

I.

Joshua 5:1-15 Preparing For Battle Sunday, 2/06/22 Pastor Stuart Fraser

Introduction: God called the Israelites to reaffirm their covenant with Him, while Joshua came face to face with the Captain of God's army before the battle of Jericho.

II. Preparing For Battle (Josh 5:1-15).

- A. A New Commitment (vv. 1-7).
 - 1. Before the Israelites could come into the land of Canaan, God commanded them to be circumcised as a sign of their covenant allegiance to Him.

- B. A New Commencement (vv. 8-9).
 - 1. The Israelites needed time to heal from circumcision and for God to give them a fresh start as they began the conquest of the Promised Land.
- C. A New Celebration (vv. 10-12).
 - 1. God sent His commander to lead the Jewish troops against Jericho, demonstrating that it was the Lord who would lead them to victory.

III. Conclusion: God commanded the Jews to reaffirm their covenant with Him before they entered the Promised Land and then appeared to Joshua to lead the attack against Jericho.

Study Questions: Preparing For Battle!

- 1. Does your life sometimes feel like a war? (**Eph 6:10-18**) Why does living the Christian life feel difficult? (**Gal 5:16-17**) What does the world think about Christians? (**John 15:18-25**)
- 2. Why did Israel need to recommit themselves to God? (Josh 5:1-7) What was the sign of their dedication to God? (v. 2) What did it signal about their bodies? (Gen 17:1-14)
- 3. Why weren't the Jews circumcised? (Josh 5:4-7) How did it demonstrate a lack of faith? (vv. 6-7) What practices are Christians called to observe? (Matt 26:26-30; 28:19-20)
- 4. How was Israel vulnerable after being circumcised? (**Josh 5:8-9**) What does it mean that God rolled away their reproach? (**v. 9**) Have you failed God? Has God taken away your reproach?
- 5. What celebration did Israel observe after they were circumcised? (Josh 5:10-12) What did the Passover commemorate? (Ex 12) How did God deliver Israel from slavery in Egypt?
- 6. When did the manna stop? (**Josh 5:12**) How did God's provision train Israel to rely daily upon Him? (**Matt 4:1-4**) What does it mean that Jesus is the bread of life? (**John 6:26-59**)
- Who appeared to Joshua before he attacked Jericho? (Josh 5:13-15) Who is the Captain of God's army? (v. 14) What did He tell Joshua to do? (v. 15) Why did He say this? (Ex 3:4-5)
- 8. Have you submitted yourself to Christ fully? (Matt 16:24; Luke 9:23) Will you study your Bible so that you know what He commands you to do? Will you follow Him in faith?

Prayer

- **1.** Pray that God might roll away the reproach of your past sins as He did for Israel.
- 2. Ask God to help you submit yourself fully to the leadership and care of Jesus Christ.