

A New Strategy For A New Season

Text: Joshua 5:13-15; 6:1-5 (ESV)

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13 When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us, or for our adversaries?” **14** And he said, “No; but I am the commander of the army of the Lord. Now I have come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped^[c] and said to him, “What does my lord say to his servant?” **15** And the commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, “Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

Joshua 6:1-5 (ESV)

6 Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. **2** And the Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. **3** You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. **4** Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. **5** And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat,^[a] and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him.”

INTRODUCTION: The children of Israel were on their way to the Promised Land. They had just crossed the Jordan River, and now, this would be their first obstacle in their way. They were up against a wall known in scripture as the walls of Jericho.

Have you ever felt like you were up against a wall? This wall was something in the way of your success. You may feel stuck because you've run into the wall of discouragement, or unable to get by the hurts and problems of your past. You may have hit a wall of disappointment—things are not turning out the way you had planned.

Sometimes the wall can represent something spiritual... called a Stronghold. Strongholds are places where armies hide and take refuge from their enemies. In the NT strongholds represent thoughts, images and arguments that keeps us stuck.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (English Standard Version)

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh.

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

6 being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

Question|

Are you are facing a wall that is high and just as strong as the walls that Joshua faced? Here's some good news, Nothing is impossible with God.

A New Strategy For A New Season

Strategy Definition:

A strategy describes how a plan or goal will be achieved.

• Submission - Josh. 5:13-15

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*** A strategy is birthed out of worship and submission. Let God have his way!**

- **See Beyond The (Wall) Situation - Josh. 6:1-2**

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- **Consistent Steps - Josh. 6:3-4**

3 You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. **4** Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

- **Shout! A New Season Has Come! - Josh. 6:5-6; 20**

5 And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a **great shout**, and the wall of the city will fall down flat,^[a] and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him.”

20 So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a **great shout**, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city.

7x7 = 49 + 1 = 50 (Jubilee)

God commanded his people to proclaim a unique yearlong period after the completion of seven sets of seven years (49 total). This fiftieth year, proclaimed with a trumpet on the Feast of Atonement (Yom Kippur), is known as the year of Jubilee (Leviticus 25:9).

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And you shall number seven Sabbaths of years to you, seven times seven years . . . Then you shall cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the

seventh month; in the Day of Atonement . . . And you shall make the fiftieth year holy, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee to you . . . (Leviticus 25:8 - 10).

In the Jubilee year, all the land God gave the Israelites was to return to their original owners. Additionally, Israelites who were slaves were to be set free and allowed to go back home (see Leviticus 25). The completion of each 49 year time cycle marked a period of freedom, liberty and rejoicing for God's people.