

## • THE REALITY OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

#### 1. I am called to be a warrior for Christ

Fight the good fight of faith... 1 Timothy 6:12 (NCV)

### 2. God gives me power to fight this battle

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-andblood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:10-12 (NLT)

#### 3. The Lord has already defeated the enemy

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

Colossians 2:13-15 (NLT)

# II. AN OVERVIEW OF JOSHUA

#### 1. Who is Joshua?

- Skilled warrior (Exodus 17:8-16)
- Loyal assistant to Moses (Exodus 24:23; 32:17; 33:11)
- Accompanied Moses half-way up Mt. Sinai (Exodus 24:23-28)
- One of only two faithful men who spied out the Promised Land (Numbers 13-14; 26:65)
- Chosen to be Moses successor (Number 27:15-23; Deuteronomy 31:7-8)

#### 2. Why was it written?

• **Theme:** How God's people conquer their enemies and receive what He has promised by His power.

#### • Key Scripture:

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."

Joshua 1:8-9 (NIV)

Moses led Israel out of bondage, but it was Joshua who took them into blessing. Moses brought them through the Rea Sea, but Joshua took them over the Jordan. Moses is the symbol of deliverance and Joshua the emblem of victory. It is one thing to be redeemed from Egypt (the world) but quite another thing to be victorious over the world. Joshua teaches us the lesson that faith is "the victory that overcomes the world" (1 John 5:4)

Norman Geisler

# **III.** THE WAY TO VICTORY—JOSHUA 1:1-18

#### 1. Rely on the presence of God (v.1-5)

For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you." So we can say with confidence, "The LORD is my helper, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?"

Hebrews 13:5b-6 (NLT)

#### 2. Trust the promises of God (v.6-9)

Even when I suffer, I am comforted because you promised to keep me alive. Psalm 119:50 (NIRV)

#### 3. Unite with the people of God (v.10-18)

So Joshua took control of the entire land, just as the LORD had instructed Moses. He gave it to the people of Israel as their special possession, dividing the land among the tribes. So the land finally had rest from war.

Joshua 11:23 (NLT)

#### The lasting lesson of Joshua...

### MY VICTORY IS POSSIBLE!

I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13 (GWT)

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. Romans 8:37 (NIV)

But we thank God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57 (NCV)