EMBRACING CHANGE

"Winning Against Overwhelming Odds"

Joshua 11 (part 2)

INTRODUCTION: (5 Principles of Winning Spiritual Victory)

- I. First You Need the Stability of a <u>Home</u> <u>Base</u>
 - 1. Joshua 5:9
 - a) "Gilgal" means to "roll back"
 - 1) It was a reminder to the nation of Israel that God has "rolled back" their **reproach**.
 - 2) "Reproach" refers to there being slaves. Their identity. The embarrassment of slavery.
- II. Secondly You Need the Strength of Encouragement
 - 1. Joshua 10:25
 - a) Cf. 1:5-7
 - 2. "Because the greater the Spiritual Opportunity the greater the Satanic Opposition."
 - 3. Nehemiah 8:10
 - 4. Now notice: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
 - a) Question: Who are you running against? Who are you fighting?
 - 5. Romans 7:18-20
 - 6. Matthew 26:41
 - 7. Know this...we are in a battle against our flesh.
 - 8. The Holy Spirit will not force you to yield control over your life.
 - a) The Holy Spirit will speak to you!
 - b) The Holy Spirit will convict you!
 - c) The Holy Spirit will chastise you!
 - d) BUT...The Holy Spirit will NOT snatch control of your life from your hands.

- 9. YOU are sovereign over decisions and choices in your life.
- 10. THAT'S WHY:
 - a) WE NEED THE **STABILITY** OF A **HOME BASE**
 - b) AND THE **STRENGTH** OF **ENCOURAGEMENT**

NOW FOR THE LAST THREE PRINCIPLES TO WINNING SPIRITUAL VICTORIES

III. YOU NEED THE STANDARD OF OBEDIENCE

- 1. Look @ Exodus 17:9
 - a) "So Joshya did as Moses told him..."
- 2. What is the "1 Word" people would say describes you?
- 3. The Christian life can be summed up in one word: Obedience!!!
- 4. Joshua 11.
 - a) Vs 6
 - 1) Really????
 - 2) And God's answer is???? NO
 - 3) **Isaiah 31:1**
 - 4) Psalm 20:7
 - 5) Why in the world would God say NO?
 - 6) **BECAUSE** He wants us to be totally dependent on HIM!!!
 - 7) It is so easy for Christians to depend on the World and the World's strength.
 - b) Joshua 11:12-15

IV. YOU NEED THE STEADFASTNESS OF PERSISTENCE

- 1. Chapters 10 and 11 are all the battles that Joshua fought.
- 2. There were 31 battles fought over these 7 years but it took Persistence to complete the job.

- 3. Joshua 18:3 What????
- 4. Judges 1:19
 - a) Well the enemy always had iron chariots...why's it a problem now?
 - b) That's why God wanted total destruction of the Canaanites.
- 5. Judges 1:21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31-32, 33, 34
 - a) If Israel was so strong why didn't they drive the Canaanites out? Disobedience.
- 6. Judges 2:1-2
 - a) Vs 3-4
- 7. Judges 2:7-10
- 8. Joshua 10:16-19; 22-25
 - a) No unfinished business.
 - b) But later on, there would be....
- 9. What prisoners are you keeping? What <u>unfinished</u> business do you have?
- V. YOU NEED THE <u>SENSIBILITY</u> OF <u>KNOWING</u> YOUR <u>NEEDS</u>
 - 1. Joshua 11:4
 - 2. What did Joshua see?
 - a) A huge army!!!
 - b) An impossible task!!!
 - 3. Joshua 11:21
 - a) Anakim? Giants!!!
 - 4. Joshua 11:6a
 - 5. Deut 20:1 WOW!!!!
 - 6. Your Spiritual Battle is won or lost before you enter the battle.