

NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
DR. AARON L. CHAPMAN, PASTOR
23455 W. NINE MILE ROAD
SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN
PHONE: (248) 353-0675
WEBSITE: www.newhope-mbc.org

2025 ANNUAL THEME: “HOPE IN THE FACE OF DIFFICULTY”
September Theme: Childlike Faith

BIBLE STUDY
September 2025

The Book of Joshua: Courageous Faith
The Conquest of Jericho
Joshua 6:1-20

Topics

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Scripture References: Joshua 6:1-20

¹Now Jericho was tightly shut because of the sons of Israel; no one went out and no one came in. ²The Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and the valiant warriors. ³You shall march around the city, all the men of war circling the city once. You shall do so for six days. ⁴Also seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark; then on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. ⁵It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people will go up every man straight ahead.” ⁶So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark of the Lord.” ⁷Then he said to the people, “Go forward, and march around the city, and let the armed men go on before the ark of the Lord.” ⁸And it was so, that

when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Lord went forward and blew the trumpets; and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them. ⁹ The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while they continued to blow the trumpets. ¹⁰ But Joshua commanded the people, saying, "You shall not shout nor let your voice be heard nor let a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I tell you, 'Shout!' Then you shall shout!" ¹¹ So he had the ark of the Lord taken around the city, circling it once; then they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp. ¹² Now Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the Lord. ¹³ The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord went on continually, and blew the trumpets; and the armed men went before them and the rear guard came after the ark of the Lord, while they continued to blow the trumpets. ¹⁴ Thus the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp; they did so for six days. ¹⁵ Then on the seventh day they rose early at the dawning of the day and marched around the city in the same manner seven times; only on that day they marched around the city seven times. ¹⁶ At the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city. ¹⁷ The city shall be under the ban, it and all that is in it belongs to the Lord; only Rahab the harlot and all who are with her in the house shall live, because she hid the messengers whom we sent. ¹⁸ But as for you, only keep yourselves from the things under the ban, so that you do not covet them and take some of the things under the ban, and make the camp of Israel accursed and bring trouble on it. ¹⁹ But all the silver and gold and articles of bronze and iron are holy to the Lord; they shall go into the treasury of the Lord." ²⁰ So the people shouted, and priests blew the trumpets; and when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight ahead, and they took the city.

Reflection Questions

- A. What are some Christian traditions or practices that you think might seem unusual to someone who has never been inside a church?

B. How can you develop trust in God's plan when faced with situations that challenge your understanding or expectations?

IMPORTANT EMPHASIS

The Main Character(s)

Lord- Yahweh, the Hebrew name for the God of the Covenant. The tetragrammaton YHWH is the personal name of God of Moses. Late in the period of the Second Temple the name had to come to be regarded as **unspeakably holy** and therefore unsuitable for use in public reading. **Matthew 6:9**

Joshua – Joshua’s former name is Hoshea meaning salvation or save. Moses changes it to Joshua meaning Yahweh delivered. Joshua is one of the unsung heroes of the Old Testament. **Num.13:16**

Israel – Name of the northern kingdom. Israel means to “**Prevail**” it also means that “God rules” or “God strives” **Gen. 35:10**

Jericho- North West of the Dead Sea known as the site that Israel first conquered in their entrance into the land of Canaan. Jericho is derived from an ancient Canaanite word for “moon”. Jericho is also used as a geographical marker opposite of Jericho, or at Jericho. Jericho New Testament Located in the Jordan river valley just south of ancient Jericho **Mark 10:46:52**

Main Insights

Jericho problem is revealed Joshua 6:1

Jericho promise is revealed Joshua 6:2

God makes his promises known – God spoke “ The longest speech delivered by YHWH!

God makes his promises visible – Joshus is told “see”

God makes his promises sure- given into your hands

God's promises cannot be detracted or destroyed by the opposition. Its king and valiant warriors are left harmless polemist. The opposition is evitable. This is why you have the **Lord** and God appoints a **strong leader**.

This story is so inspiring that it is mention in the book and chapter of Faith which is Hebrews 11:30

The Main Intro Movements

Persevering Participation- Israel does not languish over the laborious pilgrimage. They do not fade or wean from doing the consistent will of God. However let us take note that there is a different method or battle plan. "Joshua reports no military strategy, no troop movements with recognizable purpose, no calculated attack on the city walls; human achievement in the battle is all but denied." Jerome F.D. Creach.

Consistency in Marching- There is a different strategy. They fight through there Follow(ship). Fists are not a factor here. The foot/feet will do the work. According to the first law of mention the battle between good and evil is at the level of the Foot.
Genesis 3:15

Carriers of the Music- Seven priests shall carry seven trumpets. There is an obvious undertone of the usage of the number of completion 7 priests, 7 trumpets, and them receiving the victory of the 7th day.

Chorus of the Masses- shout with a great shout. When you are about to receive a great blessing that energy should be matched with a great shout. The state of the wall changed from a impediment to the fulfillment of the impossible. "The account emphasizes that the contents of Jericho must be returned as an offering to the lord, as the first fruits of conquest." **Psalms 34:1-2**

Key Words and Terms

Abundance
Actions
Advice
Angels
Appearance
Challenges
Childlike Faith
Courageous Faith
Determination
Divine Guidance
Doubt
Enemies
Enthusiasm

Escape
Faith
Fear
God's Timing
Guidance
Heroes
Initiative
Insurmountable
Intervention
Leadership
Miracles/Miraculous
Obedience

Obstacles
Persistence
Pivotal
Possessions
Power
Promised
Sanctified
Seven
Silent
Strategy
Unconventional
Wealth

Outline

- I. Jericho Jitters (Joshua 6:1-10)**
 - A. Preparation for the Promise (Joshua 6:1-3)
 - B. Priestly Procession (Joshua 6:4-9)
 - C. Prohibition of Proclamation (Joshua 6:10)
- II. Sanctified Shout (Joshua 6:11-20)**
 - A. Faith Filing (Joshua 6:11-14)
 - B. Shouting in Submission (Joshua 6:15-16)
 - C. Sanctifying the Spoils (Joshua 6:17-20)

INTRODUCTION

The Book of Joshua presents a convincing narrative of **faith** and **obedience**, with Joshua 6 standing out as a pivotal chapter that illustrates the power of divine intervention and human trust. Joshua 6:1-20 describes the miraculous conquest of Jericho, where the Israelites, under Joshua's leadership, follow God's unconventional battle plan to bring down the city's formidable walls. The story emphasizes the importance of **courageous faith** and **unwavering obedience** to God's commands, serving as a timeless reminder of the strength found in **trusting divine guidance**, even when faced with seemingly insurmountable challenges.

In this passage, the Israelites are instructed to march around Jericho for seven days, with priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant and blowing trumpets. On the seventh

day, their unified shout, as commanded by God, leads to the miraculous collapse of the city's walls. This event not only marks a significant victory for the Israelites but also symbolizes the triumph of **faith over fear** and doubt. The narrative of Jericho's fall encourages believers to **embrace a childlike faith**, trusting in God's promises and timing, and highlights the transformative power of faith in overcoming obstacles.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The background and context of Joshua chapter 6 are set during a key moment in the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land. After the death of Moses, Joshua assumes leadership and is tasked with leading the Israelites across the Jordan River into Canaan. Jericho, a fortified city with formidable walls, represents the first major obstacle in their conquest of the land. The narrative highlights the Israelites' reliance on divine guidance, as God provides Joshua with an **unconventional strategy** to conquer Jericho. This involves marching around the city for seven days, with priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant and blowing trumpets. The miraculous fall of Jericho's walls on the seventh day underscores the themes of faith, obedience, and the power of God's intervention, setting the stage for the Israelites' continued victories in Canaan.

Exploring the Text

I. Jericho Jitters (Joshua 6:1-10)

A. Preparation for the Promise (Joshua 6:1-3)

¹Now Jericho was tightly shut because of the sons of Israel; no one went out and no one came in. ²The Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and the valiant warriors. ³You shall march around the city, all the men of war circling the city once. You shall do so for six days.

Joshua 6:1-3 describes the preparation for the Israelites' conquest of Jericho. The city is tightly shut due to the Israelites' presence. God instructs Joshua that Jericho will be delivered into their hands, and they are to march around the city once a day for six days, highlighting themes of **divine promise** and **obedience**.

B. Priestly Procession (Joshua 6:4-9)

⁴Also seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark; then on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times,

and the priests shall blow the trumpets. ⁵ It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down^lflat, and the people will go up every man^lstraight ahead.” ⁶ So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord.” ⁷ Then he said to the people, “Go forward, and march around the city, and let the armed men go on before the ark of the Lord.” ⁸ And it was so, that when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Lord went forward and blew the trumpets; and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them. ⁹ The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while they continued to blow the trumpets.

In Joshua 6:4-9, God instructs Joshua on the **strategy** for conquering Jericho, involving a **unique procession**. Seven priests are to carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Ark of the Covenant, marching around the city once daily for six days. On the seventh day, they are to circle the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. At the sound of a long trumpet blast, the people are to **shout**, causing the city's walls to collapse. Joshua relays these instructions to the priests and the people, emphasizing the importance of following **God's plan** precisely, highlighting themes of faith, obedience, and divine intervention.

C. Prohibition of Proclamation (Joshua 6:10)

¹⁰ But Joshua commanded the people, saying, “You shall not shout nor let your voice be heard nor let a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I tell you, ‘Shout!’ Then you shall shout!”

Joshua 6:10 describes a specific command given by Joshua to the Israelites during the siege of Jericho. He instructs the people to remain **silent**, not to shout or let their voices be heard, until the moment he commands them to shout. This directive emphasizes the importance of **discipline and obedience** in following God's plan, highlighting the need for patience and trust in **divine timing** before taking action.

The significance of Joshua 6:10 for today lies in its emphasis on discipline, obedience, and **patience**. In a fast-paced world, this passage

reminds us of the value of waiting for the right moment and trusting in a larger plan. It encourages individuals to practice self-control and to listen carefully before acting, highlighting the importance of timing and faith in achieving goals. (**Psalm 27:14; 37:7; Isaiah 40:31**)

Check for Understanding

1. What was the initial instruction given by God to Joshua regarding the conquest of Jericho? (Joshua 6:1-3)

2. How many priests were involved in the procession, and what were they carrying? (Joshua 6:4)

3. What specific command did Joshua give to the people regarding their behavior during the siege? (Joshua 6:10)

Exploring the Text

II. Sanctified Shout (Joshua 6:11-20)

A. Faith Filing (Joshua 6:11-14)

¹¹ So he had the ark of the Lord taken around the city, circling it once; then they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp. ¹² Now Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the Lord. ¹³ The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord went on continually, and blew the trumpets; and the armed men went before them and the rear guard came after the ark of the Lord, while they continued to blow the trumpets. ¹⁴ Thus the second

day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp; they did so for six days.

In Joshua 6:11-14, the Israelites follow God's instructions by marching around Jericho once each day for six days. The Ark of the Covenant is carried by priests, and the armed men lead the procession, while the rear guard follows. This daily ritual emphasizes themes of **faith** and **obedience**, as the Israelites trust in God's plan despite the **unconventional** strategy. The repetition of the march underscores the importance of **perseverance** and **patience** in fulfilling divine commands, highlighting the power of steadfast faith in achieving victory.

B. Shouting in Submission (Joshua 6:15-16)

¹⁵ Then on the seventh day they rose early at the dawning of the day and marched around the city in the same manner seven times; only on that day they marched around the city seven times. ¹⁶ At the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city.

In Joshua 6:15-16, the Israelites, led by Joshua, follow God's instructions by marching around the city of Jericho seven times on the seventh day. At the seventh circuit, the priests blow their trumpets, and Joshua commands the people to **shout**, declaring that the Lord has given them the city. Key themes include **obedience to divine instructions**, **faith**, and the fulfillment of **God's promises**. (John 14:23)

C. Sanctifying the Spoils (Joshua 6:17-20)

¹⁷ The city shall be under the ban, it and all that is in it belongs to the Lord; only Rahab the harlot and all who are with her in the house shall live, because she hid the messengers whom we sent. ¹⁸ But as for you, only keep yourselves from the things under the ban, so that you do not covet them and take some of the things under the ban, and make the camp of Israel accursed and bring trouble on it. ¹⁹ But all the silver and gold and articles of bronze and iron are holy to the Lord; they shall go into the treasury of the Lord." ²⁰ So the people shouted, and priests blew the trumpets; and when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout and the wall fell down flat, so that the

people went up into the city, every man straight ahead, and they took the city.

In Joshua 6:17-20, the Israelites are instructed to dedicate the city of Jericho to the Lord, marking it as under a ban. Everything in the city is to be destroyed except for **Rahab** and her family, who are spared for protecting the Israelite spies. The silver, gold, and articles of bronze and iron are to be placed in the Lord's treasury. When the people shout and the trumpets sound, the walls of Jericho collapse, allowing the Israelites to capture the city. Key themes include the importance of obedience to divine commands, the sanctity of dedicating victories to God, and the fulfillment of God's promises through faith and action.

Check for Understanding

4. How does the act of marching around Jericho for six days demonstrate the Israelites' faith and obedience to God's unconventional strategy?

5. What significance does the act of shouting on the seventh day hold in the context of fulfilling God's promises, and how does it reflect the Israelites' trust in divine instructions?

6. In what ways does the dedication of Jericho's spoils to the Lord emphasize the themes of sanctity and obedience.

7. How does this action reinforce the importance of following divine commands?

Life Application Questions

Reflecting on the story of Jericho, think about how can you apply the principles of faith and obedience in your own life when facing challenges that seem insurmountable?

Consider a situation where you need to trust in a plan that doesn't make immediate sense. How can the example of the Israelites' perseverance and trust in God's timing inspire you to remain patient and faithful?

Resources:

Adult Questions for LESSONMaker, LOGOS Bible Software

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