

Joshua – Lesson 35: Success – The Campaigns of Joshua PT 1
Joshua 10:29-11:23

Matthew 10:16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

Did we learn our lesson? Study Questions from lesson 34 (Ingredient - Integrity)

1. According to Joshua 10:8, why should the children of Israel be fearless?
Answer: For I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.
2. According to Ephesians 3:11-12, what is the source of the believer's boldness?
Answer: With confidence by the faith of him (Christ Jesus our Lord).
3. According to Acts 4:29-30, what did the disciples do to obtain boldness?
Answer: Pray.
4. According to Joshua 10:11, how were most of the Amorites killed?
Answer: They were more which died with hailstones than *they* whom the children of Israel slew with the sword
5. Complete the following scripture:
1 Peter 1:16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

True / False

False Christ came to destroy the law (we would be free of it). (MAT 5:17)

False We should fear those who could physically harm us. (LUK 12:4)

False The children of Israel left the next day for Gibeon. (JOS 10:9)

True As Joshua asked, God stopped the sun from moving for about a day. (JOS 10:14)

Lesson 35: The Campaigns of Joshua

"If we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are at all times ready for war." —George Washington (1793)

- For others to take you seriously, your testimony must speak for itself – It is established by your behavior.

"Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword." - Jesus Christ (Matthew 10:34)

- The 'sword' Christ brings to this world in the current dispensation is the Word of God (Ephesians 6:17)
- The 'sword' Christ wields in His return is the judgement of God (Revelation 19:11-15)

Conflict in this world is inevitable – There is a division between the will of the lord of this world and the will of the Father, which will exist until God reconciles the world to Himself. The individual must choose which will receive their allegiance (those who choose Christ are 'believers' and are his – John 10:28-29).

As noted in **Matthew 10:16**, the believer is kept in the world with the expectation that the believer will need to depend on the wisdom of God to withstand the fierce opposition of the world.

Joshua and the children of Israel engage in a series of campaigns to obtain possession of the inheritance promised by God, as they demonstrate the strength of faith over the world.

Joshua 10:29-41 - Victory against the southern kingdoms

(29) Then Joshua passed from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, unto Libnah, and fought against Libnah:

(30) And the LORD delivered it also, and the king thereof, into the hand of Israel; and he smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that *were* therein; he let none remain in it; but did unto the king thereof as he did unto the king of Jericho.

- 31-32 The kingdom of Lachish is defeated
- 33 The kingdom of Gezer is defeated
- 34-35 The kingdom of Eglon is defeated
- 36-37 The kingdom of Hebron is defeated
- 38-39 The kingdom of Debir is defeated

(40) So Joshua smote all the country of the hills, and of the south, and of the vale, and of the springs, and all their kings: he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded.

(41) And Joshua smote them from Kadeshbarnea even unto Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even unto Gibeon.

The children of Israel are led by God on a path of conquest that overpowers almost the entire southern inheritance (the six kingdoms of the south). It is not merely a defeat of the defending armies, but a complete elimination of all indigenous inhabitants ('utterly destroyed all that breathed').

Joshua 10:42-43 – The source of victory

(42) And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.

(43) And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

The children of Israel had no hesitation in obeying the direction of God – Because they knew that God is faithful to His promise, that all success is of the will of God.

1 John 5:10-12 – The promise

(10) He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

(11) And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

(12) He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

The believer in this dispensation (grace) is not promised dominance over the world, riches, fame, health or happiness in the things of the world (if this is your concept of God's victory for you – there is a need to realign with God), but is promised life everlasting, with specific attributes/benefits, such as:

1. To be transformed immediately to incorruptible (1 COR 15:52))
2. To be like Christ (1 JOHN 3:2)
3. To be part of Christ (1 COR 12:13)
4. To have a joint inheritance with Christ (ROM 8:17)
5. To have a new heaven and earth (REV 21)

The believer can have assurance in the promise of God, that as the children of Israel trusted in God, so must we, but to a different end.

Joshua 11:1-5 The northern kingdoms unite against the children of Israel

(5) And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.

Seeing the victory in the south, the north quickly organizes to resist the coming invasion.

Note – The children of Israel are preserved against their enemies (they have no ‘new recruits’ or converts, but must go out in faith against the inhabitants of their inheritance)

John 15:19 *If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you*

- As with the children of Israel in their inheritance, this world is constantly preparing and acting to defeat the believer (hoping to defeat Christ)

Joshua 11:6-8, 23 - The northern kingdoms are defeated

(6) And the LORD said unto Joshua, Be not afraid because of them: for tomorrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.

(7) So Joshua came, and all the people of war with him, against them by the waters of Merom suddenly; and they fell upon them.

(8) And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephothmaim, and unto the valley of Mizpeh eastward; and they smote them, until they left them none remaining.

(23) So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.

The promise of God is that the kingdoms of the north will be delivered to the children of Israel – Fear not!

The direction was followed, and the victory was complete – leaving none remaining.

With the obedience to God, and victory in the land (as directed through Moses, then Joshua), the children of Israel had been given time to enjoy the fruits of their faith.

The believer is at odds with the world (in the world but not of the world – paraphrase of John 17:16), but can have peace, even joy:

Galatians 5:22-25

(22) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

(23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

(24) And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

(25) If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

The believer can experience satisfaction in the Spirit of God if willing to surrender the lusts of the world. Only God (through the Holy Spirit) can produce fruit – The believer receives this fruit when allowing the Holy Spirit to develop the believer’s character, that they would be blameless before others to not hinder the testimony of Christ.

Next Lesson: Joshua – The Campaigns PT 2

Joshua – Lesson 35: The Campaigns of Joshua PT 1

Study Questions

1. According to Matthew 10:16, how is the believer sent into the world?

2. According to Joshua 10:29-41, what kingdoms did the children of Israel conquer?

3. According to Joshua 10:42, why were the children of Israel victorious?

4. According to 1 John 5:11, what does God promise the believer?

5. Complete the following scripture:

Matthew 10:34 Think not that I am come to send _____ on earth: I came not to send _____, but a _____.

True / False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | The children of Israel took many captives in their conquest. |
| T | F | The children of Israel returned to Gilgal after the southern victory. |
| T | F | The northern kingdoms united against the children of Israel. |
| T | F | The 'world' welcomes the believer. |