! (HIS WORD!)**
2. We Have The **DIRECTION** Of **GOD! (HIS COMMANDS!)**
3. We Have **GOD’S TRACK RECORD! (HIS WORKS!)**

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II. IT WAS A FAITH THAT INVOLVED COMPLIANCE TO THE WORD OF THE LORD. (OBEDIENCE!!!)

We sing the song... “Trust and obey, for there is no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.” That is true!

A. The Success Of The Operation Was Based On Each Person Doing His Part!

UNITY was an essential ingredient to accomplish the **WILL OF GOD** for the **CONGREGATION OF GOD!**

- 1. Joshua Was Called To Perform His Part. (Vs 2, 6-7)**
- 2. The Priests Were Called To Perform Their Part. (Vs 6, 13)**
- 3. The People Called To Perform Their Part. (Vs 7, 10)**

B. GOD’S WORD Was To Be Carried Out In An ORDERLY FASHION!

1. GOD’S WORD Is To Be Carried Out In GOD’S TIME!

It would take seven days to accomplish **HIS WILL!** **There was no way to shortcut!** Someone once said, *“When you try to shortcut, most times you end up getting cut short.”*

2. GOD’S WORD Is To Be Carried Out In GOD’S WAY!

Giving attention to the details of what **HE SAYS!**

3. GOD’S WORD Is To Be Carried Out FULLY!

a. The City Was To Be Taken On The Seventh Day. *(Vs 15-16, 20-21)*

b. Rahab And Her Family Under Her Roof Were To Be Spared! *(Vs 17, 22-23, 25)*

c. The Wealth Of **JERICHO** Belonged To The **LORD!** *(Vs 18-19, 24)*

What a wonderful lesson! What the **LORD REDEEMS** is **HIS!** They did not win the **BATTLE**, the **LORD** did!

When **GOD** saves us, likewise, we are to realize that we are not our own! **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

IT WAS A FAITH THAT INVOLVED CONFIDENCE IN THE WORD OF THE LORD. (RELIANCE)

Promise, Direction, Track Record.

IT WAS A FAITH THAT INVOLVED COMPLIANCE TO THE WORD OF THE LORD. (OBEDIENCE)

Unity and Order.

III. IT WAS A FAITH THAT INVOLVED CONTINUING IN THE WORD OF THE LORD. (PERSISTENCE)

A. Persistence In Spite Of Business!

B. Persistence In Spite Of Ridicule!

C. Persistence In Spite Of Apparent Failure!

IV. IT WAS A FAITH THAT BROUGHT THE BLESSINGS OF THE LORD!

The instructions were clear. There was no room for human reasoning, human schemes, or approved military tactics.

This plan was ordered by (**COMMANDED BY**) the **LORD** and **JOSHUA** and the people were to simply **OBEY BY FAITH!**

Hebrews 11:30 tells us **JERICHO** fell **“BY FAITH!”**

They **BELIEVED GOD** and showed it by their **ACTIONS!**

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- A. Do We Believe That The WORD OF GOD Is Beneficial To Us?**
2 Timothy 3:16-17—“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”
- B. Do We Believe That The Effectual Fervent Prayer Of A Righteous Man Availeth Much? (James 5:16)**
- C. Do We Believe That The Gospel Of Christ Is The Power Of God Unto Salvation? (Romans 1:16)**
- D. Do We Believe That Faithful Church Attendance Is Important? (Hebrews 10:25)**
- E. Do We Believe That GOD Expects Us To Tithe And Give Offerings?**
Malachi 3:10—“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”

If there aren't as many **BLESSINGS** in our lives as we'd like, could it be because our **OBEDIENCE** is lacking!? Could it be because we have no **PERSISTENCE** in the things of **GOD**?

- V. WHAT IS THE ATTITUDE OF FAITH?**
FAITH is taking **GOD** at **HIS WORD**, it means “*Forsaking All I Trust Him!*”

What should be the attitude of our **FAITH**?

- A. Faith Reckons!**
The word “*reckon*” means to take inventory.

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Romans 4:20-22—“He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. 22And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.”

Faith Reckons...

- B. Faith Responds!**

We are to yield our bodies and our spirits to the **LORD**, and we are to respond to **HIS** promises in complete acceptance for ourselves.

This is what **ISRAEL** did as they compassed the walls. They were **OBEYING** the commands by **FAITH!**

Romans 6:13—“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.”

- C. Faith Receives!**

Hebrews 11:1—“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Hebrews 11:6—“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

Having **RECKONED** and **RESPONDED** in an act of **TRUST** and **FULL EXPECTATION**, then we will receive by **FAITH!**

- D. Faith Rests!**

John 15:4—“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.”

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We are to **ABIDE** in **CHRIST**, that is we are to **REST** in **CHRIST CONTINUOUSLY**. . .for **PARDON**, for **POWER**, for **ABUNDANT LIFE!**

CONCLUSION

The walls of **JERICHO** stood between the **ISRAELITES** and the **ABUNDANT LIFE** in the **PROMISED LAND** that the **LORD PROMISED** them.

What stands between us and the **ABUNDANT LIFE** that **CHRIST** has **PROMISED** us?

John 10:10–“ . . .I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

The walls of **JERICHO** came down “**BY FAITH!**”

We need the same kind of **FAITH** that they had! May God help us to have. . .

A Faith Founded On The Word Of The Lord.

- God’s Promises.
- God’s Commands.
- God’s Track Record.

A Faith Shown By Obedience.

- Unity–Every person doing their own part.
- Order–Doing Things In God’s Time, In God’s Way, Fully.

A Faith Carried Out With Persistence.

- In Spite Of Business.
- In Spite Of Ridicule.
- In Spite Of Apparent Failure.