

Adult Bible Class

The Book of Joshua - Lesson 3 - Chps. 4, 5 & 6

Joshua Chapter 4

In our last lesson we read how the children of Israel began to walk across the dry river bed of the Jordan River. Through a miracle, the priests carried the Ark and stood in the middle of the river on dry ground. The waters piled up in a heap at Adam - about 18 miles upstream as all the people crossed in one day.

Some say that God caused a great earthquake to dam up the Jordan River at Adam. It is interesting to note that in 1927, a strong earthquake happened in the Jordan valley which dislodged the high embankments and dammed the river at Adam, and the waters of the Jordan did not flow for twenty hours. Therefore, some biblical archaeologists believe that God used an earthquake or mudslide to allow the Israelites to cross the Jordan River. However, the language of the Scripture tends more toward a miracle. While God can use the natural elements, sometimes God does the miraculous. We should not limit the miraculous power of God.

Even though God did a mighty work for His people, there was still much to do. Not only did the armies of Israel need to get across, but all of their wives, children, animals and belongings had to get across as well. Though it was dry, it was probably steep to a certain extent, and perhaps rocks and boulders were in the way. Though God does His great work in our lives, He doesn't remove all the obstacles.

Joshua 4:1 (NLT) When all the people had crossed the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua, **2** "Now choose twelve men, one from each tribe. **3** Tell them, 'Take twelve stones from the very place where the priests are standing in the middle of the Jordan. Carry them out and pile them up at the place where you will camp tonight.'"

4 So Joshua called together the twelve men he had chosen—one from each of the tribes of Israel. **5** He told them, "Go into the middle of the Jordan, in front of the Ark of the Lord your God. Each of you must pick up one stone and carry it out on your shoulder—twelve stones in all, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. **6** We will use these stones to build a memorial. In the future your children will ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' **7** Then you can tell them, 'They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the Lord's Covenant went across.' These stones will stand as a memorial among the people of Israel forever."

8 So the men did as Joshua had commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan River, one for each tribe, just as the Lord had told Joshua. They carried them to the place where they camped for the night and constructed the memorial there.

People all over the world have something in common - they forget. It is said that "*history repeats itself*." This is because people forget the mistakes of the previous generations, or they don't learn from them. Therefore, we read in Scripture that God often asks that memorials be put in place to help people remember the great things that He has done. An example of this is the communion service or Lord's Supper. The communion service helps us to remember the Lord's death - that He gave His body and blood for our salvation.

Here, the Lord did not want the Israelites to forget this great miracle of the parting of the Jordan River, and He commanded that a memorial be built as proof of it. God ordered a man from each of the twelve tribes to pick up a great stone from

the middle of the riverbed - stones that had been smoothed and carved by the current of the Jordan - and carry them to Gilgal not far away to build a memorial that would cause future generations to ask questions. This would be a testimony of the great thing that God did that day.

Joshua 4:9 Joshua also set up another pile of twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan, at the place where the priests who carried the Ark of the Covenant were standing. And they are there to this day.

Another monument was set up in the middle of the river, no doubt where the top of it could be seen during times when the river was low. This double sign would show future generations that God surely did a mighty work for His people that day.

10 The priests who were carrying the Ark stood in the middle of the river until all of the Lord's commands that Moses had given to Joshua were carried out. Meanwhile, the people hurried across the riverbed. **11** And when everyone was safely on the other side, the priests crossed over with the Ark of the Lord as the people watched.

12 The armed warriors from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh led the Israelites across the Jordan, just as Moses had directed. **13** These armed men—about 40,000 strong—were ready for battle, and the Lord was with them as they crossed over to the plains of Jericho.

The two and a half tribes that claimed land on the east side of the river kept their promise to send their men with the rest of Israel to fight for their brethren across Jordan. They made a vow to God, and they were keeping it.

14 That day the Lord made Joshua a great leader in the eyes of all the Israelites, and for the rest of his life they revered him as much as they had revered Moses.

15 The Lord had said to Joshua, **16** "Command the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant to come up out of the riverbed." **17** So Joshua gave the command. **18** As soon as the priests carrying the Ark of the Lord's Covenant came up out of the riverbed and their feet were on high ground, the water of the Jordan returned and overflowed its banks as before.

We read that the waters stopped and began backing up as soon as the priests stepped into it. We also read that as soon as the priests were on high ground, the water returned to where it was previously. If an earthquake had changed the course of the river, this would not have happened. God truly did a miracle.

19 The people crossed the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month.

Remember in Exodus that the people killed the Passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the first month, and then they left Egypt on the next day. It had been forty years minus five days since they left Egypt.

Then they camped at Gilgal, just east of Jericho. **20** It was there at Gilgal that Joshua piled up the twelve stones taken from the Jordan River.

21 Then Joshua said to the Israelites, "In the future your children will ask, 'What do these stones mean?' **22** Then you can tell them, 'This is where the Israelites crossed the Jordan on dry ground.'"

23 For the Lord your God dried up the river right before your eyes, and he kept it dry until you were all across, just as he did at the Red Sea when he dried it up until we had all crossed over. **24** He did this so all the nations of the earth might know that the Lord's hand is powerful, and so you might fear the Lord your God forever."

As was stated previously, Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist at the same place where the children of Israel crossed over the Jordan River.

Matthew 3:5 People from Jerusalem and from all of Judea and all over the Jordan Valley went out to see and hear John. **6** And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. **7** But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to watch him baptize, he denounced them. "You brood of snakes!" he exclaimed. "Who warned you to flee the coming wrath? **8** Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God. **9** Don't just say to each other, 'We're safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.' That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones.

Could it be that John was referring to the stones of the memorial in the river? Would they still be in place fourteen hundred years later? Would the stones at Gilgal still be there? We don't know for sure, but its worth thinking about!

Joshua Chapter 5

Joshua 5:1 (NLT) When all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings who lived along the Mediterranean coast heard how the Lord had dried up the Jordan River so the people of Israel could cross, they lost heart and were paralyzed with fear because of them.

The great day had finally arrived! The Israelites were now standing in Canaan's land - the land promised to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. However, even though they were in the Promised Land, they still had to possess it. God was at work among the Canaanites. They were "*paralyzed with fear*" because of the Israelites.

Israel Reestablishes Covenant Ceremonies

2 At that time the Lord told Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise this second generation of Israelites." **3** So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the entire male population of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth.

Circumcision was the physical sign of the covenant God made with Abraham:

Genesis 17:9 (NLT) Then God said to Abraham, "Your responsibility is to obey the terms of the covenant. You and all your descendants have this continual responsibility. **10** ... Each male among you must be circumcised ... as a sign of the covenant between me and you. **12** From generation to generation, every male child must be circumcised on the eighth day after his birth. This applies not only to members of your family but also to the servants born in your household and the foreign-born servants whom you have purchased. **13** All must be circumcised. Your bodies will bear the mark of my everlasting covenant. **14** Any male who fails to be circumcised will be cut off from the covenant family for breaking the covenant."

Paul wrote about the parallel for Christians:

Colossians 2:11 (NKJV) In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, **12** buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. **13** And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, **14** having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. **15** Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Through water baptism we are buried with Christ and raised with Him. We were dead in sin, but Jesus Christ removes our sins from us when we are baptized in Jesus' name. The Israelite went through the Jordan River into a new life in Canaan. The Christian goes through the waters of baptism to enter into a new life in Christ.

Joshua 5:4 (NLT) Joshua had to circumcise them because all the men who were old enough to fight in battle when they left Egypt had died in the wilderness. **5** Those who left Egypt had all been circumcised, but none of those born after the Exodus, during the years in the wilderness, had been circumcised. **6** The Israelites had traveled in the wilderness for forty years until all the men who were old enough to fight in battle when they left Egypt had died. For they had disobeyed the Lord, and the Lord vowed he would not let them enter the land he had sworn to give us—a land flowing with milk and honey. **7** So Joshua circumcised their sons—those who had grown up to take their fathers' places—for they had not been circumcised on the way to the Promised Land. **8** After all the males had been circumcised, they rested in the camp until they were healed.

God gave the command, and Joshua obeyed. All of this generation would be circumcised. A period of time to heal would be required. But why give the command now at this critical time when battle against their enemies was soon to come?

The children of Israel, God's covenant people, had just crossed into the Promised Land. Since they had just entered the land, it was necessary that the covenant people have the sign of the covenant. So, even though it might be considered a "tactical error of judgment," the armies of Israel were circumcised. God had put the fear of them in their enemies' hearts. They would be safe as they spent the necessary days resting and healing.

9 Then the Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the shame of your slavery in Egypt." So that place has been called Gilgal to this day.

Through the process of circumcision, God rolled away the reproach of Egypt. The place, Gilgal, means "to roll." The days of slavery in Egypt were over. No longer would the Israelites be thought of as slaves. Even their wanderings for forty years were over. The generation that did not believe God and sinned against Him was dead and gone. This generation had followed the sign of the covenant and had been circumcised. Israel had shown devotion to God through obedience. Now they were going to further obey Him by observing the Passover.

10 While the Israelites were camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated Passover on the evening of the fourteenth day of the first month.

The last time the Israelites observed the Passover was when they were camped at Mount Sinai to receive the Law (Numbers 9). They had not kept the Passover while they were wandering in the wilderness. Many of the laws that God gave Israel were tied to the possession of the land. Now that they were in Canaan, they followed God's command to first be circumcised and then to eat the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month of the year.

11 The very next day they began to eat unleavened bread and roasted grain harvested from the land. **12** No manna appeared on the day they first ate from the crops of the land, and it was never seen again. So from that time on the Israelites ate from the crops of Canaan.

God had miraculously provided manna for His people during their wanderings in the wilderness. Yet, the purpose of the wilderness was to pass the time so that the disobedient and faithless older generation could die off. Now that they were in the land of promise, it was time to eat of the land. This land that “flowed with milk and honey” would provide their sustenance.

It seems that the fields and the harvested crops of the Canaanite people had been abandoned as they fled to Jericho and stayed within its walls for safety. They feared the Israelites and therefore forfeited some of their crops to them. This worked out well for the Israelites who needed these crops to make their unleavened bread for the Passover and for the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

The Lord’s Commander Confronts Joshua

Joshua 5:13 (NKJV) And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, “Are You for us for our adversaries?”

14 So He said, “No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, “What does my Lord say to His servant?”

15 Then the Commander of the LORD’s army said to Joshua, “Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy.” And Joshua did so.

God had spoken to Joshua before this, but now we see God appearing to Joshua. Joshua was near Jericho, so he could have been on some sort of scouting expedition to prepare for battle.

Now he sees the Lord in battle array, and just as Moses was commanded to take off his shoes, Joshua is also commanded to remove his sandals, for this is holy ground. He is called the “*Commander of the army of the LORD*,” and he is truly the captain of the Israelites as well as the captain of the Lord’s host, the angels.

This appearance of the Lord as captain of the hosts is confirmation to Joshua that he should take the city of Jericho and that the Lord would be with him.

Joshua Chapter 6

The Fall of Jericho

Joshua 6:1 (NLT) 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.”

The Promised Land is a picture to the Christian of victorious Christian living. Though the Israelites had entered the land, and though they had obeyed the ordinances of God of circumcision and the Passover, yet they still had a fight on their hands. Their enemies were in walled cities, and they were not going to give up the land. However, Jericho was promised to Israel. God puts it in the past tense, “*I have given you Jericho, its king, and all its strong warriors.*” It’s already done.

God commanded the priests, who were ordinarily excused from war, to sound trumpets and carry the Ark. Their only weapons were faith that God would do what He promised, and obedience to His spoken Word. God was going to get all the credit for a mighty victory on this first conquest of Canaan. God was going to fight for them.

Joshua 6:6 So Joshua called together the priests and said, "Take up the Ark of the Lord's Covenant, and assign seven priests to walk in front of it, each carrying a ram's horn." **7** Then he gave orders to the people: "March around the town, and the armed men will lead the way in front of the Ark of the Lord."

8 After Joshua spoke to the people, the seven priests with the rams' horns started marching in the presence of the Lord, blowing the horns as they marched. And the Ark of the Lord's Covenant followed behind them. **9** Some of the armed men marched in front of the priests with the horns and some behind the Ark, with the priests continually blowing the horns. **10** "Do not shout; do not even talk," Joshua commanded. "Not a single word from any of you until I tell you to shout. Then shout!" **11** So the Ark of the Lord was carried around the town once that day, and then everyone returned to spend the night in the camp.

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.

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!"

Another impossible task was set before the Israelites. Under normal circumstances, it had been impossible for them to cross the Red Sea, but God made a way. It was also impossible for the group of millions to cross the Jordan River in one day, but again, God made a way. Once more, God was going to make a way for them to defeat a great walled city. Each difficulty was going to be met with the power of God.

Their weapons are spiritual weapons. They were commanded to keep silent. The horns were sounded, but the people did not talk. What could they possibly have said that would help? If they had been allowed to speak, someone would surely have said, "I think this is ridiculous! How can we win a battle this way?" Or someone might have said, "I would have done things differently."

But when it was time to speak and make noise, they were commanded to shout. And what a shout it was! It was a shout of triumph and faith.

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.

Rahab, who helped the two spies in chapter 2, is not forgotten. She was commanded to have her family in her house if they wanted to be spared from destruction.

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."

This first city that was conquered by the Israelites had been set apart for destruction. No spoils of war were to be taken. All was to be completely destroyed or placed in God's treasury for the Tabernacle.

Joshua 6:20 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.

Rahab had done what the two spies told her to do. She had put the scarlet cord in the window of her home on the wall of Jericho. She had her family waiting in her home as commanded. Now, she was rewarded for her faithfulness to the Israelites. She would become one of them, a proselyte Israelite, marrying one of them, adopting their ways, laws and customs, living among them. Most importantly, she readily embraced Israel's God.

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.

26 At that time Joshua invoked this curse:

"May the curse of the Lord fall on anyone who tries to rebuild the town of Jericho.

At the cost of his firstborn son,

he will lay its foundation.

At the cost of his youngest son,

he will set up its gates."

27 So the Lord was with Joshua, and his reputation spread throughout the land.

Jericho was a city devoted to destruction. From this, we can learn that there is a penalty for sin and idolatry. God really does punish sin, not because He wants to do harm, but because he knows the horrors of sin and that it must be eradicated. Judgment is often a long time in coming, but it will come. It had been a long time since God promised this land to Abraham, but now the day of reckoning was here. The fact that Rahab was rescued from Jericho shows God's mercy to anyone who believes Him and fears Him. There were two verdicts for the citizens of Jericho - either be destroyed or believe God and be exalted with the people of God.

Jericho was cursed, and a warning was given to anyone who tried to rebuild it. The cost would be the life of his firstborn son. Read what happened during the days of the kings, centuries later:

1 Kings 16:29 Ahab son of Omri began to rule over Israel. . . **30** But Ahab ... Omri did what was evil in the Lord's sight, even more than any of the kings before him. **31** And as though it were not enough to follow the sinful example of Jeroboam, he married Jezebel, the daughter of King Ethbaal of the Sidonians, and he began to bow down in worship of Baal. **32** First Ahab built a temple and an altar for Baal in Samaria. **33** Then he set up an Asherah pole. He did more to provoke the anger of the Lord, the God of Israel, than any of the other kings of Israel before him.

1 Kings 16:34 It was during his reign that Hiel, a man from Bethel, rebuilt Jericho. When he laid its foundations, it cost him the life of his oldest son, Abiram. And when he completed it and set up its gates, it cost him the life of his youngest son, Segub. This all happened according to the message from the Lord concerning Jericho spoken by Joshua son of Nun.

After this happened, Jericho did go on to become an important city, mentioned in the New Testament and visited by the Lord Jesus.

Archaeological Excavations of Jericho

Jericho is the second most excavated archaeological site in modern Israel (after Jerusalem). Major excavations from 1868 to the present day have given a treasure trove of information and confirmation regarding the battle that Joshua and the Israelites fought over 3400 years ago.

John Garstang excavated in the 1930's, and he identified the ruins of Jericho in Joshua's day, dating them to about 1400 B.C. which corroborates with the Scriptures completely. However, in the 1950's, archaeologist Kathleen Kenyon completely revised Garstang's findings. She decided that the city was destroyed 150 years *before* that by the Egyptians. Kenyon's dating became popularly accepted - and it has shaken the faith of many Christians ever since. What was once considered true history became a folktale because of the words of a famous archaeologist. A member of Kenyon's staff said, "Miss Kenyon's work has presented scholars with the hard fact that if Joshua was active with the incoming Israelites. . .c. 1400...he would not have been able to capture a great walled city of Jericho, because there was no city of Jericho in these periods...the huge ruins of the ... city gave rise to the folktale attached to the hero Joshua (1965 - H. J. Franken).

This same problem is repeated many times. Archaeologists date their finds, and even though they find evidence to prove the Bible correct, they cling to their dating system, and they say the Bible is a myth. This same story is repeated with the excavations in Egypt that corroborate the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. They say the dates don't match, so the Bible is a myth. But there are archaeologists who have challenged Kenyon's dating of Jericho.

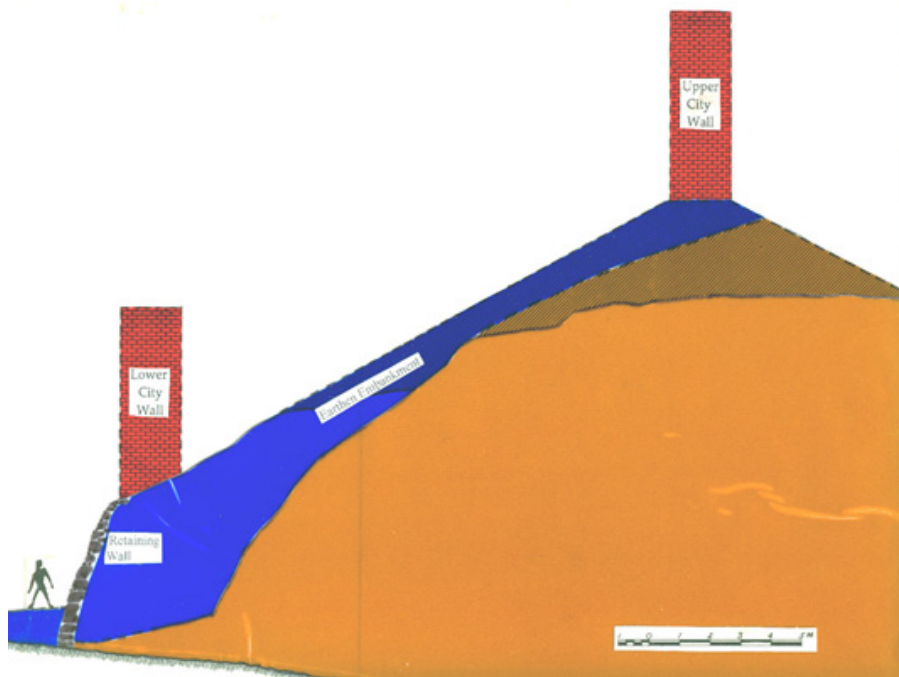
Jericho is one of the oldest cities on earth (some say *the* oldest), situated 846 feet below sea level (the lowest city on earth) in an oasis watered by a very strong spring which produces 1000 gallons of water per minute. Because of the spring, Jericho is called "the city of palms." The modern city of Jericho is about a mile from the excavations of the ancient city of Jericho.

The ancient city of Jericho is excavated on Tell es-Sultan. There are actually about twenty layers of civilization, but we are interested in the archaeological works concerning Joshua's day and the walls of Jericho that came down.

The spring that watered Jericho was inside the city wall. It is important to note this - that there would have been plenty of water in the city during time of siege. Also, we know from Scripture that it was harvest time, and there would have been plenty of food within the city. But Jericho did not undergo a siege by the Israelites, as Scripture states.

Garstang found evidence for the destruction of Jericho and evidence for his dating of 1400 B.C. Modern archaeologists use pottery to date a site, knowing the time periods when different styles of pottery were used. Kathleen Kenyon also found pottery from 1400, so we have to ask the question, why did she date the site at 1550 B.C. - 150 years earlier when she claimed it was destroyed?

Jericho had a complex fortification system with two walls and an earthen embankment in between. It occupied about nine acres in total - not a large city - only a few thousand people would have lived there.



The upper city was within the upper wall (about six acres). In a cross section, we see a brick wall about six feet wide. The lower wall was about six feet wide and twenty feet high. There was a stone retaining wall below the lower wall. The height from the base of the retaining wall to the base of the upper wall was 46 feet, then the wall rose above that. Imagine how the Israelites felt when they gazed up toward that double wall!

Joshua 6:20 says that the wall fell down flat. The Hebrew text can be translated, "the wall fell beneath itself." The Israelite soldiers "went up" into the city. The mud brick city walls collapsed and were deposited at the base of the stone retaining wall. The soldiers had to go up over the rubble and the earthen embankment.

In the late 1990's, a team from the University of Rome cleared a long section of the retaining wall. Kenyon had also found a great pile of fallen red bricks. She wrote: "The first tip line was...fallen red bricks piling nearly to the top of the revetment. These probably came from the wall on the summit of the bank [and/or]...the brickwork above the revetment." How interesting! She said that the pile of brick came from the city walls. For Kenyon, her



incorrect dating kept her from associating her find with the fallen walls of Joshua's day.

In other places excavated around the ancient city wall on the tell, they have found a similar pile of bricks. The bricks fell in such a way as to form a ramp. The Israelites scrambled over the pile of rubble and into the city.

What about Rahab? Rahab lived on the outer wall - her house was built against the outer wall. If the walls fell down, did her house fall with it? Archaeologists found that at the north end of the city, the wall was still standing to a height of about nine feet (after 3400 years!). The wall there did not fall - saving Rahab. The north side is the closest side to the mountains where the spies fled. This was probably the poor part of town - overflow from the upper city - and Rahab's house would have been there. One archaeologist took a walk around the perimeter of the excavations and found that it took about a half hour to walk around ancient Jericho.

Archaeologists found a burn layer about three feet thick. A tremendous fire destroyed the city, then it was abandoned for a while which is indicated by erosion material that piled on top of the ruins. Joshua 6:24 says that the Israelites *"burned the city with fire, and everything in it."* Kenyon reported: "The destruction was complete. Walls and floors were blackened or reddened by fire, and every room was filled with fallen bricks, timbers, and household utensils; in most of the rooms, the fallen debris was heavily burnt, but the collapse of the walls of the eastern rooms seems to have taken place before they were affected by the fire." This matches the Scriptures - fallen walls, then fire.



Jars full of grain charred in the fire. Found by Garstang at Jericho.

Both Garstang and Kenyon found big storage jars full of grain in the level destroyed by the Israelites. The city was not plundered nor under siege. The whole city went up in flames and was destroyed. Grain was very valuable, and normally in war, the conquerors would have taken the grain as spoils of war. It was harvest time, and the grain jars verify the time of year that the attack took place. There was no siege that lasted a long time. It happened quickly.

What brought the walls of Jericho down? Some say it was an earthquake. Hebrews 11:30 says, *"By faith, the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days."* That's what brought the walls down - faith.