

JOSHUA STUDY

CHAPTER 6:17-27

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

A Matter of Life or Death

The Battle advances to Jericho. A city and a people before the God of creation. A nation doomed to destruction. There is only one way out of a hopeless situation and that is turning from the position of resistance to a position of acceptance. Rahab's faith in God will save her life and those with her. Sadly, the unbelief and rebellion of the populace will result in death!

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

Joshua 1:6
"Be strong and of good courage"

Joshua 6

is a micro commentary on the very condition of the world alienated from God. just like the Jericho of old, its population, is ignoring the God of heaven and earth.

Romans 1:18-22

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

and Just like Jericho

the earth is being surrounded by the clouds of judgment

and Just like Jericho

there are those who have come to believe and trust in the God of scripture

Like Jericho The Earth is Doomed according to Biblical Prophecy

because of its anti-God beliefs
as well as its evil practices.

Righteous Judgment Had Been Prepared

The Judgment of God was looming over Jericho and those who desired to dwell in it

The Way of Escape *had been known*

Yet among those who were doomed, there were those who had put their faith in the
God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The Players in our Study are mirror Images of Those in this Life

Ezekiel 18:32

"For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord GOD. "Therefore turn and live!"

Ezekiel 33:11

"Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die,

But I'm Not Wicked

*

The Wicked heb 7563 rasha` (raw-shaw');

To err morally, to offend the code, the law, to violate the
absolute. To have crossed the line.

John 3:18-19

18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Acts 17:31

"for God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man Christ Jesus, whom He has ordained. The Lord has given assurance of this to all people by raising Jesus from the dead."

A Matter of Life or Death

1.) Rejecting God Will Cost You Everything vv. 17-19

Joshua Announces...

17 "Now the city shall be **doomed by the LORD to destruction**, it and all who are in it. Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. 18 "And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. 19 "But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the LORD; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD."

Verses 17 to 19 gives us the "order of attack"

Impatience often leads to Mistakes.

Eagerness often leads to Defeat

Jericho hides silently in terror of the Israelites.

for seven days the worship ministry (the priest) had been blowing their shofars (rams horns) as the people quietly circled the city...

To a well-trained army, this seemed like a waste of time and resources. Perhaps the ministry of war thought "we'll show these priests how it should be done...."

But Not among God's People

Zechariah 4:6

wars are won... 'Not by might nor by power,
but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of **(the armies)** hosts.

a.) The Judgment of Having Rejected Him v.17a

"Now the city shall be **doomed by the LORD to destruction**,
it and all who are in it.

doomed by the LORD to destruction

The Commander of the Lord's Host is Ready to Judge

Joshua 5:13-14

13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him **with His sword drawn in His hand**. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" 14 So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshipped, and said to Him,

with His sword drawn in His hand

the "**sword**" being "**drawn**"
meaning the time had come for judgment

b.) The Mercy of Having Received Him v.17b

Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because
she hid the messengers that we sent

Only Rahab...

Only John, Only Kathy, Only Mary, Only Bill...

c.) The Warning to Live Separated Lives v.18

"And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed
when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and
trouble it.

Why? Because...

lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things

They were things worshipped by the those in Jericho

Every one of us are worshippers

d.) The Place of the LORD as God in Our Lives

v.19

19 "But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, **are consecrated to the LORD**; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD."

But of The Silver, The Gold, The Bronze, The Iron

valuable items desired by any people, items that were once dedicated to idols, God has redeemed from their former employ

Silver that was Carved into Images

Golden Icons that were worn on fingers and around necks
to ward off evil and Protect from danger and...

Bronze statues and Iron Altars

That which had value was to return to God from where it came
that which was worth less was cast out and burned

eventually, everything

that there is will return back to God in the end

- The Man in the Jungles of South America
 - To The Business Man on Wall Street
 - The House Wife in Florida
 - And The Judge in Los Angeles

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat...

“A Matter of Life or Death”

Rejecting God Will Cost You Everything

2.) God’s Enemies Will Come to an End

vv. 20-21

20 So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city 21 And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.

a.) Enemy Strongholds Have no Power Against the Lord v.20

20 So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city

They Acted Upon The Word of God They Moved in Faith

1 John 5:4

And this is the victory that has overcome the world-- our faith.

Hebrews 11:30

30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days.

b.) The Reward Earned for Godless Living

v.21

And they **utterly destroyed** all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.

The Judgment of God Doesn’t Come Because He’s Angry
The Judgment God Comes Because Men are Wicked and God is Just

There’s More to Jericho
than what meets the eye...

Jericho is a “Stronghold” of the Flesh

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God **for pulling down strongholds**, 5 **casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God**,

Judgment is Simply Payment That's Due

Romans 6:23

For the **wages** of sin is death,
but the **gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* **Wages** **grk 3800 opsonion (op-so'-nee-on);**
payment for labor done, the rations due to a soldier. His pension

Notice the Contrast

* **gift** **grk 5486 charisma (khar'-is-mah);**
an unearned gift. An endowment. A freely given benefit

Why This Level Of Judgment ?

this is not symbolic language here - it is factual

The Pagan Cultures Practiced Violent Occultic Worship

dedicating their most prized possessions, the living to
altar sacrifices / temple rituals / human consecration

Have You Noticed, Satan Demands Total Allegiance

- by applying pressure
 - by applying fear
- by applying intimidation
 - by applying

Have You Noticed, Satan Demands Total Obedience

- to his domain
- to his government
 - to his world
 - to his flesh

The People Who Serve Him Vary

- some by ignorant denial
- some by vain curiosity
- some by willful choice

Satan Doesn't Care How You Serve Him
just as long as you do

The Lord, He Changes Not

the judgment issued then is a judgment that will be issued again

right now - grace is being extended

“A Matter of Life or Death”

- 1.) Rejecting God Will Cost You Everything
- 2.) God's Enemies Will Come to an End

3.) God's Grace Shines in the Face of Judgment	vv. 22-25
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22 **But Joshua had said** to the two men who had spied out the country, "Go into the harlot's house, and from there, bring out the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her." 23 And the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that she had. So they brought out all her relatives and left them outside the camp of Israel. 24 But they burned the city and all that was in it with fire. Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. 25 And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father's household, and all that she had. So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

But Joshua had said to the two men who had spied out the country, "Go into the harlot's house, and from there bring out the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her

Rahab was no different Than the Others

but she did one thing the others didn't

She Called Upon the Name of God

A Difference of Life & Death

The Evil lays Not at God's Door

But at the Soul of Every Man

Genesis 4:6-7

6 So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? 7 "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

Verse 23

" 23 And the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that she had. So they brought out all her relatives and left them outside the camp of Israel.

Look for The Scarlet Cord

Joshua 2:18

"unless, when we come into the land, you bind this line of **scarlet cord** in the window through which you let us down, and unless you bring your father, your mother, your brothers, and all your father's household to your own home.

Hashaw-nee - tik-vaw

*

Heb 8144 shaniy (shaw-nee');
a **scarlet**, red or crimson rope of threads.

*

Heb 8615 tiqvah (tik-vaw');
the expectancy, the expectation, the **hope**, the living hope

Scarlet Hope

A Messianic Psalm of Christ

Psalm 22:1-6

1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, and from the words of My groaning? 2 O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; and in the night season, and am not silent. 3 But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel. 4 Our fathers trusted in You; they trusted, and You delivered them. 5 They cried to You, and were delivered; they trusted in You, and were not ashamed. 6 But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.

*

Worm

heb 8438 towla` (to-law');

the scarlet, worm. a red, crimson-grub type worm used for its color red to dye clothing.... after climbing a tree and adhering itself on the eastward side. As the sun heats the worm, The towla gives birth by exploding from the inside out, releasing its young to the earth below

Verse 22

"Go into the harlot's house, and from there
bring out the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her

The Harlot's House had become a Haven of Rest

Faith in God will Do this to a Home

Faith in Him Changes Everything

Luke 7:37-39

37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, 38 and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner. 40 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he said, "Teacher, say it." 41 "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 "And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." 44 Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. 45 "You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. 46 "You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil 47 "Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little."

The Rapture of Rahab

It Appears that All of the Wall had Fallen. But at the Location of Rahab's House it
Either didn't Fall or it was delayed in falling until all had been removed

Verse 23

So they brought out all her relatives and left them
outside the camp of Israel.

They were uncircumcised gentiles
the men needed to be circumcised before they could enter in

Salmon (a good jewish boy) would Eventually Fall in Love with Rahab
(a gentile woman) and they would have a son...

Matthew 1:1-6

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: 2 Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. 4 Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. 5 **Salmon** begot Boaz by **Rahab**, **Boaz** begot Obed by **Ruth**, Obed begot Jesse 6 and Jesse begot David the king...Jesus !!!.

The Prominence of the Jewish Heritage

John 4:22

"...for salvation is of the Jews.

God has Unity Both in Faith

Ephesians 2:16-18

16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

b.) All Our Victories are Dedicated to God Alone v.24-25

24 But they burned the city and all that was in it with fire. Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. 25 And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father's household, and all that she had. **So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.**

Verse 24

But they burned the city and all that was in it with fire. Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

The City of Jericho was Israel's First Victory after having entered the promised land of Canaan

Exodus 20:3

"You shall have no other gods before Me.

The Scriptures Inform Us That...

Romans 1:18-19

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

An Object(s) of Affection

something that is your focus of pursuit and energy

Matthew 6:24

24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and (dollars) mammon.**

1 Timothy 6:10

For **the love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Proverbs 3:9-10

9 Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase;
10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

Malachi 3:8-10

8 "Will a man rob God? **Yet you have robbed Me!** But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' **In tithes and offerings.** 9 You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.

Everyone I know who gives to the Lord
is by far better off than those who do not

"But I Can't Afford to Give to God - You Say...
"I Tell you, You Can't Afford **Not** to Give to God"

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

6 But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Verse 25

**So she dwells in Israel to this day,
because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.**

She Lived in Israel

Because she Rescued the Spies

But She Lives in Heaven

Because She Trusted in God

Joshua 2:9-11

9 and she said: **"I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you. 10 "For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. 11 "And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.**

Hebrews 11:31

By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe,
when she had received the spies with peace.

A Matter of Life or Death

- 1.) Rejecting God Will Cost You Everything
- 2.) God's Enemies Will Come to an End
- 3.) God's Grace Shines in the Face of Judgment

4.) Obedience to God will Always Lead to Success vv. 26-27

26 Then Joshua **charged them** at that time, saying, "**Cursed** be the man before the LORD who rises up and builds this city Jericho; he shall lay its foundation with his firstborn, and with (upon) his youngest, he shall set up its gates. 27 So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout all the country.

a.) Jericho, A Literal Witness to This Day – 1999 v.26

26 Then Joshua **charged them** at that time, saying, "**Cursed** be the man before the LORD who rises up and builds this city Jericho; he shall lay its foundation with his firstborn, and with (upon) his youngest, he shall set up its gates

“at that time”

at a very urgent moment - post victory

Our Most Dangerous Hour - The Mountain Top Experiences of Christianity

2 Corinthians 12:10

...take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake.
For when you're weak, that is when you're strong.

Power out of Weakness

Mark 9:14-29

14 And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them. 15 Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to Him, greeted Him. 16 And He asked the scribes, "What are you discussing with them?" 17 Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. 18 "And wherever he seizes him, he throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast him out, but they could not." 19 He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." 20 Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. **cont.**

21 So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. 22 "And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." 23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" 25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" 26 Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. 28 And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast him out?" 29 So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting."

at that time

the critical, defining moment

Galatians 4:4-6

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

b.) The Lord, He is The Victory

v.27

Verse 27

So the LORD was with Joshua,
and his fame spread throughout all the country.

abcNEWS

"General Joshua, Just How did you Attack Jericho?"

"First of all I'd Like to Thank God for the Victory..."

"we surrounded it"

What Was your Plan of Attack?

"we marched around it for six days blowing horns"

How did those great walls fall down?

"We yelled at em' - all the people did... blew horns and yelled a lot"

The Jericho's must be totally forsaken

1. By Dwelling in the Word of God
2. By Walking in the Power of the Holy Spirit
3. By Trusting in Jesus Christ to Lead

stay away from what it possesses, what it's famous for

Jericho's are Personal Places of Sin

And If that Jericho of your life is left to stand,
Then you will never have victory as a Christian. your life will be marked
by Lifelessness, apathy, callousness and complacency...

2 Timothy 3:5
having a form of godliness but denying its power.

Question #1

What is/are the Jericho(s) in your life ?

Question #2

Are you letting God Conquer them for you?

There is no power that can stand against the predetermined
counsel of God or His people.

Jesus Himself promised us before ascending back into
heaven from where He came saying;

Matthew 16:18
...I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

The Question is Are You on His Side Today?

The End