



## Joshua and the Walls of Jericho

### The FRIGHTENING Walls

JOSHUA 6

✓ **the FIRST walls** the Israelites would face in the promised land

3:15-16 – “As soon as the priests...reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, the water...stopped flowing...”

3:17 – “The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan...”

3:17 – “All Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed crossing on dry ground.”

✓ **FAMILIAR walls**, examined by two spies who had investigated the city earlier

2:1 – “Joshua...secretly sent two spies... ‘Go, look over the land...especially Jericho.’”

2:1 – “So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there.”

2:6 – “She had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.”

2:8-9 – “She...said to them, ‘I know that the LORD has given this land to you and that a great fear of you has fallen on us...’”

2:14 – “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the LORD gives us the land.”

✓ **FORTIFIED and FORMIDABLE walls**, standing as an immovable barrier before the Israelites

6:1 – “Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.”

✓ **FATED walls**, doomed to fall by the LORD’s prophetic declaration and promise

6:2 – “The LORD said to Joshua, ‘See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.’”

6:5 – “The wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in.”

### The FAITH-FILLED Walk

✓ **a DIVINELY DESIGNED march**

6:2-4 – “The LORD said to Joshua, ‘...March around the city once...for six days...On the seventh day, march around...seven times...’”

✓ **a SPIRITUALLY SIGNIFICANT and SYMBOLIC march**

6:8 – “The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the LORD went forward...and the ark of the LORD’s covenant followed...”

✓ **an ORDERLY and OBEDIENT march**

6:9 – “The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark.”

6:9 – “All this time the trumpets were sounding.”

6:10 – “But Joshua had commanded..., ‘Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until they day I tell you...’”

✓ **a PATIENTLY PERSISTENT march**

6:14 – “On the second day they marched around the city once and returned to camp. They did this for six days.”

6:15 – “On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner...”

✓ **an EAGERLY EXPECTANT march**

6:16 – “The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blasts, Joshua commanded the people...”

6:16 – “Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!”

### The FALLING Walls

✓ **a DIVINE DEMOLITION**

6:20 – “When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and...the wall collapsed...”

6:20 – “So every man charged straight in, and they took the city.”

✓ **a PROTECTED PROSTITUTE**

6:22 – “Joshua said to the two men who had spied..., ‘Go into the prostitute’s house and bring her out...in accordance with your oath...’”

6:25 – “Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, with her family...because she hid the...spies...and she lives among the Israelites...”

✓ **a TRIUMPHANT TESTIMONY**

6:27 – “So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout the land.”

1. Big barriers will stand between you and the inheritance God has promised you, but God is bigger than the barriers.
2. Strongholds don’t always fall on the first day, so continue to march in obedience and faith, believing they will fall.
3. Don’t fight against God’s preordained plan; believe God and join the winning team before it’s too late to be saved.

**JOSHUA 6:1** Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

**2** Then the LORD said to Joshua, “**See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.**

**3** **March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days.**

**4** **Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams’ horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets.**

**5** **When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in.”**

**6** So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant of the LORD and have seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.”

**7** And he ordered the people, “Advance! March around the city, with the armed guard going ahead of the ark of the LORD.”

**8** When Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the LORD went forward, blowing their trumpets, and the ark of the LORD’S covenant followed them.

**9** The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark. All this time the trumpets were sounding.

**10** But Joshua had commanded the people, “Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then shout!”

**11** So he had the ark of the LORD carried around the city, circling it once. Then the people returned to camp and spent the night there.

**12** Joshua got up early the next morning and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

**13** The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went forward, marching before the ark of the LORD and blowing the trumpets. The armed men went ahead of them and the rear guard followed the ark of the LORD, while the trumpets kept sounding.

**14** So on the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for six days.

**15** On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times.

**16** The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the people, “Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!

**17** The city and all that is in it are to be devoted to the LORD. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be spared, because she hid the spies we sent.

**18** But keep away from the devoted things, so that you will not bring about your own destruction by taking any of them. Otherwise you will make the camp of Israel liable to destruction and bring trouble on it.

**19** All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the LORD and must go into his treasury.”

**20** When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city.

**21** They devoted the city to the LORD and destroyed with the sword every living thing in it—men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys.

**22** Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, “Go into the prostitute’s house and bring her out and all who belong to her, in accordance with your oath to her.”

**23** So the young men who had done the spying went in and brought out Rahab, her father and mother and brothers and all who belonged to her. They brought out her entire family and put them in a place outside the camp of Israel.

**24** Then they burned the whole city and everything in it, but they put the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron into the treasury of the LORD’S house.

**25** But Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, because she hid the men Joshua had sent as spies to Jericho—and she lives among the Israelites to this day.

**26** At that time Joshua pronounced this solemn oath: “Cursed before the LORD is the man who undertakes to rebuild this city, Jericho: “At the cost of his firstborn son will he lay its foundations; at the cost of his youngest will he set up its gates.”

**27** So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout the land.

