

WHEN THE WALLS FALL

HEROES: JOSHUA

Here's some background, and what we need to know:

- Historical book (1400 to 1375 BC) - Written about 1375 BC by Joshua and Israelite scribes
- This book begins the story of Israel as a nation and contains the first events to take place upon entering the promise land.
- Moses has led the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt, Joshua was Moses' assistant (Numbers 11:28) and Moses appoints Joshua the leader who takes Israel into the promised land.

Numbers 13:16 These are the names of the men Moses sent out to explore the land. (Moses called Hoshea son of Nun by the name Joshua.) (NLT)

- The name Hoshea (or Hosea) means "salvation," or "deliverer," while Joshua or Jehoshua means "Jehovah (Yahweh) is salvation."
- Jewish tradition says that he was born in 1355 BC and died in 1245 BC. (42 years old when he spied on the promised land, 82 years old when Israel took Jericho)
- Joshua's childhood isn't mentioned in the Bible. He was probably between 30 and 40 years old when he first spied on the promise land (Numbers 13-14), only he and Caleb wanted to take the land, the other 10 were afraid, and because everyone agreed with the 10, the nation had to wander in the wilderness for 40 more years. Everyone 20 and older will die and not enter the land, except Joshua and Caleb.
- We see him in Exodus; Numbers; Deuteronomy - but primarily his story plays out in the book of Joshua.

- Joshua 11 covers his conquests to the north after the army finished in the south. Mapping is extremely difficult, not only because many exact locations aren't known, but because Joshua 10 lists primarily by cities and regions (south), and Joshua 11 lists by kingdoms (north).
- The book of Joshua consists of 5 segments:
 1. Jericho - Rahab, Spies, Walls falling down, Joshua about 80 years old (1-5)
 2. Conquering the land - 7 years of battle, 31 kingdoms (6-9)
 3. Sun stands still (10-12)
 4. Distribution of the land - wars are over, Joshua is about 87-89 years old (13-21)
 5. Final orders and death at age 110 (22-24)

Key Moments:

Exodus 33:12 When the people saw the cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, they would stand and bow down in front of their own tents. **11** Inside the Tent of Meeting, the Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Afterward Moses would return to the camp, but the young man who assisted him, Joshua son of Nun, would remain behind in the Tent of Meeting. (NLT)

Joshua 1:9 "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (NLT)

Joshua 24:14 "So fear the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly. Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshiped when they lived beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord alone. **15** But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord." (NLT)

we build walls:

- Block out unwanted feelings
- Afraid to face the truth / the past
- Distance us from others
- Afraid of change
- Hide who we really are
- Afraid of rejection

walls have we built:

- Fear / Doubt / Denial
- Anger / Shame / Blame
- Hurt / Guilt
- Lies / Discord / Gossip
- Pride / Jealousy / Coveting
- Unconfessed Sin / Unforgiveness

Walls Fall When We _____

Joshua 6:1 Now the gates of Jericho were tightly shut because the people were afraid of the Israelites. No one was allowed to go out or in. **2** But the Lord said to Joshua, "I have given you Jericho, its king, and all its strong warriors. **3** You and your fighting men should march around the town once a day for six days. **4** Seven priests will walk ahead of the Ark, each carrying a ram's horn. On the seventh day you are to march around the town seven times, with the priests blowing the horns. **5** When you hear the priests give one long blast on the rams' horns, have all the people shout as loud as they can. Then the walls of the town will collapse, and the people can charge straight into the town." (NLT)

_____ Is The Key

Luke 6:48 "It is like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against that house, it stands firm because it is well built. **49** But anyone who hears and doesn't obey is like a person who builds a house right on the ground, without a foundation. When the floods sweep down against that house, it will collapse into a heap of ruins." (NLT)

John 15:9 "I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. **10** When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. **11** I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!" (NLT)

Walls Fall When We Are _____

Joshua 6:12 Joshua got up early the next morning, and the priests again carried the Ark of the Lord. **13** The seven priests with the rams' horns marched in front of the Ark of the Lord, blowing their horns. Again the armed men marched both in front of the priests with the horns and behind the Ark of the Lord. All this time the priests were blowing their horns. **14** On the second day they again marched around the town once and returned to the camp. They followed this pattern for six days. (NLT)

_____ Is The Handle

Hebrews 3:12 Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. **13** You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. **14** For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first

believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.

15 Remember what it says: "Today when you hear his voice, don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled." **16** And who was it who rebelled against God, even though they heard his voice? Wasn't it the people Moses led out of Egypt? **17** And who made God angry for forty years? Wasn't it the people who sinned, whose corpses lay in the wilderness? **18** And to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they would never enter his rest? Wasn't it the people who disobeyed him? **19** So we see that because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his rest. (NLT)

1 John 2:24 So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. **25** And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us. (NLT)

Walls Fall When He _____

Joshua 6:15 On the seventh day the Israelites got up at dawn and marched around the town as they had done before. But this time they went around the town seven times. **16** The seventh time around, as the priests sounded the long blast on their horns, Joshua commanded the people, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the town! **17** Jericho and everything in it must be completely destroyed as an offering to the Lord. Only Rahab the prostitute and the others in her house will be spared, for she protected our spies. **18** "Do not take any of the things set apart for destruction, or you yourselves will be completely destroyed, and you will bring trouble on the camp of Israel. **19** Everything made from silver, gold, bronze, or iron is sacred to the Lord and must be brought into his treasury." **20** When the people heard the sound of the rams' horns, they shouted as loud as they could. Suddenly, the walls of Jericho collapsed, and the Israelites charged straight into the town and captured it. **21** They completely destroyed everything in it with their swords—men

and women, young and old, cattle, sheep, goats, and donkeys.

22 Meanwhile, Joshua said to the two spies, "Keep your promise. Go to the prostitute's house and bring her out, along with all her family." **23** The men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, mother, brothers, and all the other relatives who were with her. They moved her whole family to a safe place near the camp of Israel. **24** Then the Israelites burned the town and everything in it. Only the things made from silver, gold, bronze, or iron were kept for the treasury of the Lord's house. **25** So Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute and her relatives who were with her in the house, because she had hidden the spies Joshua sent to Jericho. And she lives among the Israelites to this day. (NLT)

The Five Aspects of Gods' grace:

Favor

- Mercy: When we don't get what we deserve. (Kindness, compassion)
- We deserve punishment for our sin, but God gives mercy when we ask for forgiveness.

- Grace: When we get what we don't deserve. (Favor, Gift)
- God does not owe us anything, yet He freely gave His Son to redeem us from sin.

Psalms 103:8 The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. **9** He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. **10** He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. **11** For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. **12** He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. **13** The Lord is

like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. *(NLT)*

Romans 5:8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. *(NLT)*

_____ **Grace**

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. *(NLT)*

Ephesians 2:8 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. **9** Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. *(NLT)*

_____ **Grace**

GOD LOVES YOU
_____ THE _____ YOU ARE,
HE LOVES YOU TO MUCH TO
_____ YOU THAT _____.

Romans 12:1 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. **2** Don't copy the

behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. *(NLT)*

_____ **Grace**

2 Corinthians 10:3 We are human, but we don't wage war as humans do. **4** We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. **5** We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. *(NLT)*

Acts 5:15 As a result of the apostles' work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter's shadow might fall across some of them as he went by. **16** Crowds came from the villages around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those possessed by evil spirits, and they were all healed. *(NLT)*

_____ **Grace**

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. *(NLT)*

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