

# Strategic Victory

**Scriptural Reference:** Joshua 6:1-24

**Key Verse:** “When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in.” (*Joshua 6:5, NIV*)

## Life Principle

When God promises us something, we must be prepared to encounter obstacles that may discourage us; but we must remain diligent. Our success is in our obedience.

## Introduction

There will always be strategies for us to use to obtain our desired goals in this life, as long as we allow God to lead us completely through. Every situation requires proper planning in order to achieve the set goal. Yet, no matter how we approach a situation, there are always obstacles that stand between us and our victories.

Israel was moving toward conquering the place that God had given to them, and the enemy was afraid and barricaded behind fortified walls. God gave Joshua a play-by-play account of what it would take to conquer Jericho. To be successful, their army must remain obedient, and the city would fall. Within the walls were those who gave the spies safety, trusting that they would honor their commitment.

Life is filled with challenges that propel us to navigate even more closely to the miraculous hand of God. God has given us the ability to strategically gain victory over areas of our lives. Today, let us be encouraged to boldly confront matters that stand before us as walls, to be willing to follow God’s plan in combating the obstacles, and to stand in integrity to carry out our commitment to those who assisted in our ability to be victorious.

## BIBLICAL EMPHASES FOR STUDY

### I. Confronting Challenges (*Joshua 6:1-2*)

When God is guiding you, you are bound to make the enemy tremble.

As Joshua and the children of Israel moved closer to obtaining the Land of Promise, the inhabitants of the city of Jericho shut themselves up behind the walls. No one was able to go in or out! God had given authority to the people of Israel; now they were responsible for standing in that authority.

Israel was covered and God was leading. The people of Jericho hid themselves behind a fortified wall that seemed impenetrable; but because Israel was obedient to confront it, the victory was theirs.

What challenges are before you that seem unbreakable? Today, put your trust in God that He will put fear in whatever tries to hinder your progress. God has not given us the spirit of fear, so we must be bold and confront every challenge that we are facing today.

## **II. Combating the Contrarians** (*Joshua 6:3-5*)

The enemy that stands before you and what God has promised knows that his days are short. He is more afraid of your presence than you realize. God gave Joshua a strategic plan that, when followed, would guarantee victory.

As Israel moved forward in unity, they were to carry with them the presence of God represented in the ark of the covenant. The officers were given a charge, the congregation was given a charge, that no sound would be made until the specified time given to them. If we stay in God's timing then everything will be all right. It is only when we get in front of God's timing that everything goes contrary.

Israel combats the Jericho army not with military strength alone, but with the presence of God before them. At the specified time, Israel was to blow the trumpets and shout with a great shout. The cadence that brought Jericho's walls down was God's presence unified with Israel's obedience in moving, along with a great shout of victory. The wall fell down flat. God's plan anesthetized the inhabitants of Jericho and they fell into the hands of Israel.

## **III. Commitment Conducted** (*Joshua 6:22-23*)

A great part of Israel's success is the survival of the two spies that went into Jericho under Joshua's command. These spies made a promise to Rahab that she and her family would escape safely the destruction of Jericho. God honors faithfulness, and we His children should be just as faithful that when we give our word, we remain committed to it.

God's integrity is reflected in our ability to stand with integrity in His Word. We are not just representing ourselves—we are representatives of God's kingdom as well. Joshua told the spies to go and get Rahab, her belongings, and her family. The spies knew that they owed their lives to her commitment to keeping them safe from the Jericho army.

Even when we think we can get away with breaking promises, God has a higher standard for His people, regardless of to whom we made the promise. Even though Rahab’s profession may be scrutinized in our social context, God favored her and protected her and her household. How amazing is God, that a part of His strategic victory for His children would include the unlikely!

**Conclusion**

Our communities and families are depending on us as men to fight debilitating forces that are weakening our family units. Even when it appears to be unconquerable by man’s standards, turn to God and watch Him defeat our greatest woes.

**Biblical Principles for Men**

- 1. What can we unify over and confront today in our communities? What issues in our communities provide a galvanizing force for us as Christians?
- 2. Will you be open to strategically plan a course of action with other likeminded men in your faith community?
- 3. What tools do we have at our disposal today to engage in societal issues?
- 4. To whom are we committed within our communities? What segment of our population needs our intervention?

**Closing Prayer**

*Heavenly Father, grant us the boldness to confront the issues we face, and guide us to victory as we combat the destructive forces in our communities. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.*



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