

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**SO THE LORD WAS WITH JOSHUA**

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

SCRIPTURE READING: **JOSHUA 6:16-27**

**Joshua 6:27**, So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.

## 1. BACKGROUND

- a. Joshua is a book that speaks of Israel in conflict and conquest.
- b. Joshua is the author of this book; however, some of the elders who outlived Joshua added portions to the book after his death. This is found in **Joshua 24:31**, And Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the Lord, that he had done for Israel.
- c. It is widely believed among Bible scholars that Joshua's son, Phinehas, finished the last five verses of this book.
- d. Joshua was written between 1410 and 1350 B.C. It was written primarily to the Israelites, but there is also application for the church.
- e. The **Book of Joshua** completes the redemption of Israel that began in the **Book of Exodus**.
- f. Exodus is the book of redemption out of Egypt. Joshua is the book of redemption into the Promised Land.
- g. A **key word** in the **Book of Joshua** is possession.
- h. God had given the land to Israel in an unconditional covenant. He said to Abraham in **Genesis 17:8**, And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.
- i. The land was given unconditionally, but the possession of the land was conditional. **Leviticus 20:24**, But I have said unto you, Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey: I am the Lord your God, which have separated you from other people. **Deuteronomy 7:7-8**, The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: 8, But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.
- j. There was conflict and conquest in Israel's fight to lay hold of their possession of the land God had given them.
- k. Joshua reminds us of something very key in his final message before his death. This key was their obedience to the word of God would determine their continued possession of the Promised Land. This gives us some insight into the reason why there are so many problems in Israel today.
- l. Joshua was the successor to Moses. His commission was given to him by God in **Joshua 1:1-7**, and it says, Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, 2, Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. 3, Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. 4, From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. 5, There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. 6, Be strong and of good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their

fathers to give them. **7,** *Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.* With this charge, Joshua became a great General.

- m. Joshua's background shows he was born a slave in Egypt. He was about forty years old at the time of the Exodus from Egypt.
- n. He was eighty when he received the commission as Moses' successor. He was one hundred ten years old at his death.
- o. Joshua had gained prominence during the wilderness wandering. He was one of two spies sent to check out the land that was promised to Israel. It was Joshua and Caleb who came back with a positive report. **Numbers 13:27,30,** *And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. **30,** And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.*
- p. As a result of their positive report, they were the only two who were allowed to enter the Promised Land. The rest of that generation passed away before they could see the Promised Land.
- q. Joshua was "a type" of the Lord Jesus Christ. His name means "Jehovah Saves." He was a man of courage. His dependence was upon God. His faith, leadership, enthusiasm, and fidelity emanated from the very Throne of God.
- r. Joshua shows us that a man of average ability can become a great leader for God. **1 Corinthians 1:26,** *For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:*
- s. He also shows us that age is no barrier. As we get older, we should have more wisdom to do things in a more practical way. Retirement is not a part of God's program. **Psalms 92:14,** *They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;*
- t. Since we hear so much about the Promised Land, I want to give you a few facts.
  - 1. The Promised Land cannot be a type of Heaven since Heaven is not a place of conflict and conquest.
  - 2. Heaven is received as a gift by the grace of God. **Romans 3:22,** *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*
  - 3. Our Promise Land represents the place to which believers are brought into this world after salvation. **Psalms 23:1-6,** *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. **2,** He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. **3,** He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. **4,** Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. **5,** Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. **6,** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*
- u. The **Book of Joshua** corresponds to the **Epistle to the Ephesians** in the New Testament where the believer is blessed with all spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. **Ephesians 1:3,** *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.*
- v. **A complete yielded life will minimize conflict and conquest.** When we have a complete yielded life to the Holy Spirit and not attempt to do things in the flesh, God will provide a positive Promised Land experience for every believer today. **Romans 8:8,** *So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.*
- w. Some key themes in the **Book of Joshua** are:
  - 1. **Our greatest asset is not our physical ability or cleverness; it is our faith in God's ability to overcome on our behalf.**
  - 2. **Victory comes through faith in God and obedience to His Word.**
  - 3. **Sin must be dealt with at once, because it brings severe consequences.**
  - 4. **God is always true to His promises.**
  - 5. All things are possible if we have faith in God who made all things.
  - 6. It is our responsibility to be obedient and faithful to the covenant of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

7. God punishes sinful nations as well as sinful individuals.  
x. With this background, let's see what God wants to teach us from the **Book of Joshua**.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

Refer to the Morning message September 15, 2019

## 3. FOUR POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

### f. For the LORD hath given you the city.

1. **Joshua 6:16-20**, And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city. **17**: And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. **18**, And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. **19**, But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD. **20**, So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.
2. I want you to notice exactly what God had promised took place in accordance with his instructions.
3. Not a single shot was fired by any of the soldiers or by any valiant men of Israel.
4. The Lord was in charge.
5. Sometimes things God tells us to do make no logical sense at all. We are reminded He is in charge and we are to follow His instruction.
6. The walls of the city fell down flat. I am sure the enemy was very frustrated from all the events that had taken place.
7. The Bible says in **Romans 10:17**, *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*
8. Whatever the Word of God says, we can bank on it because it is in fact true. **Psalms 119:160**, Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.
9. We live in a time where men are taking liberty to change the Preserved Word of God. **We MUST stick with the Book.**
10. **Hebrews 11:30**, *By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.*
11. Jericho represents the world to the believer. We are instructed to love not the world. **1 John 2:15-16**, *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16, For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*
12. The world appears to be strong and bold. Believers appear to be on the losing team. I can say without a doubt that God's Word says in **1 John 5:4**, *For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*
13. Faith in God is the most important thing on the face of the earth.
14. **Hebrews 11**, is considered the hall of faith and it contains some choice insight of God's servants who were willing to overcome all the obstacles and keep their eyes on Jesus. **Philippians 3:13-14**, *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*
15. The question is...Is God true to His promise? **Hebrews 13:5**, *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*
16. I believe there are strange things happening in the world because men have neglected the things of God. Even here men try to tell us it was an earthquake that caused the walls to fall down. I can tell you it was not an earthquake, it was not the fighting of the children of Israel; it was the faith of Joshua that lead the children of Israel around the wall as God had instructed.
17. The idea that Joshua was willing to do **exactly** what God told him to do was what lead to the victory.
18. God tells me as a pastor, to preach the Word, to be instant in season and out. **2 Timothy 4:2**,

*Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*

19. Joshua did not win the battle of Jericho; the Lord Jesus Christ caused the walls to fall down flat.
20. The aforementioned verse also indicates that Rahab the harlot was saved. **Joshua 2:18-19**, *Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee. 19, And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him.*
21. We must not gloss over God's prohibition of the accursed thing. *And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.* Disobedience in this area will cause Israel problems at Ai. Disobedience among believers today causes many problems and certainly interrupts abundant living.

**g. And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city.**

1. **Joshua 6:21-25**, *And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city*, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword. **22**, But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, *Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her. 23*, And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel. **24**, And they burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. **25**, And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; *because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.*
2. We know God is always true to His promises.
3. They had promised that Rahab would be spared. **Joshua 6:17**, *And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.*
4. I must emphasize that it is God's promises and the embracing and believing of them that will give us a home in Heaven.
5. God is in the business of giving righteousness for our belief. So not only does faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God – the fact of the matter is, the righteousness of God is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. **Romans 3:22**, *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*

**h. And Joshua adjured them at that time.**

1. **Joshua 6:26**, *And Joshua adjured them at that time*, saying, Cursed be the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it.
2. The Lord, through Joshua is pronouncing a curse upon Jericho.
3. He says whoever rebuilds the city will have a curse upon him and his sons.
4. Back in **1 Kings 16:34**, we find the city is rebuilt and God is true to His word. *In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho: he laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Joshua the son of Nun.*

**i. So the LORD was with Joshua.**

1. **Joshua 6:27**, *So the LORD was with Joshua*; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.
2. When we do things God's way, it is truly amazing as to what God will allow us to accomplish.
3. There was a great preacher at one time who said, Truly, no one knows what a man can accomplish that is totally surrendered to the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Are we really **willing** here at Chesswood to **humble ourselves** and not be committed but **to be surrendered** to our Lord and Saviour **Jesus Christ** and **let Him work through us** in a marvellous way?

5. It has been a very interesting lesson today. I hope in a small way it has challenged your heart as it has mine.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- a. Do you know the Saviour?
- b. If you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, today needs to be your day of salvation.
- c. Come to the side of the crucified Christ. **2 Corinthians 6:2**, *(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)*
- d. **Romans 3:23**, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
- e. **Romans 3:10**, *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*
- f. **Romans 10:9-10**, *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10, For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*
- g. Would you please stand?

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