



MAY 28TH, 2023

JOSHUA 5:1-12

© ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN CHURCH

www.emcaz.org

¹ As soon as all the kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan to the west, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan for the people of Israel until they had crossed over, their hearts melted and there was no longer any spirit in them because of the people of Israel.

Joshua 5:1 (ESV)

ECHO OF RAHAB IN 2:11 = WHAT THE PEOPLE FELT NOW THE KINGS FELT
THE KINGS OF THE LAND ARE HIGHLIGHTED AS THE REAL ENEMIES

² At that time the LORD said to Joshua, “Make flint knives and circumcise the sons of Israel a second time.” ³ So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth.

Joshua 5:2-3 (ESV)

GENESIS 17:1-27 ESTABLISHES CIRCUMCISION AS THE IDENTITY MARKER OF THE COVENANT PEOPLE.

¹ When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, ² that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” ³ Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴ “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵ No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷ And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ⁸ And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.” ⁹ And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. ¹⁰ This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised.

Genesis 17:1–10 (ESV)

⁴ And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way after they had come out of Egypt. ⁵ Though all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people who were born on the way in the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. ⁶ For the people of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the men of war who came out of Egypt, perished, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD; the LORD swore to them that he would not let them see the land that the LORD had sworn to their fathers to give to us, a land flowing with milk and honey. ⁷ So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised. For they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. ⁸ When the circumcising of the whole nation was finished, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. ⁹ And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” And so the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.

Joshua 5:4–9 (ESV)

ROLLED AWAY = GILGAL = ROLL/CIRCLE = NOUN IS A WHEEL

REPROACH OF EGYPT = THE HUMILIATION OF SLAVERY: ALL THE BURDENS AND SHAMES OF THE PAST ARE DONE. ISRAEL IS MADE NEW.

¹⁰ While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Joshua 5:10–12 (ESV)

PASSOVER CAN ONLY BE CELEBRATED BY THE CIRCUMCISED (EX. 12:44-48)

PASSOVER MARKED THEIR DEPARTURE FROM EGYPT – AND SET THEM APART FROM THE EGYPTIANS.

NOW, IT SETS THEM APART FROM THE PEOPLES AND MARKS THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE WILDERNESS INTO THE LAND OF PROMISE.

UNLEAVENED BREAD AND PARCHED GRAINS ECHO THE EXODUS/PASSOVER EVENT

CIRCUMCISION WAS A SIGN OF OBEDIENCE AND FAITH NOT OF SALVATION.

IN FACT, IN DEUT. 30 MOSES PROPHESES THAT THE PEOPLE WILL ENTER THE LAND, WILL EXPERIENCE THE BLESSINGS/CURSES OF THE COVENANT, WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE LAND (EXILE) AND THEN BECAUSE OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS WILL BE BROUGHT BACK. HE THEN DECLARES:

⁶ And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

Deuteronomy 30:6 (ESV)

CIRCUMCISION, AS AN IDENTITY MARKER OF BELONGING TO KING JESUS IS EXPERIENCED IN BAPTISM. PASSOVER, AS A CELEBRATION OF GOD'S DELIVERANCE IS MEMORIALIZED IN THE LORD'S SUPPER.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Colossians 2:8-15 (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What is the significance of circumcision and the Passover in the Abrahamic covenant?
2. How does baptism fulfill the Abrahamic covenant?
3. How has your baptism impacted or changed your life?
4. What are some ways that you can live out your identity in Christ?
5. What are some ways that you struggle to live out your identity in Christ?
6. How does the story of Joshua 5:1-12 demonstrate the faithfulness of God?