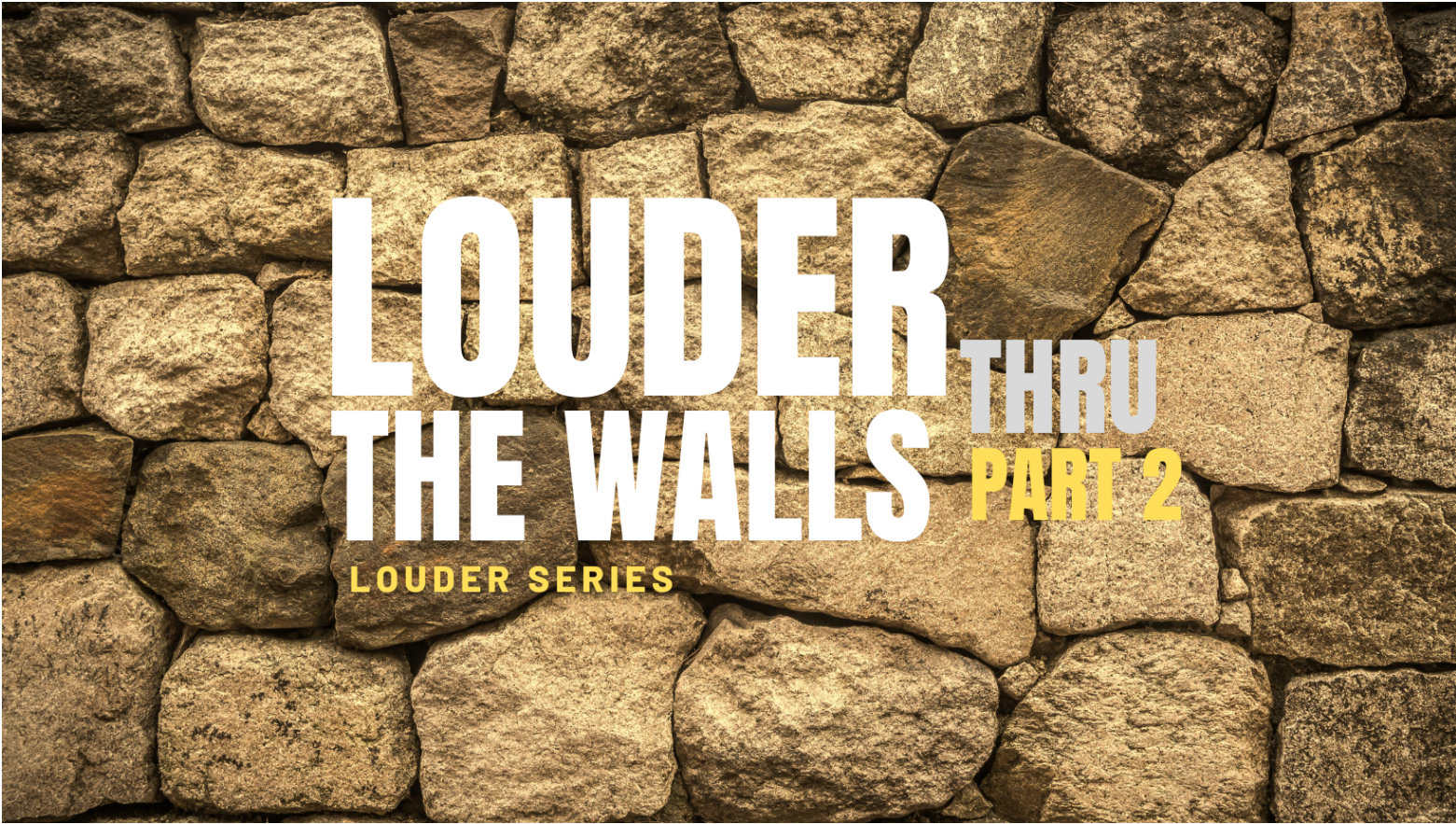




LOUDER THRU THE WALLS

LOUDER SERIES

PART 2

LOUDER Through The Walls Part 2

LOUDER Series

Scripture Reading

Joshua 2:8-14

8 Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof 9 and said to the men, "I know that the Lord has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you. 10 For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. 11 And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the Lord your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. 12 Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father's house, and give me a sure sign 13 that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death." 14 And the men said to her, "Our life for yours even to death! If you do not tell this business of ours, then when the Lord gives us the land we will deal kindly and faithfully with you." ([Joshua 2:1-14](#), ESV)

Introduction

Perhaps what is most striking about this story of Jericho is the details that we often gloss over because we are so quick to get to Joshua 6 and the march around Jericho for 6 days and on the 7th day when Israel circled the walls of Jericho 7 times and shouted with a loud shout, and the walls came tumbling down! But there was something deeper going on within the thick walls of the city of Jericho!

We're circling back to chapter 2 to see God's faithfulness in chapter 6. Israel did not know that when they sent 2 spies into Jericho that there would be an ally and a testimony of God's goodness and their victories within the walls of Jericho. The spies discovered that the homes of the people in Jericho were actually built into the walls themselves. Imagine walls that are several feet thick, housing families and homes within them. Rehab and her family were nestled into a life that she wanted out of.

There's More to the Story

- What do we know about Rehab? There's a lot we don't know
- She was a harlot within Jericho
- She was the woman that hid the spies that came from Israel's camp to spy out the land.
- She was also someone that heard and believed the testimonies of God's deliverance of Israel and the victories He had brought to Israel.
- She believed that God wanted to give Canaan to Israel as their Promise
- She was more than just a harlot
- She had a family, a mother, father, brothers and sisters who lived within the walls of Jericho
- Evidence suggests that she also likely had another trade
 - She had a lot of flax, linen and scarlet thread on her rooftop
 - ◆ and it's amongst these stalks of flax that she hid the spies
 - She may have been engaged in the manufacture of linen and the art of dyeing.
- Like so many people today, there's the thing that we're known for (good or bad) and then there's the thing that we've always wanted to do
- And like many of us I believe there was a duality to Rehab that many people didn't see, but God saw it.
- And God didn't condemn her for the side of her life that she was known for
 - the bad reputation
 - the part that was useful to others but detrimental to her
- God used the part of her life that she had reserved for a better day and a better life, to bring salvation to her life and her household.

- The walls of Jericho kept outsiders from 'coming in,' but it also kept Rehab from 'getting out' of the lifestyle she was in.
- But when the testimonies of the Lord started to 'get in' through the walls, and the spies entered into the city and found her home, 'she saw her way out!'"

You can be trapped in a situation for so long, that you think that there is no way out. But as soon as good news gets in to where you are, you start to believe that there is a way out!

Good News to those trapped behind the walls.

- there is a God that actually fights for His people
- there is a God that leads His people on a daily basis and helps navigate them through their problems
- there is a God that feeds His people in the wilderness
- there is God that quenches our thirst and will even bring water from a rock for us
- there is a God defends and protects His people

- there is a God that cares for His people
- there is a God that parts waters for them to bring them to His land of Promise
- there is a God who gives His people victory after victory after victory
- And if He can part waters He can surely bring walls down
- If He can bring plagues against His enemies, surely He can bring peace to me and my family and deliver us

There is Value Beyond the Walls

Beyond these walls, there was:

- more than a sinner
 - More than a harlot
 - More than just another home or household
 - More than a woman who had great plans for her business beyond her reputation
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- She had had many lovers but no children
 - She had dreams of a better life but no opportunity to live it
 - While men saw value in what they could take from her, God saw a greater value in what He could give to her
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- Hidden within those walls was the future mother of a redeemer
 - Hidden within those walls was the great great grand mother of the forgotten yet chosen King of Israel - David
 - Hidden within those walls was the ancestor through whom we would receive the Redeemer of the World - Christ our Lord

If The Walls Stayed Up

- What would have happened if the walls stayed up?
 - What would have happened if Israel did not obey God and do what He said, exactly the way He said to do it?
 - Israel's journey of faith would have stopped short.
 - A woman who was supposed to birth a redeemer would have remained a harlot (used and abused).
 - A family would have remained trapped in the walls.
 - What was a home for many was a prison for some, and it would have been a life sentence for this family who was meant to do more.
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- Those walls coming down was more than just a conquest for land
 - Those walls coming down was more than just another battle to be fought
 - Those walls coming down was about the salvation of generations and God used the life of one of the most unlikely heroins to bring about the lineage of the greatest Redeemer that ever lived, died and resurrected for us!
 - His Name is Jesus and He saves, He delivers, to the utmost He rescues and sets free!

Additional Bible Study

There is much that we can learn from Israel's journey into Canaan. This was a different generation of Israelites. This generation of Israelites were ready to follow a brave leader. They had gotten the fear out of their system and got sick of going around in circles and wanted to see the manifestation of the Lord's promises.

Seeing what God has promised doesn't happen without walking in faith. And walking in faith looks like literal obedience to things that God tells you to do. There are steps of commission & response, steps of preparation & peace, steps of remembrance & joy and then steps of circumcision and submission, and then after that steps of obedience & victory.

1. Commission & Response

Chapter 1 was about receiving the commission to go and responding to that commission with a yes!

2. Preparation & Peace

Chapters 2&3 was about preparing by spying out the land and meeting a person or persons that confirm that God is with you (and their willingness to help you).

3. Remembrance & Joy

Chapter 4 is about remembrance and joy! Taking a stone from the bottom of the River where God parted the waters for us. Learning how to record, recall and remember what God did for us. Build an Ebenezer as a reminder of what God has done for you.

4. Circumcision & Submission

Chapter 5 was about renewing covenant with God and the circumcision of our hearts so we can remain sensitive to what He wants from us. It's also about the submission to the Lord as the unbiased Arbiter of His Will. He's not choosing our side, we must choose His.

5. Obedience & Victory

Chapter 6 was about explicit obedience and assured victory. Following the Lord in doing things the way He said to do it.

Here in Chapter 6 God shows us that we should:

- Follow God's explicit instructions
 - don't be too quick to shout
 - don't be too quick to attack
- Assemble and gather yourself
 - the blowing of the ram's horn
 - the bringing of oneself to attention
- Lean the benefit of silence
- Learn how to circle the problem
 - see it from all angles
 - see all the aspects of the problem
 - the victory God brings should be total
- Protect your Presence time with the Lord
 - A front and rear guard so that your focus and your following is not interrupted nor disrupted