



Joshua – Take the Land – Be the Man

The Book of Joshua is the book of conquest. The battlefield is Canaan, and it is where God keeps His promise that He made with Abraham. In this study, we will use the land possessed by Joshua and the People of Israel as a metaphor to understand how we take possession of what it means to be a Christian man. We will exam 10 issues that men face every day. Every day is a battle to be fought. You must fight! Will you?

A Man will fight for what God promised.

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable
www.MensTable.com

#5 Children – Being the Prodigal Dad
 Joshua 1:6-9; 24:15

May 06, 2021

Bible Verses: Joshua 1:1-18; Joshua 24:15; Joshua 7:1-26; I Peter 4:17-19
Videos: The Heart of Man Official Trailer #1 (2017)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qJHd17RQeg>

Resources: Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History by Francis A. Schaeffer.
 The Christian Man – A Conversation About the 10 Issues Men Say Matter Most by Patrick Morley.
Music: Detroit City (I Wanna Go Home) by Bobby Bare from 1963
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2s4GHY-fpOc>
 Brantley Gilbert- Modern Day Prodigal Son
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yw3PXHFRbEw>

JOSHUA: Achan's Sin at Ai! – Joshua 7:1-26.

1. _____ → When God's people fight God's battles according to God's ways, they will be victorious. But if victory requires us to fight according to God's ways, defeat will come when we disobey our Creator.
2. _____ → Disobedience leads to defeat. As we see in Joshua 7, not all of God's people were faithful to His commands in the capture of Jericho. At one point, some of them failed to fight according to God's orders, causing their next battle to end in disaster. the problem was not that the Lord had failed to keep His promises but that the Israelites had failed to keep theirs.
3. _____ → Remember that God told the Israelites that they had to put all of the silver, gold, bronze, and iron from Jericho into the Lord's treasury. But Achan of the tribe of Judah kept some of the treasures for himself, leading to Israel's defeat and finally to the death of Achan and his family so as to remove the curse of God (vv. 13-26). Truly, Achan's sin and the defeat of Israel at Ai confirms that judgment begins with the household of God (I Peter 4:17-19).

REMEMBER: None of us should think that our private sins will not have an effect on others.

The Land—Manhood: THE PRODIGAL FATHER.

1. **Resource:** Prayers and Promises for Worried Parents: Hope for Your Prodigal. Help for You by Robert J. Morgan.
2. **Resource:** Courtney Reissig blogs:
 1. **Love, No Matter the Cost** → "For nearly two years I ran from my parents, family, and the Lord. I liked sin and liked living in sin. Talking to my dad (and mom) meant conviction, and I wanted nothing to do with it. If you peered through the window of my past, you would have seen that I perfectly fit the profile of the son in Luke 15:11-32. I was wild, impulsive, and opposed to authority on every level."
 2. **See the Deep Spiritual Need** → "Prodigal children do a number on the hearts of their parents. And no one understands that agony more than God does. By understanding my sin against my earthly parents, I grew to understand how my sin against my heavenly Father was far worse and deserved a much stricter punishment. In caring for my physical needs through the love of my parents, God revealed to me my deep spiritual need that could only be remedied by Christ. This is how a parent loves a prodigal. In the same way that God never abandons his children but lovingly pursues us even to the depths of our sin, so parents' model (to a lesser and more imperfect degree) the abundant grace of God poured out through them. God was kind to restore my relationship with my family ten thousand fold. And while I still mourn the loss of those rebellious years, I praise God that he gave me parents who loved me enough to pursue me to the end of myself and point me to the only one who could save me."

ACTION: Journal This!

1. What secret to you keep?
2. What secrets do your children keep?
3. What do you children need to hear to find healing from their secrets?

"A Modern Day Prodigal Son" By Brantley Gilbert

<p>I set out one night in the fast lane bound for freedom In a truck that daddy bought me And money mom had saved for school I laid down all my books and picked up the drinking Hell I let 'em down When I gave up like a fool And one reckless night just lookin' for my whiskey I found a bible mama gave me and read a while I read a story 'bout a man who lived just like me Then finally ate his pride and came runnin' home And lord I'm a renegade, a rambler I've squandered all I've owned</p>	<p>A bonified runaway, I'm a gambler Can't count the lies I've told And I need redemption, how 'bout forgiveness And I pray for open arms, and be with me lord 'Cause I'm comin' home, like a modern day prodigal son I had all of my things packed by early mornin' I left that bottle I'd lost right there on the bathroom floor I stopped at a payphone and called back home to mama Yeh she might not even talk after all I've done The phone rang twice before I got an answer And mama nearly dropped the phone when she heard me say I said mama it's your son and will yall have me She said son you know I've longed for this day</p>
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Bible Verses – The Message

Joshua 1:1-18 - 1 After the death of Moses the servant of God, God spoke to Joshua, Moses' assistant: 2 "Moses my servant is dead. Get going. Cross this Jordan River, you and all the people. Cross to the country I'm giving to the People of Israel. 3 I'm giving you every square inch of the land you set your foot on - just as I promised Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon east to the Great River, the Euphrates River - all the Hittite country - and then west to the Great Sea. It's all yours. 5 All your life, no one will be able to hold out against you. In the same way I was with Moses, I'll be with you. I won't give up on you; I won't leave you. 6 Strength! Courage! You are going to lead this people to inherit the land that I promised to give their ancestors. 7 Give it everything you have, heart and soul. Make sure you carry out The Revelation that Moses commanded you, every bit of it. Don't get off track, either left or right, so as to make sure you get to where you're going. 8 And don't for a minute let this Book of The Revelation be out of mind. Ponder and meditate on it day and night, making sure you practice everything written in it. Then you'll get where you're going; then you'll succeed. 9 Haven't I commanded you? Strength! Courage! Don't be timid; don't get discouraged. God, your God, is with you every step you take." The Taking of the Land 10 Then Joshua gave orders to the people's leaders: 11 "Go through the camp and give this order to the people: 'Pack your bags. In three days you will cross this Jordan River to enter and take the land God, your God, is giving you to possess.'" 12 Then Joshua addressed the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh. He said, 13 "Remember what Moses the servant of God commanded you: God, your God, gives you rest and he gives you this land. 14 Your wives, your children, and your livestock can stay here east of the Jordan, the country Moses gave you; but you, tough soldiers all, must cross the River in battle formation, leading your brothers, helping them 15 until God, your God, gives your brothers a place of rest just as he has done for you. They also will take possession of the land that God, your God, is giving them. Then you will be free to return to your possession, given to you by Moses the servant of God, across the Jordan to the east." 16 They answered Joshua: "Everything you commanded us, we'll do. Wherever you send us, we'll go. 17 We obeyed Moses to the letter; we'll also obey you - we just pray that God, your God, will be with you as he was with Moses. 18 Anyone who questions what you say and refuses to obey whatever you command him will be put to death. Strength! Courage!"

Joshua 24:15 - 15 "If you decide that it's a bad thing to worship God, then choose a god you'd rather serve - and do it today. Choose one of the gods your ancestors worshiped from the country beyond The River, or one of the gods of the Amorites, on whose land you're now living. As for me and my family, we'll worship God."

Joshua 7:1-26 - 1 Then the People of Israel violated the holy curse. Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah of the tribe of Judah, took some of the cursed things. God became angry with the People of Israel. 2 Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai (The Ruin), which is near Beth Aven just east of Bethel. He instructed them, "Go up and spy out the land." The men went up and spied out Ai. 3 They returned to Joshua and reported, "Don't bother sending a lot of people - two or three thousand men are enough to defeat Ai. Don't wear out the whole army; there aren't that many people there." 4 So three thousand men went up - and then fled in defeat before the men of Ai! 5 The men of Ai killed thirty-six - chased them from the city gate as far as The Quarries, killing them at the descent. The heart of the people sank, all spirit knocked out of them. 6 Joshua ripped his clothes and fell on his face to the ground before the Chest of God, he and the leaders

throwing dirt on their heads, prostrate until evening. 7 Joshua said, "Oh, oh, oh . . . Master, God. Why did you insist on bringing this people across the Jordan? To make us victims of the Amorites? To wipe us out? Why didn't we just settle down on the east side of the Jordan? 8 Oh, Master, what can I say after this, after Israel has been run off by its enemies? 9 When the Canaanites and all the others living here get wind of this, they'll gang up on us and make short work of us - and then how will you keep up your reputation?" 10 God said to Joshua, "Get up. Why are you groveling? 11 Israel has sinned: They've broken the covenant I commanded them; they've taken forbidden plunder - stolen and then covered up the theft, squirreling it away with their own stuff. 12 The People of Israel can no longer look their enemies in the eye - they themselves are plunder. I can't continue with you if you don't rid yourselves of the cursed things. 13 "So get started. Purify the people. Tell them: Get ready for tomorrow by purifying yourselves. For this is what God, the God of Israel, says: There are cursed things in the camp. You won't be able to face your enemies until you have gotten rid of these cursed things. 14 "First thing in the morning you will be called up by tribes. The tribe God names will come up clan by clan; the clan God names will come up family by family; and the family God names will come up man by man. 15 The person found with the cursed things will be burned, he and everything he has, because he broke God's covenant and did this despicable thing in Israel." 16 Joshua was up at the crack of dawn and called Israel up tribe by tribe. The tribe of Judah was singled out. 17 Then he called up the clans and singled out the Zerahites. He called up the Zerahite families and singled out the Zabdi family. 18 He called up the family members one by one and singled out Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah of the tribe of Judah. 19 Joshua spoke to Achan, "My son, give glory to God, the God of Israel. Make your confession to him. Tell me what you did. Don't keep back anything from me." 20 Achan answered Joshua, "It's true. I sinned against God, the God of Israel. This is how I did it. 21 In the plunder I spotted a beautiful Shinar robe, two hundred shekels of silver, and a fifty-shekel bar of gold, and I coveted and took them. They are buried in my tent with the silver at the bottom." 22 Joshua sent off messengers. They ran to the tent. And there it was, buried in the tent with the silver at the bottom. 23 They took the stuff from the tent and brought it to Joshua and to all the People of Israel and spread it out before God. 24 Joshua took Achan son of Zerah, took the silver, the robe, the gold bar, his sons and daughters, his ox, donkey, sheep, and tent - everything connected with him. All Israel was there. They led them off to the Valley of Achor (Trouble Valley). 25 Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? God will now trouble you. Today!" And all Israel stoned him - burned him with fire and stoned him with stones. 26 They piled a huge pile of stones over him. It's still there. Only then did God turn from his hot anger. That's how the place came to be called Trouble Valley right up to the present time.

I Peter 4:17-19 - 17 It's judgment time for Christians. We're first in line. If it starts with us, think what it's going to be like for those who refuse God's Message! 18 If good people barely make it, What's in store for the bad? 19 So if you find life difficult because you're doing what God said, take it in stride. Trust him. He knows what he's doing, and he'll keep on doing it.

Philip K. Hardin, M.A., M.Div.

Director of Business & Professional Outreach, Intl. - Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Certified Life Coach

563 Johnson Avenue – Fairhope, Alabama 36532

Phone: 601-925-0707

Email: phil@bpointl.org

Webpage: www.bpointl.org