

THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE #4 FAITH

Heb. 11 ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

Let's go back to Joshua and research this great victory. There is a pattern that is developing.

Jos. 5:6,7 reminds us that a generation has died that left Egypt but their children had not been circumcised. This is a sign of covenant with God. As soon as this Joshua has brought them into covenant they keep the Passover (v10).

Josh. 5 ¹³ Now when Joshua was **near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man** standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"

¹⁴ "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

¹⁵ The commander of the Lord's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

6 Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

² Then the Lord said to Joshua, "**See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.** ³ March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in."

Joshua leads a nation into battle by faith in what has just occurred. There are 4 characteristics of faith in this miraculous victory.

I. Faith is KNOWING.- The Lord appears with a message.

A. Knowing Jesus- Josh. 6 ² states the man who had appeared was the Lord. When he was facing a battle the Lord appears to him.

The object of our faith is Jesus. Heb. 12 ² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith....

B. Knowing what Jesus said-

Romans 10:17 So then **faith cometh by hearing** and hearing by the word of God.

Faith then is having a revelation of the word with understanding.

What was the word of the Lord to Joshua?

V2 ... **I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.**

His word to us is “if God be for us who can be against us”.

“no weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper”

“we are more than conquerors”

“now thanks be to God which always causeth us to triumph in Christ”

II. Faith is ACTION. They are told to “walk around the city”

VS 3,4

A. They are to have the fighting men, the priest carrying the ark, and seven priests carrying a trumpet to walk around the city once for six days.

B. There is a ridiculous to the miraculous.

III. A widow is told to borrow vessels. She has little oil but pours out enough to pay her debt.

Jesus tells his disciples to go without coat or purse and live those who invite them into their homes.

Peter is told to cast a hook into the sea and the first fish he catches will have enough money in its mouth to pay the taxes.

When we have received a word from God we are to act on it!

III. Faith is CLAIMING the victory before victory comes.

Josh. 6:4 On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, **have all the people give a loud shout**; NIV

A. Nothing happened until the people obeyed the word.

B. They released a shout of victory before they had victory.

Heb. 11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

III. David proclaims victory before he fights Goliath.

1Sa. 17⁴⁶ This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. NIV

IV. Faith REWARDS

Heb. 11³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down...

Heb. 11⁶ 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.⁷ **By faith Noah,..**

By faith, Abraham,

Isaac, Jacob,

Abel, Enoch,

Sara, Joseph,

Moses, etc.

David carries the head of Goliath in his hand, intoxicated with victory.
Miriam and the ladies play tambourines and dance when Egyptian soldier's bodies are floating on the Red Sea.

Heb. 11³² And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and *of* Barak, and *of* Samson, and *of* Jephthae; *of* David also, and Samuel, and *of* the prophets:³³ Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,³⁴ Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again:

All things are possible to them that believe!