

# Unfolding God's Plan of Redemption

## Themes from the Old Testament: Joshua (Part II)

### Principles of Spiritual Warfare

#### I. Joshua is the Historical Record of the Conquest of Canaan

- A. God has chosen Joshua to take the place of Moses as the leader of Israel
- B. His name is the OT equivalent of the NT name Jesus and means "Savior"
- C. Joshua is given the key to victory: Joshua 1:3-9  
*I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west. No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."* (Jos 1:3-9 NIV)
- D. The outcome of the battle is a foregone conclusion in accordance with the promise of God to Abraham:
  1. Genesis 17:7-8 *The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you (Gen 17:8 NIV)*
  2. Genesis 15:6-21 *On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates—the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites."* (Gen 15:18-21 NIV)

#### II. Principles of Spiritual Warfare—Lessons from the Conquest of Canaan

- A. The battle belongs to the Lord, Joshua 5:13-15, The Captain of the Host of the Lord
- B. Victory requires **FAITH** and **OBEDIENCE** (Joshua 6)
  1. Not every battle will be as easy as Jericho
  2. Every battle will require as much faith and obedience
- C. We must claim every inch of territory God has promised us (Joshua 1:2-3)
  1. Hebrews 4:8-11: There remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest.
  2. Ephesians 4:26-27: We must maintain a militant attitude toward sin and the devil. **BE ANGRY! STOP SINNING! STOP GIVING THE DEVIL TERRITORY** (*topos—a place*)
  3. Right after spiritual victory is the most dangerous time of vulnerability
    - a. Joshua 7: The battle of Ai and Achan
    - b. Overconfidence following Jericho
    - c. Sin has polluted the nation of Israel
- D. Prayer is the direct line to headquarters. We must constantly seek wisdom and direction.
  1. Joshua complains to God about the devastating loss at Ai
  2. Joshua 9: the ruse of the Gibeonites