

## **GOD'S PROMISES FULFILLED**

A Study in the Books of Joshua and Ruth

### **The Fall of Jericho     Joshua 5:13 - 6:27**

*"See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands...." Joshua 6:2*

#### **Read Joshua 5:13–15.**

1. Who is the "man" Joshua meets already poised for battle near Jericho? (vv. 13–15)
2. What details of the meeting signify that this is a divine encounter? (vv. 14, 15; Ex. 3:5)
3. This "man" has a drawn sword and does not answer Joshua's question.
  - a. Whose battle is this going to be?
  - b. How would it help you to keep this in mind in your own life?
4. Besides humbling Joshua, how is the heavenly commander's message undoubtedly a boost to his morale?

How big is the army now?

#### **Read Joshua 6:1–27.**

5. How do God's battle instructions to Joshua further serve to illustrate that the battle is the Lord's, and the glory of victory is His? (vv. 1–5)
6. Where is the ark located in the battle formation? (vv. 8-9)

What does this signify? (Numbers 10:35)

7. In Scripture, seven signifies completeness (there are 52 in the book of Revelation!). Why do you think there are so many sevens in this story of the fall of Jericho?

8. As the battle is underway,
  - a. Where are the citizens of Jericho putting their trust?
  - b. Where are the Israelites putting their trust?
  - c. Which object of trust is visible, which invisible?
  - d. Think through your last week, where did you tend to put your trust? (2 Cor. 4:18; 5:7)
9. How are the Israelites—and we—going to win this battle? (1 John 5:4, 5)
10. In subsequent battles in Canaan, the Israelite army will take a more active and conventional role. How is this battle different, and why? (2 Chronicles 20:17)
11. In subsequent contests, Israel would be permitted to share the spoils of war. But why do you think God commanded that in this first battle all the spoils should be “devoted” to the Lord? (vv. 18-19)
12. When the wall falls, what is to be done to everything and everyone inside Jericho? (vv. 18-21)
13. Who alone was saved from the city of destruction, and why? (v. 22; Heb. 11:31)
14. The judgment on Jericho must be complete and everlasting.
  - a. Therefore, what solemn oath does Joshua pronounce? (v. 26)
  - b. What happened when someone tried to rebuild Jericho later? (1 Kings 16:34)
15. God uses this first battle for the Promised Land as an object lesson for Israel (and for us). What lessons can you derive from it?