

Sermon Outline

NOBC

#23 Joshua 10: 1-27 (page 184)

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Possessing the Promises: Part 17

The Sacredness of Vows: Keeping Our Word Reflects the Character of God

- I. THE LEADERSHIP OF A FAITHFUL SERVANT OF GOD
- II. GOD HAD ALREADY BEEN AT WORK IN JERICHO
- III. RAHAB AND GOD
- IV. STANDING AT THE JORDAN
- V. THE EXERCISE OF TRUE FAITH: THE PRIESTS STANDING IN THE WATER
- VI. THE SUPERNATURAL GOD ACTS: GOD DRIES UP THE JORDAN
- VII. THE SUPERNATURAL GOD EASILY DOES SUPERNATURAL WORKS
- VIII. GOD EXPECTS US TO REMEMBER HIS SUPERNATURAL WORKS
- IX. GOD'S GREATNESS WAS MEMORIALIZED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
- X. GOD RENEWS HIS COVENANT WITH THE PEOPLE WITH THE ACT OF CIRCUMCISION
- XI. THE PEOPLE CELEBRATE PASSOVER: CELEBRATING GOD'S DELIVERANCE
- XII. WHEN WE FULFILL OUR GOD-ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES
- XIII. RECEIVING THE GIFT OF GOD
- XIV. CONQUERING JERICHO: THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH
- XV. GIVING GOD WHAT HE CLAIMS AS HIS
- XVI. STEPS TOWARD PAIN AND SELF-DESTRUCTION
- XVII. THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE, PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND CONSEQUENCES
- XVIII. RECOVERY FROM DISASTER
- XIX. WORSHIPPING GOD.
- XX. WHEN GOD'S ENEMIES DESIRE TO JOIN GOD'S PEOPLE
- XXI. THE SACREDNESS OF VOWS: KEEPING OUR WORDS

A. The Situation Before Us Joshua 9:14-21

1. The Gibeonites represented Satan and practiced deceit to gain what they wanted

At the time, the Gibeonites were pagans, unbelievers and, as such, served Satan. Deceit was normal for the Gibeonites and did not violate their standard of values.

2. Joshua and the leaders of Israel represented Jehovah God and had a much higher standard of value, a standard that had been given to them by God.

When Joshua and the leaders made a vow to the Gibeonites, they represented and obligated Jehovah God. God then acted supernaturally to show His support of this tribe of pagans who had decided they no longer wanted to be servants to Satan, but that they wanted to be under His authority and dependent upon His provisions.

B. The Nature of Vows That God's People Make Reflect The Nature of God

1. God's people reflect the nature of God Who lives in them and it is impossible for God to speak something that is deceitful or not true. Hebrews 6:13-18a

2. Our salvation depends upon this characteristic of God. Hebrews 6:18b-20

3. When God's people make a vow they outwardly express the nature of the God Who dwells in them. Jesus taught that whatever is inside a person is what is expressed through the words that come out of his mouth. Matthew 12:33-37

4. God keeps His vows and expects His people to keep theirs. 2 Samuel 21:1-9

a. Saul's family suffered because Saul violated Joshua's vow 400 yrs later

b. David was blessed because He kept his vow to Saul's son Jonathan and saved Jonathan's crippled son, Mephibosheth. 2 Samuel 9:1-13; 21:7

5. God expects us to do everything possible to keep our vows, even when the end result of our vow appears to be harmful to us. Psalms 15:1-4; Ezekiel 17:18