

JOSHUA

TAKING HOLD OF THE PROMISE

Operation Jericho



Joshua 5:13-15

Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. And the LORD said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. 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. 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." So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them,

“Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.” And he said to the people, “Go forward. March around the city and let the armed men pass on before the ark of the LORD.” And just as Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward, blowing the trumpets,

with the ark of the covenant of the LORD following them. The armed men were walking before the priests who were blowing the trumpets, and the rear guard was walking after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually. But Joshua commanded the people, “You shall not shout or make your voice heard, neither shall any word go out of your mouth, until the day I tell you to shout.

Then you shall shout.” So he caused the ark of the LORD to circle the city, going about it once. And they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp. Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD. And the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD walked on, and they blew the trumpets continually. And the armed men were walking before them,

and the rear guard was walking after the ark of the LORD, while the trumpets blew continually. And the second day they marched around the city once, and returned into the camp. So they did for six days. On the seventh day they rose early, at the dawn of day, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times.

And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the LORD has given you the city... So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city.

Now Jericho was **shut up inside and outside** because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in.

Jericho is a city under siege. By all the normal rules of human military engagement this stalemate situation will have to be resolved by an Israelite attack. But that is a daunting prospect for an under-equipped and inexperienced body of fighting men. It is every bit as impossible to think of them overcoming Jericho, a garrison city, as it was to think that they could cross the Jordan in flood.

– David Jackman



And the **LORD said** to Joshua, “**See, I have given Jericho into your hand,** with its king and mighty men of valor.

Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before **the ark**.

“Take up **the ark** of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before **the ark** of the LORD.”

March around the city and let the armed men pass on before **the ark** of the LORD.

with **the ark** of the covenant of the LORD following them

and the rear guard was walking after **the ark**

So he caused **the ark** of the LORD to circle the city, going about it once.

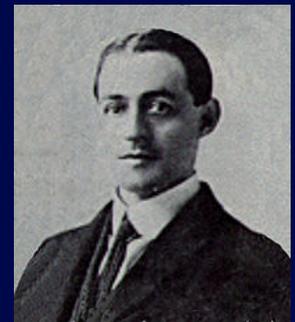
Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up **the ark** of the LORD.

And the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before **the ark** of the LORD walked on

and the rear guard was walking after **the ark** of the LORD

Victory over our enemies must never be ascribed to our own prowess: rather are we to aver, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory, for Thy mercy, for Thy truth's sake" (Ps. 115:1). Jericho was Israel's by Divine donation, and therefore its capture was to be attributed wholly unto the God of all grace.

– A.W. Pink



You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. 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. And...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

According to the LORD's instructions to Joshua, what will bring down the city of Jericho is not a military assault, but a worship service.

– Kim Riddlebarger



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.

Exodus 20:8-11

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the **seventh** day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant...For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the **seventh** day.

2 Kings 5:10

And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan **seven times**, and your flesh shall be restored, and **you shall be clean.**”

You shall not shout or make your voice heard, **neither shall any word go out of your mouth**, until the day I tell you to shout.

What a rare commodity! How difficult this is to achieve. If we're not speaking verbally, then there are a thousand mental voices inside our thoughts, each vying for the last word. Listen to God?

How can he possibly get a word in edgewise? This passage seems to be saying, "Don't talk so much. Be quiet before the Lord after you've poured out your heart to him. Let God speak."

– James Montgomery Boice





Hebrews 11:30

By **faith** the walls of Jericho fell down
after they had been encircled for
seven days.

Hebrews 11:7

By **faith** Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Hebrews 11:30

By **faith** Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

2 Corinthians 10:3-4

For though we walk in the flesh, we are **not waging war according to the flesh**. For the **weapons** of our warfare are **not of the flesh** but have **divine power** to destroy strongholds.

Faith has nothing to do with feelings or with impressions, with improbabilities or with outward experiences. If we desire to couple such things with faith, then we are no longer resting on the Word of God, because faith needs nothing of the kind. Faith rests on the naked Word of God. When we take Him at His Word, the heart is at peace.

– George Muller

