

**BOOK OF JOSHUA**  
**“GETTING READY TO CONQUER–PT 2”**  
**JOSHUA 5:9-13**

**Introduction**

Last time in this Chapter:

*WE SAW ISRAEL RENEWING THEIR COVENANT WITH THE LORD!*

*(Vs 2-7)*

*WE SAW ISRAEL REAFFIRMING THEIR CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD!*

*(Vs 8)*

**III. WE SEE THE REMOVING OF THEIR CONDEMNATION BY THE LORD. (Vs 9)**

**A. The Term "Reproach Of Egypt" Is Believed To Refer To Two Events During ISRAEL'S Wilderness Wanderings.**

1. The first is found in *Exodus 32:1-35* when the children of **ISRAEL** made a golden calf and worshiped it.
2. The other happened at **KADESH-BARNEA** when the children of **ISRAEL** displayed unbelief and refused to enter into the **PROMISED LAND**, *Numbers 14:1-45*.
3. On both occasions, the **LORD** threatened to destroy the nation of **ISRAEL** and start fresh with **MOSES**.
4. And, both times **MOSES** interceded with the **LORD** telling **HIM** that would give the **EGYPTIANS** a reason to mock the **LORD!**
5. **MOSES** argued that they would say that **GOD** brought them out of **EGYPT**, but could not bring them to **CANAAN**.
6. However, at this point they are now in the land and **GOD** has proven that **HE** was well able to bring **HIS** people into their possession.
7. Therefore, **HE** tells them that **HE** had rolled that **REPROACH** away!

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8. In other words, their past was no longer an issue. It was a new day!

**B. In A Sense, Many Of GOD'S CHILDREN Today Are Living Under The "Reproach Of Egypt".**

1. They are living with the **SHAME** of things they did before they came to **FAITH** in **CHRIST**.
2. They are also **ASHAMED** of times when they have failed the **LORD** since they were saved.
3. Either way, these live under the constant stab of **SELF-CONDEMNATION**.

**C. When We Place Our FAITH In JESUS CHRIST For SALVATION, Our Past Is Not An Issue Any Longer!**

*Psalm 103:12–“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.”*

*Isaiah 38:17–“Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.”*

*Isaiah 43:25–“I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.”*

*Micah 7:19–“He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.”*

1. The **REPROACH** of the old life has been removed forever!
2. We must get past the guilt of those days before we can walk in **VICTORY!**

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3. Many **BELIEVERS** have failed the **LORD**, and as a result, they are **DEFEATED** and feel like they are second-class citizens in the **KINGDOM OF GOD**.
4. But, if we have confessed our sin and repented of it, then it has been taken care of as far as **GOD** is concerned!
5. The **LORD** was telling **ISRAEL** that their **PAST** was forever gone and they were to walk looking to the **VICTORY** of their **PRESENT** rather than to the **DEFEATS** of their **PAST**!
6. We will never be able to walk in **VICTORY** until we come to realize that the **LORD** has forgiven our **PAST**!

*WE SEE THE REMOVING OF THEIR CONDEMNATION BY THE LORD. (Vs 9)*

**IV. WE SEE THEM REMEMBERING THE COMMITMENT OF THE LORD. (Vs 10-12)**

**A. In These Verses, We Find ISRAEL Once Again Keeping The Feast Of The PASSOVER. (Vs 10)**

1. The **LORD** established it as a **MEMORIAL** and an **ORDINANCE** that they first observed it when they were still in **EGYPT**. (*The day that the LORD sent the Death Angel throughout EGYPT!*) *Cf. Exodus 12*
2. They also celebrated it at **MOUNT SINAI** before they left for **KADESH-BARNEA**. (*Cf. Numbers 9*)
3. We are not told how faithful **ISRAEL** was in celebrating the **PASSOVER** in the previous 40 years of wandering.
4. But the **PASSOVER** was a time for the **JEWS** to **REMEMBER** the **DELIVERANCE** of the **LORD**!

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5. Here we see they were now in the **PROMISED LAND** and they were to celebrate the feast of the **PASSOVER** for the first time in the **LAND**!
6. They were to **REMEMBER** the things the **LORD** did for them in **DELIVERING them out of EGYPT**, and in **PROVIDING** for them along the way as well as **BRINGING** them into the **PROMISED LAND**!

**B. What A Lesson That Should Be For The REDEEMED OF THE LORD!**

1. When we face the **BATTLES** of life, we must **REMEMBER** the great things the **LORD** has done for us in our **PAST**. (*i.e. DELIVERING US from our BONDAGE to SIN, PROVIDING for us along the way, and BRINGING us into HIS ABUNDANT LIFE!*)
2. Taking time to **REMEMBER** the way **GOD** has proved that **HE IS STRONG** in our life all along the way is important!
3. It will give us **COURAGE** to face the next **BATTLE**!
4. If **HE** was **GOD** then, **HE** is still **GOD** now!

**C. Just As ISRAEL Needed To REMEMBER The LORD’S COMMITMENT To Them, They Also Needed To REMEMBER Their COMMITMENT To HIM! (vs 11-12)**

1. For 40 years they had eaten **MANNA** every day.
2. However, we see here that when they ate of the fruit of the land of **CANAAN**, the **MANNA** ceased.
3. Surely, **ISRAEL** was glad that the **MANNA** was no more.

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4. The **PASSOVER** reminded **ISRAEL** that the **LORD** had brought them out of **EGYPT**, but the **MANNA** was a constant reminder of what they had left behind in **EGYPT**.  
*Exodus 16:3–“And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”*
5. It was one thing for the **LORD** to bring **HIS** people out of **EGYPT**, but it was something else to get **EGYPT** out of **HIS** people.
6. Far too many **BELIEVERS** have an appetite for the things of this world.
7. May the **LORD** help us to develop a hunger for the harvest of our inheritance.

*WE SEE THEM REMOVING THEIR CONDEMNATION BY THE LORD...REMEMBERING THE COMMITMENT OF THE LORD.*

**V. WE SEE THEM RECOGNIZING THE CONTROL OF THE LORD! (Vs 13-15)**

**A. Who Is In Control?**

1. On this day, as **JOSHUA** was looking over the city of **JERICHO**, he saw a man standing with a drawn sword.
2. **JOSHUA** boldly asked the man to identify himself and to state which side he was on!
3. When the man responded, **HE** said that **HE** was the **CAPTAIN OF THE LORD’S HOST!**

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4. **JOSHUA** could clearly discern that this **MAN** was in **CHARGE!**
5. **HE** was “**CAPTAIN**” (*IN CONTROL*) of the **HOST of the LORD!**
6. **HE** was **IN CHARGE!**
7. **JOSHUA’S** response was to fall down before **HIM** to both **WORSHIP HIM** and to **LISTEN TO HIM!**

**B. That Is The Way To VICTORY!**

1. **JOSHUA’S** response was an indication that he was willing to **SUBMIT TO THE WILL OF THE LORD!**
2. **HE** knew **WHO** was **IN CONTROL!**
3. Before we can have the **VICTORY**, we must acknowledge that the **LORD** is **IN CONTROL!**
4. **HE IS LORD** and we are **HIS SERVANTS!**
5. Therefore, what **HE** says we must **DO!**

**C. The Blessing Of HIS PRESENCE!**

1. **JOSHUA** was under a great deal of pressure here.
2. He was trying to lead an army in the successful conquest of a powerful enemy.
3. More than anything, he needed to know that the promises that the **LORD** gave him when **HE** called him were real! (*Cf. Joshua 1*)
4. Here, **JOSHUA** was experiencing the **REALITY** of those **PROMISES!**

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5. The **LORD** was telling **JOSHUA** that he did not have to fight the upcoming battles alone!
6. He is even telling **JOSHUA** that the battles are not his responsibility, but rather, the **LORD’S**!

**D. The Same Is Still True As We Face The Battles Of Life!**

1. **DAVID** told **GOLIATH**, "*the battle is the LORD'S*", and that hasn't changed!
2. **The LORD** has promised to be with us, to support us and to lead us to **VICTORY**!
3. The key to seeing these promises fulfilled in our life is to do what **JOSHUA** did.
4. Get on our face before the **LORD WORSHIPING HIM and SEEKING HIS WILL FOR THE BATTLE and LET HIM LEAD US TO VICTORY!**

**Conclusion**

Are you experiencing **VICTORY**?

Are you ready for **VICTORY**?

Not before you make certain preparations you're not!

Let's each **PREPARE FOR THE VICTORY** that the **LORD** has planned for our life!