

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

Introduction

Read: *Vs 1-6*

This chapter opens with five of the kings of **CANAAN** joining forces to attack the **GIBEONITES** because they had made a peace treaty with the people of **ISRAEL**.

These five kings didn't know it at the time, but they were playing right into the hand of **JOSHUA** and **ISRAEL!** Instead of having to pick them off one at a time, we will see that they came together and **JOSHUA** and **ISRAEL** were able to defeat them all together!

If you remember our last message from this book, we saw **JOSHUA** and the **ISRAELITES** had been tricked into making a peace treaty with the **GIBEONITES**. It is implied here that in making that treaty that **ISRAEL** had possibly promised to ally with the **GIBEONITES** if they were attacked while they were in the land because that is what we see happening here. Either that or the **ISRAELITES** were liking the free labor from the **GIBEONITES** and were wanting to protect that!

Now, for **ISRAEL**, this would be another battle in the **CONQUEST** of the **PROMISED LAND**. They were going to have to face these kings at some point in time in their **CONQUEST** and this was the time! We will see that the **LORD** was with them in the **BATTLE** here!

For us, it is a vivid picture of the **CHRISTIAN LIFE**. **BATTLES** are a reality in the life of the **CHILD OF GOD**, but we never have to face them alone!

Scripture says that our **GOD** is always with us and will not forsake us!
Hebrews 13:5b—"...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

In fact, in the times of **BATTLE**, we have the **PROMISE** of help from the **ONE WHO**, according to *Psalms 46:1*, is *"our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."*

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

This evening, I want to remind you that, as **BELIEVERS**, our lives will be filled with **BATTLES**. And these **BATTLES** are **SPIRITUAL BATTLES!** *Ephesians 6:10-13—"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."*

And when we choose to face our **SPIRITUAL BATTLES** in the **POWER** of our **FLESH**, there can be some devastating **CONSEQUENCES** in our lives.

The **BATTLES** are unavoidable, but **VICTORY** can be ours when we determine to rely upon **GOD** to bring us through our **BATTLES!** Let's learn how to have **VICTORY WITH GOD!**

I. WE SEE A LESSON ABOUT OUR LORD! (*Vs 7-15*)
JOSHUA and **ISRAEL** honored the peace treaty they made with the **GIBEONITES!** They kept their word and helped the **GIBEONITES** fight those kings that rose up against them.

As they prepared for **BATTLE**, the **LORD** came to them with the **PROMISE** of **HELP** and of **VICTORY!** **GOD** was about to **FIGHT** for **HIS** people!

This section represents the **SUPERNATURAL** aspect of the **LORD** in our **BATTLES!** In the **BATTLES** we face, when we look to the **LORD** and **LEAN ON HIM**, the **LORD SUPERNATURALLY** comes to our aid and **FIGHTS** in the **BATTLE** with us and for us!

I'm talking about the times when **HE** moves in **POWER** and does a work that only **HE** can do in our **LIFE!** That is what we see pictured here!

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

There are three important **TRUTHS** revealed here about our **LORD** in the day of **BATTLE**:

A. The LORD Gave HIS PEACE! (Vs 8)
HIS challenge to HIS PEOPLE was for them NOT TO FEAR the ENEMY!

The **LORD** was just reminding **JOSHUA** that **HE**, the **LORD**, was still in **CONTROL** of the situation!

May I remind you this evening that whatever **BATTLE** you are facing in this life, the **LORD** is still in **CONTROL!** **HE** is still on the **THRONE** and **HE** is still the **PRINCE OF PEACE!**

For those who will **WALK BY FAITH** and **NOT BY SIGHT**, the **LORD** still gives **PEACE** that passes all understanding!
The secret to walking in **PEACE** is to walk in **FAITH!**

The **LORD** didn't save us so that we could be **AGITATED** and **WORRIED** like the world! Neither does **HE** want us to **TREMBLE** or **FEAR** our **ENEMIES** when they show up on the scene.

When the day of **BATTLE** comes in our **LIFE**, the **LORD** will give us **PEACE**, if we will just **LEAN ON HIM!**
Philippians 4:6-7—"6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Proverbs 3:5-6—"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

The LORD Gave HIS PEACE!

B. The LORD Gave HIS PROMISE! (Vs 8)
The **LORD** didn't stop with just a **WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT**, **HE** also gave them the **PROMISE** of absolute **VICTORY!**

The **LORD** never **SAVED** us so we could be **DEFEATED!**
When **HE SAVED** us, **HE** did so with the **PROMISE** that we could walk in **HIS VICTORY!**

Paul wrote in *1 Corinthians 15:57—"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

And in *2 Corinthians 2:14—"14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place."*

Now, that doesn't mean that every situation in life will work out the way we want it to, but it does mean that the **LORD** will **ENABLE** us to **LIVE ABOVE** our **CIRCUMSTANCES** and to be **VICTORIOUS** in our **BATTLES** with of the **WORLD**, the **FLESH** and the **DEVIL!**

C. The LORD Gave HIS POWER! (Vs 9-14)
In these verses, we see the a mighty demonstration of the **POWER OF THE LORD** in the life of **ISRAEL!**

The **LORD MANIFESTED HIS SUPERNATURAL POWER** and gave **HIS CHILDREN** the **VICTORY!**

HE moved in two ways:

1) The LORD Moved In The HAIL! (Vs 11)
Here we see that the **LORD** performed a great **MIRACLE** with regard to the physical world!

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

Job 38:22-23—“Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail, which I have reserved against the time of trouble, against the day of battle and war?”

- 2) **The LORD Moved In The HEAVENS! (Vs 12-14)**
Here we see the **LORD** performed another even greater **MIRACLE** with regard to the physical world.

It is often referred to as the “**LONG DAY OF JOSHUA**”, but all that **JOSHUA** did was ask the **LORD** for it!

The **LORD** is the **ONE** who stopped the sun in the heavens and extended the daylight hours for **JOSHUA** and his army to finish the **BATTLE!**

What does this mean for us? Well, there are times when the **LORD** both **can** and **will** **SUPERNATURALLY** intervene in our life through **PRAYER** as we face our **BATTLES!** (*Ephesians 3:20 – “...is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think...”*)

Have you ever seen **GOD** intervene in **ANSWER** to a **PRAYER** that there could be no other explanation, **BUT GOD!**

Does **HE** always choose to work in such a miraculous way? No, but that does not diminish **HIS POWER** one bit!

WE SEE A LESSON ABOUT OUR LORD!

- II. **WE SEE A LESSON ABOUT THE LORD’S PEOPLE. (Vs 15-27)**
The **LORD** gave them a great **VICTORY** through **HIS MIGHTY POWER**, but there was still more of the **BATTLE** to be fought.

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

In these next verses, we see **ISRAEL**, not the **LORD**, engaged in the **BATTLE!** Now the **LORD** was there for them! And the **LORD** will **FIGHT** for us, but **HE** also expects us to put up a **FIGHT!**

- A. **We Must Control Our Enemy. (Vs 15-18)**

Notice that these five kings tried to hide themselves in a cave. When they were discovered, **JOSHUA** ordered the cave to be sealed up, thus preventing the kings from escaping. That is a picture of **CONTROL!**

When we got **SAVED** the **LORD** changed us, but our old, **SINFUL NATURE** is still alive and well!

Just like these kings, our **ENEMY**, the **FLESH**, hides itself within us and comes out into the open from time to time to cause us trouble!

It might be a problem with the **TONGUE** that will come out from time to time. It might be **ANGER, HATRED, PREJUDICE, LUST, or other DEPRAVITY!** Whatever the **SIN** is in our life, it must be **CONTROLLED**, or it will eventually come to **CONTROL** us.

It is important for us to note that part of the **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT** is “*temperance*” or “*self-control*”. (*Galatians 5*)

As a **CHILD OF GOD**, we have no right to do as we please! We are to **WALK IN THE SPIRIT!** One proof of **WALKING IN THE SPIRIT** is **SELF-CONTROL!**

We Must Control Our Enemy.

- B. **We Must Confront Our Enemy. (Vs 19-27)**

After the battle had been won, **JOSHUA** came back to that cave and brought these kings out and humiliated them by having his princes place their feet upon their necks.

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

He confronted them openly and publicly pronounced the **VICTORY** over them.

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING, we need to do the same thing.

Every one of us here this evening knows what kings hide in our life. We know about the **SECRET SINS** and those problems we have with the **FLESH!** The only way for us to get absolute, permanent **VICTORY** over these things is to confront them.

We need to drag them out of their hiding place and lay them out before the **LORD**, place our foot on their necks in the name of **JESUS** and proclaim the **VICTORY** over them.

We will never have **VICTORY** as a **CHILD OF GOD** until our **SINS** are handled **GOD'S WAY!**

Proverbs 28:13—"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

JOSHUA took a step here that ensured the **VICTORY** over these five kings that looked to trouble **ISRAEL!**
He put them to death!

The only way for us to walk in **VICTORY** before the **LORD** is to put those things to death that cause us the problem!

We must **DIE DAILY** to the **SINS** of the **FLESH**, or they will keep us from **WALKING** in **POWER** and **VICTORY!**

Colossians 3:5—"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:"

Galatians 2:20—"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

**BOOK OF JOSHUA
VICTORY WITH GOD
JOSHUA 10:1-43**

A LESSON ABOUT OUR LORD...

A LESSON ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF THE LORD...

III. A LESSON ABOUT DAILY BATTLES. (Vs 28-43)

The rest of these verses relate the account of remaining **BATTLES** fought.

The clear indication is that every day we will be faced with another **BATTLE**.
But we are guaranteed the **VICTORY WITH GOD!**

Conclusion

We are only fooling ourselves if we think that we will never have to deal with our **ENEMIES** in this life!

We must face the **BATTLES** daily in the **POWER OF THE LORD** and our **GOD** is **GREAT** and **MIGHTY!**

HE has enabled us to have **VICTORY** if we will but **YIELD TO HIM** and **HIS WORD!**

Are you walking in **HIS POWER** tonight? If not, you need to find the **VICTORY** that only comes from a **DAILY WALK OF FAITH** with the **LORD!**