

Bring Back To Remembrance

The Fall Of Jericho

(Js 6:1-5)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning,
 - a. Greeting...
2. Series of lessons on “Bring Back To Remembrance.”
 - a. Last week we looked at “The Exodus.”
 - i. We noticed how this should propel us to give honor to God.
 - ii. We noticed how this should help us to draw closer to God.
 - b. Today we will be examining “The Fall Of Jericho.”
 - i. **Js 6:1-5** “Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. 2 And the LORD said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. 3 You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. 4 Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. 5 And when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him.””¹
3. Background
 - a. In Joshua 2 we read of two spies being sent to Jericho to examine it.
 - i. This is where we come in contact first with Rahab.
 - b. Having spied out the land preparations are made to come over and overthrow it.
 - i. The people cross the Jordan on dry ground just like with the Red Sea.
 1. This caused the hearts of the other kings to melt.
 - ii. They make a stone memorial out of 12 stones.
 1. One stone per each tribe.
 - iii. They circumcised the men of Israel before going into battle to take Canaan.
 1. Those that came out of Egypt had been circumcised but God kept their children from being circumcised so as to distinguish that generation from the previous one.
 - iv. They had the Passover Feast for the first time in the Promised Land.
 1. This was done on the plains of Jericho.
 - v. Joshua meets the Commander of the Lord’s army.
 1. This of course is God and specifically Jesus it would appear.
4. Now with these things in mind let us look at the thrust of our lesson this great day.
 - a. We will be looking at what transpired to make the walls fall and then what we can learn from such an event.

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

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I. The Fall Of Jericho

- A. The Lord's instructions (3-5)
 - 1. They were to march around the city of Jericho once a day for six days.
 - i. First there were armed men leading the march.
 - ii. Second there were the seven priest with their seven ram horns that played continually while they marched.
 - iii. Third you had the priest that carried the ark.
 - iv. Lastly you had the rear guard making up the end of those marching precession.
 - 2. They were to march around the city of Jericho seven times on the seventh day.
 - i. The seven priests before the ark were to blow the rams horns continually as they went around the city the seven times.
 - ii. The men of war along with all the other Israelites were to shout upon hearing Joshua's command to shout.
- B. The result (15-21)
 - 1. Joshua upon hearing the ram's horn blown on the seventh march around the city command the people of Israel to "shout for the Lord."
 - i. When the people shouted the walls of Jericho fell flat.
 - a. More precisely the walls "fell beneath itself."
(<http://goo.gl/CdNxqh>)
- C. Thus...
 - 1. What we find is a most amazing miracle that has taken place by Almighty God.

II. The Lesson Learned

- A. The Hebrew writer elucidates why it is important to remember Jericho's fall
 - 1. **He 11:30** "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days."
 - i. Some might ask, "we know that already what does that have to really do with anything?"
 - 2. This text is a powerful example of the biblical definition of "by faith or through faith."
 - i. I have said numerous times faith is both belief and obedience combined.
 - a. **He 11:6** "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."
 - 3. **Hebrews 11:30** exemplifies this point perfectly through the fall of Jericho's account.
- B. By faith Jericho's wall fell
 - 1. God's promise.
 - i. **Js 6:2** "...See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor."
 - a. Did Israel immediately receive the city? No!!!

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2. God's instructions.
 - i. See previous notes.
 - a. Did Israel receive the city immediately after being told what to do? No!!!
 3. Man's belief.
 - i. When we look at the Hebrew account we find here that belief was the motivating factor behind the Israelites obedience.
 - a. Did the walls of Jericho come down at the moment the Israelites had belief? No!!!
 4. Man's obedience.
 - i. Israel marched for six days blowing ram horns according to the instructions from God and on the seventh day per God's instructions they shouted when told.
 - a. Did the walls of Jericho come down after the first day? No.
 - b. Did the walls of Jericho come down after the sixth day? No.
 - c. Did the walls of Jericho come down after the seventh day and the trumpets blast? No.
 - d. Did the walls of Jericho come down after all of the instructions of the Lord had been met? Yes!!!
 5. Therefore to do something by faith or through faith is to combine belief and complete obedience to the prescribed instructions.
- C. We are saved by grace through faith
1. Many use Paul's words in Ephesians as proof text baptism cannot be a part of God's plan of salvation.
 - i. **Ep 2:8-9** "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast."
 2. However we find that grace is only accessed by faith.
 - i. **Ro 5:2** "Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God."
 3. Now the Hebrew writer, inspired by God, teaches us what "by faith" means through the account of Jericho's fall.
 - i. Thus we find that in order to obtain God's saving grace we must become completely obedient to every aspect of God's instructions on such which include baptism.
 - a. **II Th 1:8; I Co 15:1-4; Ro 6:3-5**
- D. Thus...
1. By us bringing back to our remembrance the account of Jericho's demise we help ourselves draw closer to God "by faith" and are reminded all the more why we should always give God the glory and honor He is due.

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CONCLUSION

1. Brethren let us remember we “walk by faith, not by sight.”
 - a. Thus we walk according to God’s glorious Word not by our own understanding.
 - i. **Pr 16:25** “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.”
 - ii. **Pr 3:5** “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.”
2. Question: Are you walking by faith not by sight?
 - a. If so continue therein and grow thereby.
 - b. If not why not?
3. Invitation
 - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent by confessing your sins to God that He may forgive you and dedicate your life/time back to Him.
 - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
 - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required to become a child of God or Christian according to God and God only.
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Have Faith In Jesus **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
 - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
 - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**