

Victorious

Joshua 6:1-8

Dr. Paul Cannings

A. Be Careful to Listen (vs. 1-4):

1. Even when others do not care to listen:
 - a) Shut up tightly - Jericho shut up the gates as though they were imprisoning themselves.
 - b) No one came in or went out – All movement in and out of Jericho stopped. They spent forty years suffering because they chose to run from an enemy that was afraid of them (Joshua 2:8-11) all because they chose not to listen.
 - c) Because of the children of Israel – Israel was near the city walls of Jericho and could be on them in no time.
 - a) Because of the children of Israel – As Rabah stated the history of Israel preceded them. All who God preserved are listening.

2. It is seeing through God's eyes:
 - a) The Lord said – The Lord of Host who is all powerful, has all authority and desires a relationship with His people, summons Joshua to hear His words. Joshua had heard from the Lord of Host and was completely surrendered to do His will (5:13-15).
 - b) See - Joshua needs to accept the words of the Lord of Host who is providing him a clear understanding concerning what God was going to do. Believing in the Lord allows us to see what He will do (Hebrews 11:6).
 - c) See - Joshua can see only because the Lord of Host provided him a full understanding of a message. Joshua must accept the message to experience the victory (Joshua 1:5-9).

3. It trusting in God's promises:

- a) I have given - This is a gift from God. It is not something they have earned. It is a promise provided to Abraham.
 - a) I have given - What the Lord of Host is saying is something that has been activated generously and is immovable. God sustained two million people without doctors or medical centers for forty years.
 - b) I have given - Joshua and Israel have been provided the ability to take the land.
 - c) Jericho into your hands – The land will become Israel’s possession and they will have dominion over it.
4. It overcomes all obstacles no matter how great they may be.
- a) Valiant warriors – They will possess the land even though Jericho has strong prevailing, proven warriors when God fights our battles.
5. It demands obedience because faith without works is dead (James 2:18-24).
- a) You shall march around - They must condition themselves to have a mind to walk around in circles.
 - b) Will do this - They have an ethical obligation and must maintain a deep commitment to following the instructions provided by the Lord of Host.
 - c) Seven priests shall carry - They must lift up and bear the responsibility of carrying the ark the entire journey.
 - d) Shall blow - On the seventh day they must persistently blow the trumpets.

B. Live by Faith, Not by Sight (vs. 4-5; Hebrews 11:6):

1. It shall be –No one can stop what is going to take place.
2. When you hear the sound – When they have given their undivided attention to the sound of the trumpet and clearly understand what to do, they must act.
3. All the people shall shout – The people upon hearing the trumpet must cry out with a loud voice. It may make no sense but faith requires it because faith without works is dead.
4. The wall of the city – The walls that everyone in the city trusted will not protect them. When faith is at work there is no wall that can stop you.
5. The wall of the city – God will bring down the walls so that the warriors of Israel can go right in. Faith is the victory.
6. Straight ahead – Victory requires us to keep our eyes fixed on Christ (Hebrews 12:3). Nothing is impossible with God (Matthew 19:26).