

MY ACHAN BREAK'N HEART

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)

Lesson #1

_____ After The _____

2 Joshua sent some of his men from Jericho to spy out the town of Ai, east of Bethel, near Beth-aven. **3** When they returned, they told Joshua, "There's no need for all of us to go up there; it won't take more than two or three thousand men to attack Ai. Since there are so few of them, don't make all our people struggle to go up there." **4** So approximately 3,000 warriors were sent, but they were soundly defeated. The men of Ai **5** chased the Israelites from the town gate as far as the quarries, and they killed about thirty-six who were retreating down the slope. The Israelites were paralyzed with fear at this turn of events, and their courage melted away.

Have you ever had a win only to significantly lose?

Lesson #2

_____ For The _____

6 Joshua and the elders of Israel tore their clothing in dismay, threw dust on their heads, and bowed face down to the ground before the Ark of the Lord until evening. **7** Then Joshua cried out, "Oh, Sovereign Lord, why did you bring us across the Jordan River if you are going to let the Amorites kill us? If only we had been content to stay on the other side! **8** Lord, what can I say now that Israel has fled from its enemies? **9** For when the Canaanites and all the other people living in the land hear about it, they will surround us and wipe our name off the face of the earth. And then what will happen to the honor of your great name?"

What do we do after we lose?

**WE JUDGE OTHERS
BY THEIR _____
AND JUDGE OURSELVES
BY OUR _____**

Lesson #3

_____ For The _____

10 But the Lord said to Joshua, "Get up! Why are you lying on your face like this? **11** Israel has sinned and broken my covenant! They have stolen some of the things that I commanded must be set apart for me. And they have not only stolen them but have lied about it and hidden the things among their own belongings. **12** That is why the Israelites are running from their enemies in defeat. For now Israel itself has been set apart for destruction. I will not remain with you any longer unless you destroy the things among you that were set apart for destruction. **13** "Get up! Command the people to purify themselves in preparation for tomorrow. For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: Hidden among you, O Israel, are things set apart for the Lord. You will never defeat your enemies until you remove these things from among you.

IF WE DON'T _____,
IT WILL _____,
IT WILL _____,
IT WILL _____

How do you purify the impure?

Lesson #4

_____ To Avoid _____

14 "In the morning you must present yourselves by tribes, and the Lord will point out the tribe to which the guilty man belongs. That tribe must come forward with its clans, and the Lord will point out the guilty clan. That clan will then come forward, and the Lord will point out the guilty family. Finally, each member of the guilty family must come forward one by one. **15** The one who has stolen what was set apart for destruction will himself be burned with fire, along with everything he has, for he has broken the covenant of the Lord and has done a horrible thing in Israel."

Joshua 7:1 But Israel violated the instructions about the things set apart for the Lord. A man named Achan had stolen some of these dedicated things, so the Lord was very angry with the Israelites. Achan was the son of Carmi, a descendant of Zimri son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah.

Joshua 6:18 "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." (NLT)

Admit & Accept Your Shortcomings

- Who did I sin against?
 - Ask Forgiveness (God & _____)

- What did I do?
 - Recognize the sin.

- Why did I sin?
 - Hurt? Angry? Guilt? Pride? Seeking Pleasure? Believe Lie? Lack Of Willpower? Materialism? Self-centeredness? Laziness? Bitterness? Lust? Envy? Gluttony? Lying to Yourself?

- Where do I sin?
 - Can I recognize the circumstances that tempt me to sin?

- When did I / do I sin?
 - Can I recognize the place, attitude, emotions that tempt me to sin?

- How can I avoid it?
 - Can I remove, avoid, proactively avoid temptation?

Lesson #5

Actions Have Consequences

----- **For The** -----

16 Early the next morning Joshua brought the tribes of Israel before the Lord, and the tribe of Judah was singled out. **17** Then the clans of Judah came forward, and the clan of Zerah was singled out. Then the families of Zerah came forward, and the family of Zimri was singled out. **18** Every member of Zimri's family was brought forward person by person, and Achan was singled out. **19** Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, by telling the truth. Make your confession and tell me what you have done. Don't hide it from me." **20** Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel. **21** Among the plunder I saw a beautiful robe from Babylon, 200 silver coins, and a bar of gold weighing more than a pound. I wanted them so much that I took them. They are hidden in the ground beneath my tent, with the silver buried deeper than the rest." **22** So Joshua sent some men to make a search. They ran to the tent and found the stolen goods hidden there, just as Achan had said, with the silver buried beneath the rest. **23** They took the things from the tent and brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites. Then they laid them on the ground in the presence of the Lord. **24** Then Joshua and all the Israelites took Achan, the silver, the robe, the bar of gold, his sons, daughters, cattle, donkeys, sheep, goats, tent, and everything he had, and they brought them to the valley of Achor. **25** Then Joshua said to Achan, "Why have you brought trouble on us? The Lord will now bring trouble on you." And all the Israelites stoned Achan and his family and burned their bodies. **26** They piled a great heap of stones over Achan, which remains to this day. That is why the place has been called the Valley of Trouble ever since. So the Lord was no longer angry. *(NLT)*

What about now?

**IF YOU HAVE TO ----- IT,
IT'S PROBABLY -----.**

**2022 Devotions:
Ohio For Jesus
Prayer Guide: Week #36**