

Taking the Battle to the Land

December 8, 2019

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Joshua 10:29-12:24

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

I. Old & New Covenants involve warfare

Old Covenant - warfare & bloodshed

New Covenant - spiritual warfare with the Gospel 2 Tim 2:1-10

We are being called to take the Sword of God's Word to the inhabitants of the land around us.

II. The Battle for believers today is not for culture nor for political control, but for belief in Christ

a) Church has often lost sight of our mission

- Jesus didn't come for political power: Jn 18:36
- Jesus came to redeem the lost Lk 19:10

b) Our Mission is to do God's work using God's methods

- Jesus defined the nature of our service: Mt 20:25-28
- We fight with the Sword of the Spirit: Eph 6:10-20

III. All believers are called by God to Evangelize

a) Phrase: *Joshua and all Israel* v 29,31,34,36,38; 1:12-15

Joshua led and people fought. Jesus leads us and we join Him in evangelism - remember we don't knock down walls (open hearts) - Jesus does

b) We take the Message - the Power of the Gospel

God	Sin	Jesus	Faith	Jn 3:16-17
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as we live for the Purpose of the Gospel:

Creation	Fall	Redemption	Restoration
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As Restored people, we are taking the message of Redemption to the land!

IV. Always Remember God's Power and Purpose in the Gospel Message

a) Understanding God's Character vital to understanding this passage and the Fallen world. It is impossible to make sense of Joshua or the world apart from the Cross of Jesus Christ! Josh 11:11

b) Easy to be offended or shocked – how could God???

Our hope: Rom 15:4

But look at the Cross – that is shocking: How could God crucify His own Son?

Act 2:23 - God' definite plan and foreknowledge!

God's perfect plan to Redeem with Christ & Cross: Rom 3:23-26

The Cross means God can be Holy, Merciful and Just!

c) Remember our Purpose under the New Covenant - We are on Mission!

We are to apply the Sword to every inhabitant - Mt 28:18-20

Rules of Warfare:

- let people hear what God is doing & His terms of peace
Jos 2:10;5:1; 9:1-3; 11:1
- Two Responses:
 - Fighting & rebellion Josh 11:4-5 - leads to destruction
 - Cry for mercy Ps 30:10; Ps 51:1 - leads to mercy
- Modern day Joshua found in Romans 1:18-23
 - Fail to accept terms of peace - give thanks & glory to God
 - Remember we are to offer terms of peace to all inhabitants (Evangelize)
Deut 20:10 - let that be evident in your life and manner
 - God has provided what is needed, let us declare it loudly! Rom 1:16-17
- We can Trust King Jesus in the battle of life:
 - Like Jesus we can pray "thy will be done" even when it is hard
 - Jesus prayed that in Gethsemane - Lk 22:42
 - We will never face what Jesus faced, He redeemed us and we can have His righteousness as we trust in Him!