

Shane

Ben

Ike

Shane

Good morning, The Arising Church it is 9/14/25

Up to this point, we have had 9 warrior ethos messages that God has designed for this body. Praise God He shepherds this church and gives us exactly what we need. Let's review a few of the messages:

1. **All Out War Mentality...where this series all started...**

King David's example of **wholehearted devotion**, repentance, and a **relentless warfare mindset**, as seen by his letter to Goliath in Psalm 144. His life urges believers to adopt an "all-out" mindset in pursuing God, **resisting sin, and fighting for the deliverance of others.**

2. **Live-Die-Repeat** we learned that God is a warrior who uses storms, trials, and even judgment to shape His people, teaching us that true **discipleship means embracing daily death** to self, enduring hardship, and even creating "storms" of righteous conflict...living, dying, and repeating in order **to be formed into warriors who reflect His character and advance His kingdom.**

3. **Yoked Like a Warrior** called us to embrace the true weight of **Christ's yoke...total surrender, relentless obedience, and shared devotion.** It taught us that being "yoked" means not only aligning with Jesus' will but also being bound in life-and-death brotherhood with others, trained to endure hardship, overcome weakness, and fight together as true warriors of God.

Ben

4. **In Slave, Soldier, Son** we must have the trinity of identity: slave, soldier, and son. Not discarding any: first offering **absolute obedience as slaves** to Christ, then growing through the **disciplined dedication of soldiers** in His army, and ultimately maturing as **sons who inherit and carry out the Father's will**, thus fully reflecting His character and purpose.

One of things that Pastor Peter said even in a message before these, 5 smooth stones, was that these messages would not be a fad...they would be woven into the very fabric of this church...and I truly believe that. We have been so encouraged how you guys have taken these messages to heart. I know they have been impacting you because it is what you all have been talking about. God has an incredible purpose for this body...and if you are raising your head up and looking at what is going on in our World right now you can see why God is having us focus on an all-out war mentality...

I thought that we would need to go to the middle east to get martyred, but apparently not...ladies and gentlemen the state of our world is changing and the stakes are getting higher. The way you choose to live...the difference between the light and the dark...is becoming very stark. God is making a distinction between the righteous and the wicked like in Exodus 14...the cloud shone light on the Israelites, the people of God, and darkness on the Egyptians, the world. And they do not like it and they will kill you for it.

When you are faced with evil, not just from a news story about Charlie Kirk but when YOU are staring it in the face, what are you going to stand on? What Spirit are you going to have within you when that day comes to be able to stand against such evil?

Ike

We want to show you a clip of Charlie Kirk's widow, Erika. As she speaks we want you to see an example of a bride reflecting her husband 2 days after his murder.

- *insert widow's battle cry - Charlie Kirk's wife\** (8 minutes 5 seconds - 9 minutes 25 seconds)

Two days into widowhood she did not retreat—she roared. Her answer to loss was not silence but fire, not despair but defiance. 'If you think this will stop me, you are wrong. You have only made me louder, bolder, and more unshakable.' "Her words echo what every believer should declare when the enemy strikes: 'You have not weakened me—you have only emboldened me.'

- Warriors coming from unlikely sources

She was Ms. Arizona...it is a beautiful thing when a beauty queen acts like a soldier, it is a sad thing when men who should be soldiers act like beauty queens.

Shane

#### John 15:18–20 (ESV)

18 “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you...

Jump down to v24

#### John 15:24–25 (ESV)

24 If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. 25 But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: ‘They hated me without a cause.’

Do you see what Jesus was standing on?? He was unphased by their hate because it was prophesied and spoken about in the word in Ps 35...

Jesus stood on the word and the Spirit for times when men would hate him.

#### John 15:26–16:2 (ESV)

26 “But when the **Helper** comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the **Spirit of truth**, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. 27 And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

16 “I have said all these things to you to **keep you from falling away**. 2 They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when **whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God**.

Are you in a position where you are so sure of what you are doing and what God has said that you would die for it and stand up against people who hate you? While we know that many of us are growing in our love for torah, do you actually view it as having EVERYTHING you need to win the battles ahead of you?

Because today we are going to elevate the Torah and see that it prepares you for victory. We will show how it will give you Military intelligence, Military discipline and

order, and Military history of past battles that will help you fight your current and future battles.

Are you battle ready?



Ben

This is the 10th message in the Warrior Ethos series that God has created for this body.

In the Bible, the number **10** often represents **completion, order, responsibility, and testing**. A few key examples:

- **The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1–17):** A complete moral code given by God.
- **Ten Plagues of Egypt (Exodus 7–12):** God's full judgment on Pharaoh.
- **Tithing (10%):** A complete portion symbolizing surrender to God (Leviticus 27:30).
- **Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1–13):** A parable about readiness and testing faithfulness.
- **Ten Days of Testing (Revelation 2:10):** A period of trial for the church in Smyrna.

So, **10** symbolizes the fullness of God's law, human responsibility before Him, and times of testing that prove faithfulness.



So, it seems only appropriate to have a 10th message on the warrior ethos of The Arising Church

Who here thinks that the law prepares them for battle?

- I know I haven't...
- I have thought it was morally good. I know it gives me blessings and favor.
- But to prepare me for battle?? No.
  - Maybe you have thought that the Torah would spare you from battle, bloodshed and sweat... blood is required, praise God he gives us battle instructions.

## JOSHUA 1:6-9 ESV

6 **BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS**, FOR YOU SHALL CAUSE THIS PEOPLE TO INHERIT THE LAND THAT I SWORE TO THEIR FATHERS TO GIVE THEM. 7 ONLY **BE STRONG AND VERY COURAGEOUS**, BEING CAREFUL TO DO ACCORDING TO ALL THE LAW THAT MOSES MY SERVANT COMMANDED YOU. DO NOT TURN FROM IT TO THE RIGHT HAND OR TO THE LEFT, THAT YOU MAY HAVE GOOD SUCCESS WHEREVER YOU GO. 8 THIS BOOK OF THE LAW SHALL NOT DEPART FROM YOUR MOUTH, BUT YOU SHALL MEDITATE ON IT DAY AND NIGHT, SO THAT YOU MAY BE CAREFUL TO DO ACCORDING TO ALL THAT IS WRITTEN IN IT. FOR THEN YOU WILL MAKE YOUR WAY PROSPEROUS, AND THEN YOU WILL HAVE GOOD SUCCESS. 9 HAVE I NOT COMMANDED YOU? **BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS**. DO NOT BE FRIGHTENED, AND DO NOT BE DISMAYED, FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD IS WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO."

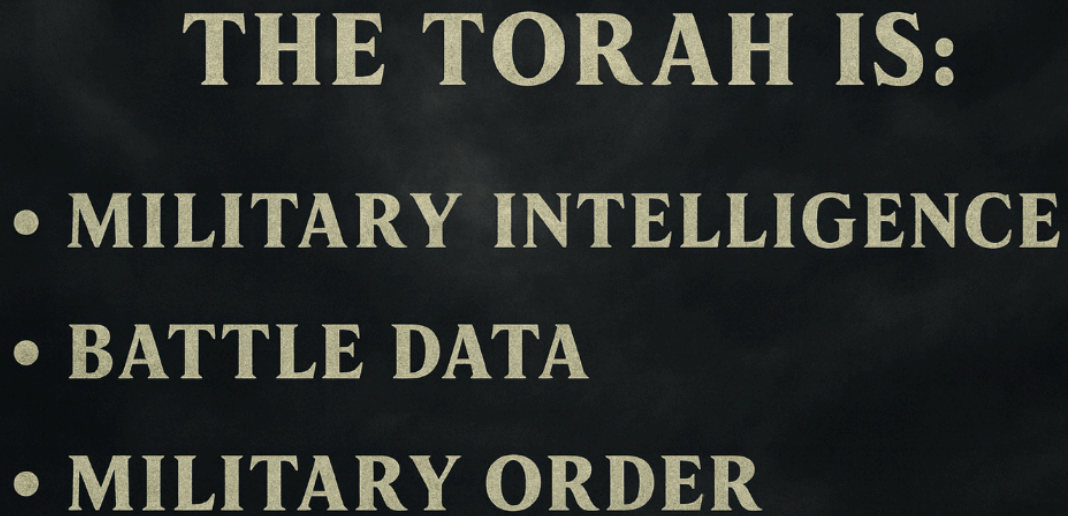
Be strong and courageous...for what purpose??? To go to war! But notice how God, without taking a breath, is saying be strong and VERY courageous in being CAREFUL to do according to ALL the law that Moses my servant commanded you.

- It takes strength and courage to go to war, it takes far more strength and courage to keep the law.
- Sandwiched in between "be strong and courageous" in war is KEEPING the law.
- Is Joshua the head of the health dept? Or the premiere law legistaltor....

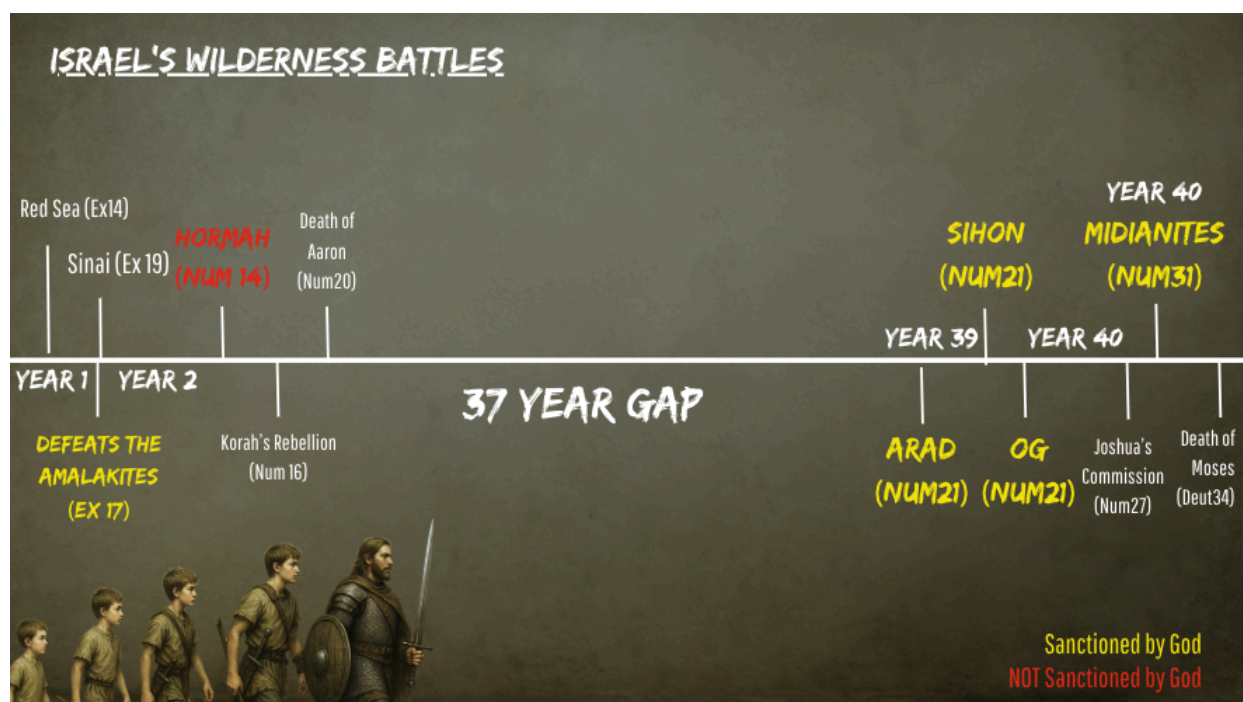
No, Joshua was disciplined in war by Moses keeping the law.

Shane

So, How does the TORAH help us with Battles??? How does the Law help me actually win battles?

- 
- THE TORAH IS:**
- **MILITARY INTELLIGENCE**
  - **BATTLE DATA**
  - **MILITARY ORDER**

1. Military Intelligence
  - a. The law gives insight into how things are going to play out in the future.
  - b. The first thing that military men ask about when they are about to go into a battle is what do we know. This is hugely important.
2. Military Battle Data



- a. Joshua himself had 5 key battles under the discipleship of Moses that had already occurred in their history.
  - b. From the message, “Developing Warriors” we were shown that these 5 battles would be played out even in the end times.
  - c. What we saw was, that these battles, though ancient, are still teaching us today. The principles and truths that we see in these battles are still relevant. They set foundational patterns to help us.
3. Military Order
    - a. The commands that God gave to the Israelites were not given to have a healthier lifestyle...no, they were given to work discipline into their life and prepare them for battle.

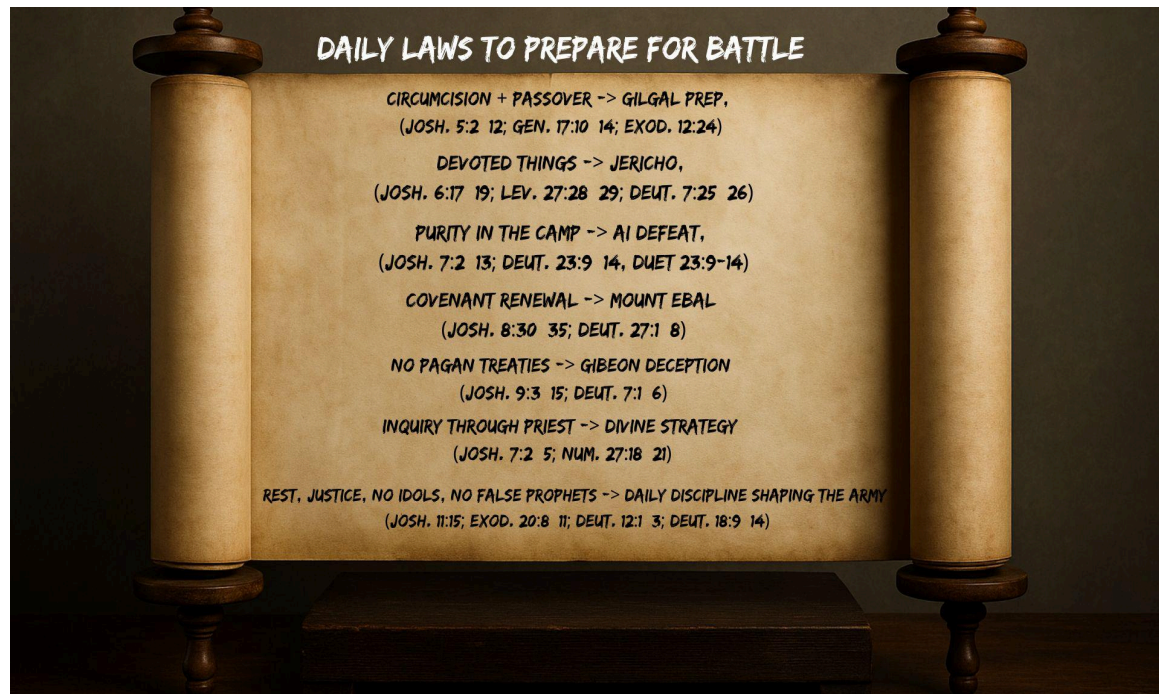
## Ike

We will start with how all military men start in boot camp... with Military order and discipline.

As we looked into the Torah for the purposes of understanding how it sets us up for victory, we realized that there are instructions that are actually extremely practical and are directly helpful in the physical and other laws and instructions that don't seem to make much sense at least first in the physical but spiritually they help us to align with the master of war setting us up for victory in battle. Let's take a look at some of them.



**(DO NOT READ)**



## Daily Laws That Prepared for Battle

This is by no means exhaustive but these do illustrate the value of instruction for a purpose and that purpose is war.

- **Circumcision & Passover (Gilgal prep)**
  - This was a voluntary cutting away of the flesh that does not belong in the people of God, to publicly show their allegiance to the God of Abraham. And an active participation of remembrance of what the Lord had already done through celebrating the Passover and what the Lord had done to their enemies before.
  - It shows a cutting away of my own fleshly thoughts and tendencies and instead I will seek what the Lord says and do what he wants me to do.
  - Do you see how that would prepare them to face enemy armies in battle?
- **Devoted things (Jericho)**
  - This was the distinction between the holy and the common, and at Jericho they destroyed everything that was devoted to destruction even the women and children...
  - Now that's not pretty BUT think about how important it would be to know the instructions God gives in his Torah?
  - Lev 29:29 says: "No person devoted to destruction may be ransomed; they are to be put to death."
  - Without this instruction wouldn't obedience have been impossible?

- **Purity in the camp (Ai)**

- This was a high priority
- Look at Achin, the consequence for his light treatment of the battle instructions was horrific at best
- Speaking of purity in the camp...there are even laws about where you go to the bathroom!
  - And God gives the reason as because He is walking in their midst...





- Praise God we have Military Order instructions that help us to be battle ready... But will we listen to them?
- Also, isn't it crazy that if they did not purify the camp, they would no longer be picking up bread from heaven, but rather, well...

## Ben

- **Covenant renewal (Mount Ebal)**
  - At Mount Ebal, the covenant was read, the law was written, and the people were reminded of who their God is, His character, and the promises He had already kept.
  - Wouldn't it be powerful if before every fight, you could pause to remember your God — His holiness, His faithfulness, His victories — and then step into battle from that place of confidence?
  - That's why it was written in the law: **their strength for war came from remembering God's covenant.**
- **No pagan treaties (Gibeon)**
  - Warned against compromise that leads to entanglement.
  - Do you see how important as preparatory this command is when you're given pretty difficult battle instructions? Like kill everything. Wouldn't it have been tempting to make a treaty with what should be dead because the fight was too hard, the cost too high, and what is required for victory turns your stomach?
- **Inquiry through priest (strategy)**
  - Reminded them that divine guidance wins battles, not numbers or strength
- **Rest, justice, no idols, no false prophets (daily discipline)**
  - Formed a holy, disciplined army ready for sustained warfare.

This is a new way to read the law... If you read it through the lens of being Battle Ready then things that may not make sense to you suddenly are seen in a new light.

## Shane

Let's look at a few examples of how the Law prepares you for Battle from the life of Joshua. The disciple of the man who was divinely inspired by God to write the Law of God.

In these examples you will see that the TORAH prepared Joshua and US in 3 ways: an instruction manual on warfare that gives battle data, prophetic military intelligence and daily military order

## FIRST EXAMPLE (The Battle of Ai)

After the victory at Jericho, Joshua sent spies to the town of Ai, and they came back and said in Joshua 7:3 ... **“Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few.”**

And instead of seeking the LORD by consulting the word he listened to these men and did what they suggested to the result of a crushing defeat.

Imagine if Joshua was reflecting on his first battle with the Amalekites

Imagine if instead of listening to his troops, he consulted the high priest Eliezer about this battle and he was reminded of what the LORD said to Moses in Exodus 17:14-16.

#### **Exodus 17:14–16 (ESV)**

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven.” 15 And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, **The LORD Is My Banner**, 16 saying, “A hand upon the throne of the LORD! The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.”

#### **DO NOT READ**

**THE LORD IS MY BANNER**  
**“YHWH NISSI”**

**MOSES BUILT AN ALTAR AND NAMED IT**  
**“THE LORD GIVES ME VICTORY.” (EX. 17:15 CEV)**

**IN THE LATIN VULGATE “BELLUM DOMINI”**  
**“MASTER OF WAR”**

The LORD is My Banner is Yahweh Nissi, it is the picture of reaching up and grasping the throne of GOD. If he had reached up and sought the LORD about this battle, God would have told him about the sin that was in the camp.

In the CEV, it says, **15** Moses built an altar and named it “The LORD Gives Me Victory.” He would have received valuable information from **Military Battle Data. A lesson from a past battle.**

Even in Latin, in this chapter, the Lord is the “master of war”. Don’t you think it would have been a good idea to consult the “master of war”?

Ben

Perhaps the master of war would pointed him to this scripture in the TORAH:

## DEUT. 7:22-26 NIV

24 HE WILL GIVE THEIR KINGS INTO YOUR HAND, AND YOU WILL WIPE OUT THEIR NAMES FROM UNDER HEAVEN. NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO STAND UP AGAINST YOU; YOU WILL DESTROY THEM. 25 *THE IMAGES OF THEIR GODS YOU ARE TO BURN IN THE FIRE. DO NOT COVET THE SILVER AND GOLD ON THEM, AND DO NOT TAKE IT FOR YOURSELVES, OR YOU WILL BE ENSNARED BY IT, FOR IT IS DETESTABLE TO THE LORD YOUR GOD. 26 DO NOT BRING A DETESTABLE THING INTO YOUR HOUSE OR YOU, LIKE IT, WILL BE SET APART FOR DESTRUCTION. REGARD IT AS VILE AND UTTERLY DETEST IT, FOR IT IS SET APART FOR DESTRUCTION.*

The discovery of this kind of chink in their armor would have prevented loss of life and pain to the family of God.

This type of failure happened once to Joshua after an incredible victory at Jericho, but never happened to him again. I pray that can be said of us with how we learn from our mistakes. Let’s keep looking at Joshua’s response after the battle, and what he says to the LORD:

### Joshua 7:6–13 (ESV)

6 Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the LORD until the evening, he and the elders of Israel. And they put dust on their heads. 7 And Joshua said, “Alas, O Lord GOD, **why** have you brought this people over the Jordan at all, to give us into the hands of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would that we had been content to dwell beyond the Jordan! 8 O Lord, **what can I say**, when Israel has turned their backs before their enemies! 9 For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land

will hear of it and will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will you do for your great name?"

What is Joshua's cry to the LORD? It is as if he is saying:

- Why is this happening?
- What can I say?
- Do you even love us anymore?
- We are going to be cut off from the earth...
- Can you hear yourself crying out like this in terrible events in your life?

Ike

- If these instructions make no sense or you don't understand
- Or If you have ignored them then go back and consult the Torah

When terrible things happen in our lives it's easy to get swept up in emotion and say all kinds of ungrounded things.

Listen to what the lord says to those who question his judgments rather than consult his Torah.

### Mal 2:17

17 You have wearied the LORD with your words.

**"How have we wearied him?" you ask.**

By saying, **"All who do evil are good in the eyes of the LORD, and he is pleased with them"** or **"Where is the God of justice?"** (this cuts either way)

That question right there, "where is the God of justice?" only comes out of you when you are not firmly grounded in God's Torah. And when faced with hard battles and alarming defeats, it's easy to feel like it's futile to go to war. And it's easy to forget your instructions because what is required of you is "too much" thus it feels like a burden.

### 1 Jn 5:3–4. NIV

3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And **his commands are not burdensome**, 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.



- Look, the word is clear, his commands are not burdensome. End of story.
  - If you see the battle instructions as a burden or tiresome, you don't automatically get excused from the battle, you simply lose it. And worse you will get the men with you killed.
  - How foolish would it be to throw out the instruction manual to warfare that gives battle data, prophetic military intelligence and daily military order?
  - Example of GPS/Recipe (BEN)

We affectionately called this phenomena:



look :

**Je 23:33. NIV**

33 “When one of this people, or a prophet or a priest asks you, ‘**What is the burden of the LORD?**’ you shall say to them, ‘**You are the burden**, and I will cast you off, declares the LORD.

- But let's turn this a little, we know that the prophets warn the soul, and they do, but that is a small view. The majority actually show the blessings that come through obedience. Let's look at how his commands are “huge, the greatest, da best” (said in a trump voice)



### 1 Jn 5:3–4. NIV

3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And **his commands are** not burdensome, 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. **This is the victory** that has overcome the world, even our faith.

- So John said the commands are not burdensome, so what are they? They are victory!

### Dt 30:14–16.

14 No, the word is very near you; it is **in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.**

15 See, I **set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction.** 16 For I command you today to **love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him,** and to keep his commands, decrees and **laws; then you will live** and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

- The word is in your mouth and in your heart SO THAT you may obey it and have LIFE
- Love the Lord your God and OBEY HIM, then you will live.
- So John said the commands are not burdensome, so what are they? They are life!

### Shane

Back to Joshua 7, Look at God's response:

10 The LORD said to Joshua, **"Get up! Why have you fallen on your face?** 11 **Israel has sinned;** they have **transgressed** my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings. 12 **Therefore** the people of Israel **cannot stand before their enemies.** They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction. **I will be with you no more,** unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.

God is essentially saying:

- You should know this already...

- The law that I have given you tells you exactly why this is happening...
- This shouldn't be confusing to you.
- This is both **Military Order** and **Military Intelligence**...think of how God helped them discover Achan...

## DO NOT READ

### BLESSINGS...

DEUTERONOMY 28:1 (ESV)

28 “AND IF YOU FAITHFULLY OBEY THE VOICE OF THE LORD YOUR GOD, BEING CAREFUL TO DO ALL HIS COMMANDMENTS THAT I COMMAND YOU TODAY, THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL SET YOU HIGH ABOVE ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH.

DEUTERONOMY 28:7 (ESV)

7 “THE LORD WILL CAUSE YOUR ENEMIES WHO RISE AGAINST YOU TO BE DEFEATED BEFORE YOU. THEY SHALL COME OUT AGAINST YOU ONE WAY AND FLEE BEFORE YOU SEVEN WAYS.

Look at what Deuteronomy 28:7 says about **the blessings for obedience** for following his **COMMANDS in the LAW**:

- **Deuteronomy 28:1 (ESV)**

28 “And if you faithfully **obey** the voice of the LORD your God, being **careful to do all his commandments** that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

**Deuteronomy 28:7 (ESV)**

7 “The **LORD will cause** your enemies who rise against you to be **defeated** before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

- It says that the LORD will cause your enemies to be defeated before you.

Ben

- BUT the opposite is true as well in **Deuteronomy 28:15, 25 (ESV)**

## DO NOT READ

### ...CURSES

DEUTERONOMY 28:15 (ESV)

15 “BUT IF YOU WILL NOT OBEY THE VOICE OF THE LORD YOUR GOD OR BE CAREFUL TO DO ALL HIS COMMANDMENTS AND HIS STATUTES THAT I COMMAND YOU TODAY, THEN ALL THESE CURSES SHALL COME UPON YOU AND OVERTAKE YOU.

DEUTERONOMY 28:25 (ESV)

25 “THE LORD WILL CAUSE YOU TO BE DEFEATED BEFORE YOUR ENEMIES. YOU SHALL GO OUT ONE WAY AGAINST THEM AND FLEE SEVEN WAYS BEFORE THEM. AND YOU SHALL BE A HORROR TO ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THE EARTH.

#### Deuteronomy 28:15 (ESV)

15 “But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be **careful to do all his commandments** and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

25 “**The LORD** will cause you to be **defeated** before your enemies. You shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them. And you shall be a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.

- It may seem that the Israelites were defeated by Ai, but they instead defeated themselves.
- You noticed that the way that they are defeated is the same way that they defeat their enemies if they are faithful to keep the law.

Ike

#### EXAMPLE TWO (GIBEONITES)

Let’s look at Joshua 10 and see how Joshua may have looked to the Law to find his battle plan. For context, Joshua has just been deceived into making a covenant with a people

of the land, the Gibeonites, which Deuteronomy 20 makes clear should not have happened.

After hearing about how the Gibeonites have made peace with the people of God, 5 kings of the land come out to make war against it. Now, we pick up in Joshua 10:7.

**Joshua 10:7-8 ESV** - 7 So Joshua **went up** from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valor. 8 And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear them, for I have given them into your hands. Not a man of them shall stand before you."

- Do you notice how Joshua starts moving to rescue Gibeon before he hears from the Lord that they will have victory? And God doesn't expressly tell them to go to Gibeon, he only tells them that they will win the battle.
- How did Joshua know that this was a battle that was not only worth fighting, but was worth marching all night to get to?
  - **Numbers 30:1-2 ESV** - 1 Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the people of Israel, saying, "This is what the LORD has commanded. 2 If a man **vows a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word.** He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.
  - God made abundantly clear in the Torah that a man's word is binding. If you make a vow, HE SHALL NOT BREAK HIS WORD!
  - Joshua didn't need to get permission from God to go defend Gibeon, because Torah had already commanded him to keep his word!
- This was a **Military Order** that was drilled into Joshua, so he knew this was the right thing to do.
- But why was it important for him to march all night and then fight?
  - **Deuteronomy 23:21 ESV** - 21 "If you make a vow to the LORD your God, **you shall not delay** fulfilling it, for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and you will be guilty of sin.

- Not only is a man commanded in Torah to do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth, but he is also commanded to, “**not delay fulfilling it**”.
- Do you see how the battle plan for Joshua was already clearly laid out in Torah? The enemy may look different, but the commands of Torah remain the same! Do you see how Torah made Joshua **battle ready**?
- Why would we be any different?

## Shane

- Joshua had **also** already had experience with fighting battles because of vows made to the Lord:
  - **Numbers 21:1-2 ESV** - 1 When the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who lived in the Negeb, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel, and took some of them captive. 2 **And Israel vowed a vow to the LORD** and said, "If you will indeed give this people into my hand, then I will devote their cities to destruction."
- Do you see how Joshua took **Battle Data** from Torah to look back on to see the victory that came from fighting a battle to fulfill your vow!
- Joshua **also** had **Military Intelligence** on what would happen to the 5 kings that he was going to fight against. Joshua 10:5 makes clear that all 5 of these kings were Amorites, so Joshua could look back to Deuteronomy 20 and see what was to happen to all Amorites:
  - **Deuteronomy 20:17 ESV** - 17 but you shall devote them to complete destruction, the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, as the LORD your God has commanded,
- Simply by looking to Torah and keeping it, Joshua was made **Battle Ready**.
- Personal application: do you look at the 5 books of Moses like this?



- I know I haven't. Our association teaches the Torah more than almost any other Christians I know, but does that mean each of us love the Torah?
- I know I say I love it, but when it comes down to it, do I view the commands of God as my life?
- Testimony about work and my failure to love the Torah and the discouragement that comes from it.

Ben

Joshua Wrote his testimony in the book of the Law:

### DO NOT READ

## WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY (1 OF 2)

JOSHUA 24:26 (ESV) - AND JOSHUA WROTE THESE WORDS IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW OF GOD. AND HE TOOK A LARGE STONE AND SET IT UP THERE UNDER THE TEREBINTH THAT WAS BY THE SANCTUARY OF THE LORD.

REVELATION 12:11 (ESV) - AND THEY HAVE CONQUERED HIM BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB AND BY THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY, FOR THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES EVEN UNTO DEATH.

**Joshua 24:26 ESV** - 26 And Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone and set it up there under the terebinth that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

- The book of Joshua is in the **prophets**, but it says that he wrote these things, IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW OF GOD! While we don't need to go into the specifics of what this exactly means, what we can clearly see is that Joshua modeled and embodied the instructions of Torah, and in doing so, became a **living testimony** of the victory and life that comes from Torah. Many times, Torah is called the

“testimony”, and we clearly see that as Joshua embodied the testimony and became a living testimony! Let’s go to Revelation 12:11, and see a familiar passage in a different light.

**Revelation 12:11 ESV** - 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

- This is a very common passage in Christendom, and familiarity can breed contempt and misunderstanding. When you hear, “word of their testimony”, don’t you usually think about the testimony of how wicked you were, how Jesus made you better, and then it stops there?
- What if overcoming is less about telling people your salvation story, and more about embodying the Law of God and becoming a testimony yourself?
- Israel had to go through this same process. They came out of Egypt covered by the blood of the lamb, then they received Torah, but did not conquer until they started embodying the Law that they were given!

Ike

- Right after this, we see the dragon going to wage war on the saints, and it gives only two descriptors of the type of people this dragon wants to kill

#### DO NOT READ

## WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY (2 OF 2)

REVELATION 12:17 (ESV) - THEN THE DRAGON BECAME FURIOUS WITH THE WOMAN AND WENT OFF TO MAKE WAR ON THE REST OF HER OFFSPRING, ON THOSE WHO KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD AND HOLD TO THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS. AND HE STOOD ON THE SAND OF THE SEA.

REVELATION 14:12 (ESV) “HERE IS A CALL FOR THE ENDURANCE OF THE SAINTS, THOSE WHO KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD AND THEIR FAITH IN JESUS.”

**Revelation 12:17** - ESV 17 Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

- It is not only those who hold to the testimony of Jesus, but those who keep the commandments of God, embody them, and become a testimony of them themselves.
- Could we not say that the testimony of Jesus is that he kept the commands of God entirely, even at the cost of his own life, and became a testimony?

**Revelation 14:12** doubles down on this point when it says, “12 Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.”

- The call for endurance is not only for those who have faith in Jesus, all though that is a part of it, the FIRST descriptor of these saints is that they, “keep the commandments of God!”. Not those who simply know or study Torah, but those who KEEP it.

We must never put emphasis on faith in Jesus AT THE EXPENSE of keeping the commands of God! Even Jesus never did this! And, in reality, if you don't keep the commands of God, can you really have faith in Jesus?’

Ben

**Isn't it time to actually build a testimony by keeping Torah? If not, how will we ever expect to overcome the dragon and his schemes?**

As we bring this message to a close we started off by telling you that we were going to elevate the Torah

To help you see how interwoven it was always meant to be in your life so that it would be planted deep in your heart and would shape how you live and fight. That it would shape your perspective and direct your plans.

We have always referenced the prophets as warning the soul but that is a small portion of their message. The entire Torah is aimed at life and the prophets seek to direct nations kings and people back to the Torah so that they could actually win battles and

prosper and advance instead of coming under judgment! The prophets directed the people back to the Torah!

The writings were all about what carrying out Torah practically looked like. We describe it as directing the strength and it is!! Directing your strength to carry out Torah!

Onto the gospels, remember when Jesus proclaims that He is the way the truth and the life He is proclaiming that He is the living breathing walking Torah! He is the Torah made flesh! Dwelling among us!

In Paul's writings he uses the wisdom of Torah applied to show the churches how to carry out Torah! Gentiles and Jews embracing Torah's instructions in their daily lives!

And of course the book of Revelation is the Torah enveloping the entire world! All the prophecies of Torah fulfilled, every promise realized!

Shane

Potential Altar Call:

- Are you finding yourself in a place of inaction, self-pity, despair, etc like Joshua at Ai? GET UP! Torah already has the solution you need to win the battle, and the longer it takes you to get up, the more victory the enemy has in your life.
- Have you claimed to love the Torah, and it may even be seen by you studying it, but you view his commands as burdensome?
  - Another way this can be seen is in everything you do seeming to be "futile".
  - You need to have the author of the Law inscribe it on your heart so that you not only love it, but actually do it!
- We cannot say we love the master of war, or the warrior ethos if we do not love his battle plans and instructions! Our God is building this ethos in us, and the only way it will last is if we not only learn his plan, but actively implement it in our lives daily! We cannot become historians, who love to study war from the comfort of our church. We MUST become battle ready warriors through the Law!

ADD TO CLOSING AS THE SPIRIT LEADS:

Benlike

