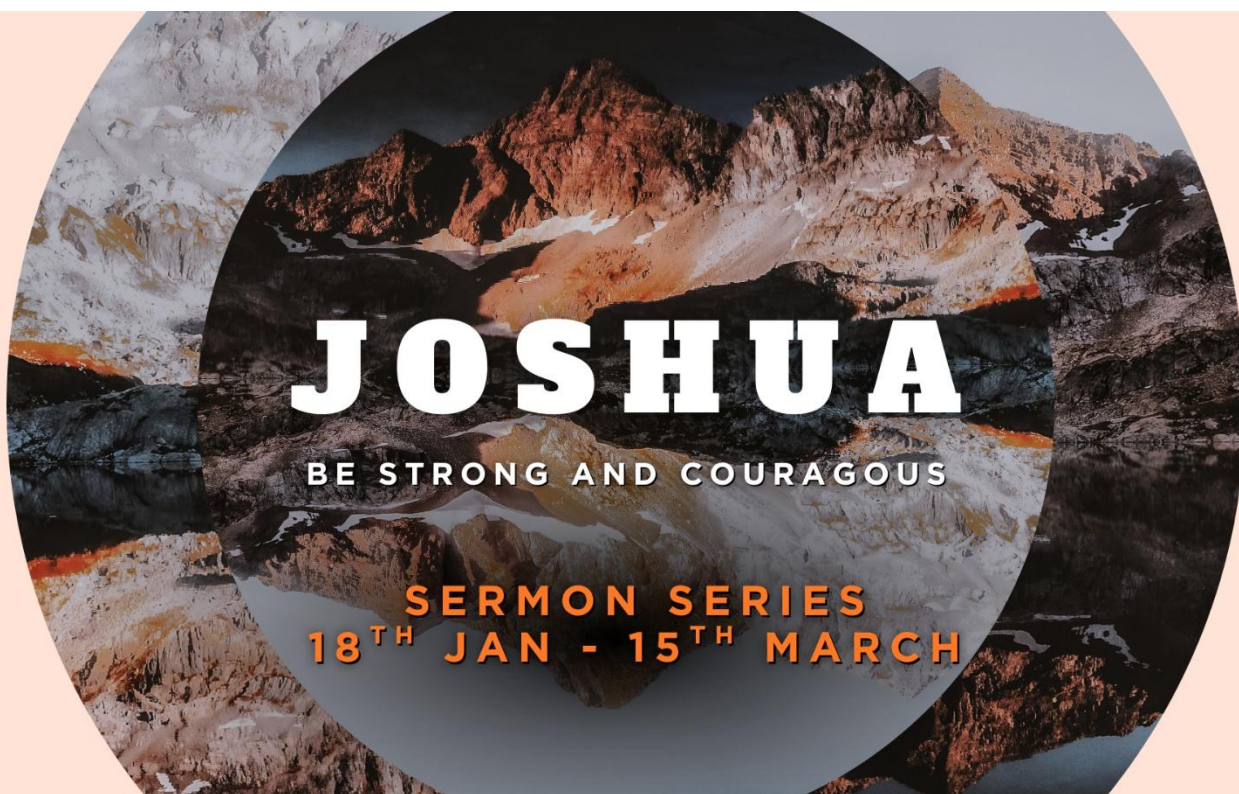




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Bible Studies in Joshua



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1. Joshua 1 | Sun 18 Jan

Strong and Courageous in God's Promises

Introduction Question

1. Can you remember a time when you were given a big responsibility or stepped into a new role that felt overwhelming? What made it exciting, and what made it scary?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *Who* are the key people in this chapter, and what major change has just taken place in Israel's leadership? (vv.1–2)
Why is the death of Moses such a significant moment for God's people?

3. *What* exactly does God promise Joshua and Israel about the land? (vv.3–5)
How do these promises connect back to what God had said earlier to Abraham and Moses?

4. *Where* are the boundaries of the land God describes? (v.4)
What does this tell us about the scale and certainty of God's promise?
5. God commands Joshua three times to "be strong and courageous" (vv.6, 7, 9).
Why do you think Joshua needs to hear this so repeatedly? What might he be feeling or facing?
6. *How* is Joshua told to find success and prosperity in his leadership? (vv.7–8)
What is the role of God's word in his courage, obedience, and future leadership?

7. *What* response do the people give to Joshua in verses 16–18?
How does their encouragement mirror God's words to Joshua, and what does this show about shared responsibility in God's mission?

Application Question

8. In your own walk with God, where do you most need to hear the words “Be strong and courageous” right now?
What would it look like to trust God's promises and obey His word more fully in that area?

Extra Passages to Consider

- Deuteronomy 31:6–8 – God gives the same command to be strong and courageous before Moses dies.
- Psalm 1:1–3 – The blessing of delighting in and meditating on God's word, just like Joshua is commanded to do.
- Matthew 28:18–20 – Jesus' great commission echoes Joshua's commissioning: God's presence, authority, and mission.
- Hebrews 13:5–6 – God's promise never to leave or forsake His people, grounding courage in His presence.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 1 shows us that God's work always continues, even when great leaders pass on. His promises never fail, His presence never leaves, and His word remains the foundation for faithful living. Courage for God's people is not found in self-confidence but in God-confidence: trusting His promises, obeying His word, and believing that He goes before us. As Joshua steps forward into unknown territory, we are reminded that every step of obedience today is taken under the same faithful, powerful, and ever-present God.

Prayer Points

2. Joshua 2 | Sun 9 Feb

Faith from the Nations: God's Promise to Bless the World

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever been surprised by *who* God seems to be working in or through? Why do we sometimes expect God to work only in certain types of people?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *Who* are the main characters in this chapter, and how different are their backgrounds and positions? (The Israelite spies, Rahab, the king of Jericho.) What makes Rahab such an unexpected person to show faith in the LORD?
3. *Where* does this story take place, and *why* is Jericho so important in God's plan for Israel? (vv.1–2)
How does this moment mark the beginning of God's judgment on the Canaanites and the fulfilment of His promise to Abraham?

4. *What* has Rahab heard about the LORD, and *how* does she describe Him in verses 9–11?

Why is her confession so remarkable for a Gentile woman living in a pagan city?

"For the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below." (v.11)

This is one of the clearest confessions of faith in the whole book of Joshua.

5. Rahab is a Gentile.

How does her faith show us that God's promise to Abraham was always meant to bless the whole world, not just Israel?

How does her story fulfil Genesis 12:3?

6. *Why* does Rahab risk her life to protect the spies? (vv.4–6, 12–13)

What does this reveal about where her true allegiance now lies?

7. *How* is salvation promised to Rahab and her family? (vv.17–21)
Why are the signs and conditions (the scarlet cord, staying inside the house, obedience to the spies' instructions) so significant, especially when compared with the Passover?

Application Question

8. Rahab shows us that faith is not about background, morality, or ethnicity, but about trusting the true God and acting on that trust.
How does her story challenge the way you think about:
- Who God can save?
 - Who God can use?
 - Where God might be working right now?

Where might God be calling you to respond in faith, even if it feels uncomfortable or unexpected?

Extra Passages to Consider

- **Genesis 12:1–3** – God promises Abraham that *“all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”*
- **Hebrews 11:31** – Rahab is included among the great examples of faith.
- **James 2:25–26** – Rahab's faith is proved genuine because it acted.
- **Exodus 12:13, 22–23** – The blood on the doorposts at Passover parallels the scarlet cord as a sign of salvation.
- **Matthew 1:5** – Rahab becomes part of the genealogy of Jesus, showing that God's plan always included the nations.
- **Ephesians 2:11–13, 19** – Gentiles who were once far away are brought near through Christ.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 2 is not just a story about courage; it is a story about mission. Long before Jesus sends His disciples to “make disciples of all nations,” God is already drawing the nations to Himself. Rahab stands as living proof that God's promise to Abraham was never narrow or nationalistic. It was always global. In her faith we see the heart of God: a God who rescues sinners, welcomes outsiders, and weaves Gentiles into His saving purposes. Rahab's story reminds us that the gospel has always been for the whole world—and that God delights to save the least likely people in the most unexpected places.

Prayer Points

3. Joshua 3-4 | Sun 16 Feb

From Promise to Promise: God Makes a Way

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever faced a situation where the only way forward felt impossible unless God intervened? What did trusting Him in that moment look like?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *What* is the main obstacle facing Israel in these chapters, and *why* is crossing the Jordan such a critical moment in God's promises? (3:1–6)
How does this moment connect back to God's promise of land to Abraham?
3. *Who* goes first into the Jordan, and *what* does God command them to do? (3:8, 13–15)
Why is it significant that the priests step into the water before it stops flowing?

4. *How* does God show that He is with Joshua in the same way He was with Moses? (3:7, 14–17)

What parallels can you see between the crossing of the Jordan and the crossing of the Red Sea?

5. *Why* does God choose this moment to exalt Joshua before all Israel? (3:7; 4:14)

How does this confirm that God's saving work continues from Moses to Joshua?

6. *What* are the twelve stones for, and *how* are they meant to function in Israel's life? (4:1–7, 19–24)

Why is remembering God's saving acts so important for future generations?

Application Questions

7. Joshua 3 shows that obedience comes before understanding.
Where in your life might God be calling you to step forward in trust before you can see how everything will work out?

8. Joshua 4 shows that God's works are meant to be remembered and retold.
How can you more intentionally remember what God has done for you and pass on your faith to others?

Extra Passages to Consider

- **Genesis 12:7; 15:18** – God promises Abraham the land Israel is now entering.
- **Exodus 14:21–22** – The Red Sea crossing: God saves His people through water.
- **Psalms 114** – A celebration of God parting both the sea and the Jordan.
- **Isaiah 43:16–19** – God who made a way through the sea continues to make a way.
- **Romans 6:3–4** – Passing through water as a picture of new life in Christ.
- **1 Corinthians 10:1–4** – Israel's journey as a foreshadowing of Christian salvation.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 3–4 shows us a God who faithfully keeps His promises and powerfully saves His people. The crossing of the Jordan is not just a historical miracle; it is a declaration that the God who promised land to Abraham is now bringing His people home. More than that, it points us forward to an even greater rescue. Just as Israel passed through the waters into their inheritance, so we pass through Christ into new life and eternal promise. These chapters remind us that God still makes a way where there seems to be none, and He still calls His people to step forward in faith, trusting that His promises always lead us closer to Jesus.

Prayer Points

4. Joshua 5 | Sun 23 Feb

Before Victory Comes Worship: God's People Renewed and God's Leader Revealed

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever had a moment where God slowed you down spiritually before moving you forward practically? Why do you think God sometimes works that way?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *What* effect does Israel's arrival in the land have on the surrounding nations? (v.1)
Why is this important for understanding that God is already at work before any battles are fought?
3. *Why* does God command the circumcision of the Israelites at Gilgal? (vv.2–9) What had been neglected, and what does this say about Israel's spiritual condition?

4. Circumcision was the sign of God's covenant with Abraham.
How does this moment connect Israel back to God's original promises in Genesis 17:9–14?
Why is it significant that this happens *before* any military victory?
5. *What* happens when Israel celebrates the Passover in the land? (vv.10–12)
How does this connect them back to God's saving work in the Exodus?
6. *Who* does Joshua meet near Jericho, and *what* is surprising about this encounter? (vv.13–15)
Why does the commander of the LORD's army say, "Neither," when asked whose side He is on?

Application Questions

7. Joshua is reminded that this is not his battle to control, but God's work to submit to.

Where might you need to stop asking, "Is God on my side?" and start asking, "Am I on God's side?"

8. Joshua 5 shows that God cares more about holiness and obedience than immediate success.

What might it look like for you to prioritise repentance, worship, and obedience before action?

Extra Passages to Consider

- **Genesis 17:9–14** – Circumcision as the sign of God's covenant with Abraham.
- **Exodus 12:24–27** – Passover as remembrance of God's saving power.
- **Deuteronomy 10:16; 30:6** – God's desire for circumcision of the heart.
- **Colossians 2:11–12** – True circumcision fulfilled in Christ.
- **1 Corinthians 5:7** – Christ our Passover lamb.
- **Revelation 19:11–16** – Jesus as the true commander of the Lord's armies.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 5 reminds us that God's greatest concern is not military strength but spiritual faithfulness. Before Israel takes a single city, God brings them back to His covenant with Abraham, renews them through obedience, and roots them again in His saving grace through the Passover. And then Joshua meets the true Commander, showing that this is never Israel's battle alone—it is God's holy work. All of this moves us forward to Jesus: the One who brings true circumcision of the heart, who is our Passover Lamb, and who leads God's people in ultimate victory. Before God fights for us, He first calls us to belong fully to Him.

Prayer Points

5. Joshua 6 | Sun 2 Mar

Salvation by Grace, Victory by Faith: God Keeps His Promise

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever had to obey God in a way that felt strange, impractical/counter-cultural, or even foolish at the time? What made that hard, and what helped you trust Him?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *What* is the situation in Jericho, and *why* does it look impossible from a human point of view? (v.1)
How does this highlight that the coming victory must be God's work, not Israel's?
3. *How* does God say Jericho will be taken? (vv.2–5)
Why is this strategy so unusual, and what does it teach Israel about the way God saves?

4. *Who* leads the procession around the city, and *what* is the significance of the ark being at the centre? (vv.6–9, 12–13)
What does this show about whose power and presence bring victory?
5. *Why* is silence commanded for most of the march? (v.10)
What does this teach about trust, obedience, and restraint before God?
6. *What* happens when the walls fall, and *how* is Rahab saved? (vv.20–25)
How does her rescue show again that God is fulfilling His promise to bless the nations through Abraham?

Application Questions

- Joshua 6 shows us that God's victories often come through humble obedience, not impressive strength.
Where might God be calling you to trust Him and obey, even when His way feels weak or strange?
- Rahab is saved by grace through faith, right in the middle of God's judgment.
How does her story shape the way you think about evangelism, God's mercy, and who can be saved?

Extra Passages to Consider

- Genesis 12:1–3 – God promises Abraham land and blessing for the nations.
- Hebrews 11:30–31 – Jericho falls by faith; Rahab is saved by faith.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3–5 – God's power works through weakness, not worldly strength.
- 1 Corinthians 1:27–29 – God chooses what is weak to shame the strong.
- Ephesians 2:8–9 – Salvation is by grace through faith, not works.
- Matthew 1:5 – Rahab is brought into the family line of Jesus.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 6 shows us a God who saves and a God who judges, a God who is powerful and a God who is gracious. The walls of Jericho fall not because Israel is strong, but because God is faithful to His promises. And right at the centre of this judgment story stands a rescued Gentile woman, reminding us again that God's plan was never just about land or armies, but about salvation for the world. Jericho points us forward to Jesus, where victory comes not through human power but through obedience, sacrifice, and faith. God still works this way today: He saves by grace, fulfils His promises, and brings people from every nation into His kingdom through Christ.

Prayer Points

6. Joshua 7 | Sun 9 Mar

When Sin Is Taken Lightly, God Is Taken Lightly

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever seen how one person's hidden sin or poor decision can affect a whole family, team, or community? Why do you think sin is never really "private"?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. What has gone wrong in Israel after the great victory at Jericho, and why is their defeat at Ai so shocking? (vv.1–5)
What makes this loss so unexpected after Joshua 6?
3. Who is actually responsible for Israel's defeat, and how does God describe the problem? (vv.1, 10–12)
Why does God say, "Israel has sinned," when only one man is guilty?

4. What exactly did Achan take, and why were these things forbidden?
(vv.20–21)

What does this show about the seriousness of disobeying God's word?

5. How does Joshua initially respond to the defeat, and what does his prayer reveal about his understanding of God? (vv.6–9)

What is good about Joshua's response, and what still needs correcting?

6. How does God deal with the sin in the camp, and why must it be dealt with publicly and decisively? (vv.13–26)

What does this teach us about God's holiness and His desire to dwell with His people?

Application Questions

7. Joshua 7 shows that hidden sin brings real spiritual damage.
Are there areas in your life where you are tempted to minimise sin instead of dealing with it honestly before God?
8. God restores Israel after sin is dealt with.
How does this chapter show both the seriousness of sin and the hope of restoration through repentance?

Extra Passages to Consider

- Genesis 3:6–11 – Sin brings hiding, shame, and separation from God.
- Numbers 32:23 – “Be sure your sin will find you out.”
- Psalm 32:3–5 – Confession brings forgiveness and restoration.
- 1 Corinthians 5:6–8 – A little sin affects the whole community.
- Hebrews 12:28–29 – God is a consuming fire; He is holy.
- 1 John 1:7–9 – Confession brings cleansing and fellowship.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 7 is a sobering reminder that God's grace does not cancel His holiness. The same God who powerfully saves and faithfully keeps His promises also calls His people to walk in obedience and truth. Achan's sin shows us that what we hide from others is never hidden from God, and that private disobedience can bring public consequences. Yet this chapter is not only about judgment; it is about restoration. When sin is exposed and dealt with, God's presence returns and His work moves forward again. Joshua 7 prepares our hearts for the gospel by showing us our deep need for forgiveness, cleansing, and a perfect Saviour who would one day deal fully and finally with sin through the cross.

Prayer Points

7. Joshua 8 | Sun 23 Mar

Grace After Failure: God Restores and Leads His People Forward

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever experienced a moment when God gave you a second chance after failure? How did that shape your trust in Him?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *What* is different about God's instructions for Ai in this chapter compared to Joshua 7? (8:1–2)

What does this show about God's heart toward His people after repentance?

3. *Why* does God tell Joshua, "Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged" (v.1)? How does this echo Joshua 1, and what does it say about God's patience and faithfulness?

4. *How* is the battle strategy at Ai different from Jericho, and *why* do you think God uses a very practical military plan this time? (vv.3–8, 14–19)

5. *Who* leads the battle, and *what* role does Joshua's raised spear play? (vv.18, 26)

How does this remind us again that victory comes from God, not merely from tactics?

6. After the victory, *what* does Joshua do at Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim? (vv.30–35)

Why is it so significant that worship and obedience come immediately after military success?

Application Questions

7. Joshua 8 shows that God does not define His people by their failure but by His grace.

Where might you need to trust God for restoration rather than live in guilt or fear?

8. God calls His people not only to victory but to obedience to His Word. What would it look like for you to more intentionally build your life around God's Word this week?

Extra Passages to Consider

- Deuteronomy 30:1–10 – God's promise to restore His people after repentance.
- Psalm 103:8–14 – God's compassion and mercy toward the repentant.
- Proverbs 24:16 – The righteous fall but rise again.
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 – In Christ, we are made new.
- Hebrews 12:11 – Discipline leads to righteousness and peace.
- Luke 15:20–24 – The Father restoring the repentant son.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 8 is a chapter of hope. After the darkness and discipline of Joshua 7, God shows that failure is not the end for His repentant people. He restores, reassures, and leads Israel forward again. Victory is possible not because Israel is flawless, but because God is faithful. And at the heart of the chapter, worship returns: God's Word is read, His covenant is remembered, and His people recommit themselves to obedience. This moves us forward to Jesus, who not only forgives our failures but restores us completely, gives us new hearts, and teaches us to walk again in joyful obedience.

Prayer Points

8. Joshua 9 | Sun 30 Mar

Saved Without Pretense: Grace, Truth, and the God Who Welcomes Us as We Are

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever felt tempted to hide your true self, your doubts, or your failures because you thought God (or other Christians) wouldn't accept you as you really are?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *Who* are the Gibeonites, and *what* do they do when they hear about what God has done through Israel? (vv.3–6)

What does their fear tell us about how seriously they take Israel's God?

3. *How* do the Gibeonites deceive Israel, and *why* does their plan work? (vv.4–13) What does verse 14 tell us is the real mistake Israel makes?

4. *Why* is Israel's failure described not just as being "tricked," but as failing to seek the LORD? (v.14)

What does this show about the danger of relying on our own judgment?

5. *What* happens when the deception is discovered, and *why* does Israel honour the treaty anyway? (vv.16–20)

What does this teach us about God's faithfulness and the seriousness of making promises in His name?

6. *What* becomes of the Gibeonites, and *how* does God still show them mercy? (vv.21–27)

Why is it significant that they are placed in service connected to God's altar?

Application Questions

7. The Gibeonites believed they had only one way to survive: deception. But in the gospel, God invites us to come honestly, without masks or manipulation.

Where are you tempted to hide, pretend, or “clean yourself up” before coming to God?

8. Israel failed because they did not seek the LORD.

What does it look like practically for you to seek God's wisdom through prayer and His Word before making decisions?

Extra Passages to Consider

- Genesis 12:3 – God's promise that all nations would be blessed through Abraham.
- Psalm 32:1–5 – Freedom comes from honest confession, not hiding.
- John 1:47 – Jesus delights in truth without pretence.
- Matthew 11:28–30 – Jesus invites the weary to come, not to pretend.
- Hebrews 4:13, 16 – Nothing is hidden from God, and we are invited to come confidently to Him.
- Ephesians 2:8–9, 19 – Salvation is by grace, not by strategy, and we are welcomed as members of God's household.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 9 confronts us with two very different ways of approaching God. The Gibeonites came through deception because they believed the truth would not save them. Israel failed because they relied on their own wisdom instead of seeking the LORD. But the gospel shows us a better way. In Jesus, we are not saved by cleverness, performance, or hiding our failures. We are saved by grace, through faith, and invited to come honestly, openly, and humbly before God. Joshua 9 pushes us forward to Christ, who does not say, "Pretend and live," but "Come to me, just as you are, and you will live."

Prayer Points

9. Joshua 10 | Sun 6 Apr

The God Who Fights for His People and Keeps His Promises

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever been in a situation where you realised, "If God doesn't step in here, this is beyond me"? What did that teach you about who God really is?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *Who* are the main players in this chapter, and *why* do the southern kings unite against Gibeon? (vv.1–5)

What does this show about the cost of aligning with God?

3. *How* does Joshua respond to Gibeon's cry for help, and *why* is this significant after the covenant in Joshua 9? (vv.6–7)

What does this teach us about faithfulness to promises, even when they are costly?

4. *What* promise does God give Joshua before the battle, and *why* is that promise central to everything that follows? (v.8)

How does this echo God's promises in Joshua 1?

5. *How* does God fight for Israel during the battle? (vv.10–14)

List the different ways God shows His power and control.

6. *Why* is the account of the sun standing still included, and *what* does it teach us about God's authority over creation? (vv.12–14)

How does this push us to think bigger about who God is?

7. In verses 40–42 we're told that Joshua "took the entire land," defeated all the kings, and left "no survivors," because "the LORD, the God of Israel, fought for Israel."

How do these verses summarise the whole chapter, and what do they teach us about:

- who really won the victory,
- why Israel succeeded so completely, and
- how central God's action is to everything that happened?

Application Questions

8. Joshua 10 reminds us that God is both faithful and powerful.
Where in your life do you most need to trust that God is able to act beyond your strength or resources?
9. Israel honoured their promise to Gibeon even when it brought conflict.
What does this teach us about integrity, commitment, and living out our faith in a costly way today?

Extra Passages to Consider

- Genesis 12:2–3 – God promises to bless those who bless Abraham's descendants.
- Exodus 14:13–14 – “The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.”
- Psalm 18:6–15 – God as the divine warrior who comes to rescue His people.
- Habakkuk 3:11–13 – The sun and moon stand still at God's command.
- Romans 8:31 – “If God is for us, who can be against us?”
- Colossians 2:15 – Christ disarms the powers and authorities and triumphs over them.

Closing Paragraph

Joshua 10 lifts our eyes to see a God who is not distant or passive, but actively fighting for His people. He keeps His promises, defends those who trust Him, and commands even the forces of nature to accomplish His purposes. The battle is not won because Israel is strong, but because their God is sovereign. And this chapter points us forward to Jesus, who would fight the ultimate battle on our behalf—not with swords and hailstones, but by defeating sin, death, and Satan at the cross. Just as God once fought for Israel, so in Christ He now fights for us, securing a victory we could never achieve on our own.

Prayer Points

10. John 12:12-26 | Sun 13 Apr

The King Who Conquers by the Cross

Introduction Question

1. When you think about a "victory," what usually comes to mind: strength, success, power, or control?
How does Jesus redefine what true victory looks like in this passage?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *Who* is in the crowd welcoming Jesus, and *why* are they so excited? (vv.12–13)
What are they expecting Jesus to do as their King?
3. *How* does Jesus choose to enter Jerusalem, and *why* is that so significant? (vv.14–15)
How does this fulfil God's promises in Zechariah 9:9, and what kind of King does it show Jesus to be?

4. *What* role does Lazarus play in all of this, and *why* is his resurrection so central to the crowd's response? (vv.17–18)
How does this show that Jesus' power over death is driving everything?

5. *Who* are the Greeks who come looking for Jesus, and *why* is that moment so important? (vv.20–22)
How does their presence show that God's promises to bless the nations are being fulfilled?

6. Jesus says, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified" (v.23). *What* does He mean by "glorified," and *how* does He explain it using the image of a grain of wheat? (vv.24–26)

Application Questions

7. In Joshua, victory came through God fighting for His people.
In John, victory comes through Jesus laying down His life.
Where do you need to let go of worldly ideas of success and learn to follow Jesus' path of humility, trust, and obedience?
8. Jesus says that following Him means losing our life in this world in order to gain eternal life (v.25).
What might that look like practically for you in your priorities, relationships, and ambitions?

Extra Passages to Consider

- **Genesis 12:3** – God promises Abraham blessing for all nations.
- **Zechariah 9:9** – The promised King comes gentle and riding on a donkey.
- **Psalms 118:25–26** – The psalm the crowd is quoting: “Hosanna... Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.”
- **Isaiah 53:5–7** – The suffering servant who wins salvation through sacrifice.
- **Colossians 2:13–15** – Jesus’ victory over sin and evil through the cross.
- **Revelation 7:9–10** – People from every nation worshipping the Lamb.

Closing Paragraph

John 12 shows us that all the victories we have seen in Joshua were only shadows of a far greater victory to come. In Joshua, God fought for His people by defeating kings and conquering cities. In John, God fights for His people by giving His Son. The crowd welcomes Jesus as a conquering King, but Jesus reveals that His true triumph will come through the cross. And when Greeks come seeking Him, we see the promise to Abraham bursting open: salvation is no longer just for Israel, but for the whole world. This passage brings together everything we have been learning – God keeps His promises, God blesses the nations, and God wins His greatest victory not by taking life, but by giving His own.

Prayer Points

11. Luke 19:28-44 | Sun 27 Apr

The King Who Weeps and Wins

Introduction Question

1. Have you ever been excited about something, only to later realise you had misunderstood what it was really about?
How might that help us understand what is happening in this scene?

Exegetical / Comprehension Questions

2. *How* does Jesus deliberately arrange His entry into Jerusalem? (vv.28–34)
Why is it important that this is planned, intentional, and under His control?
3. *What* do the crowd say about Jesus, and *why* is their praise so significant? (vv.35–38)
How does this echo Old Testament expectations of a promised King?

4. *Why* do the Pharisees object to the praise, and *what* does Jesus' response tell us about who He is? (vv.39–40)

What does it mean when He says, "If they keep quiet, the stones will cry out"?

5. *What* happens when Jesus sees Jerusalem, and *why* is this so surprising? (vv.41–42)

What does His weeping reveal about His heart and His mission?

6. *What* judgment does Jesus predict for Jerusalem, and *why* will it happen? (vv.43–44)

What does He mean by "you did not recognise the time of God's coming to you"?

Application Questions

7. Like the crowd, it's possible to celebrate Jesus but still misunderstand Him. In what ways might we be tempted to follow Jesus for what we want Him to do, rather than for who He truly is?
8. Jesus weeps over those who reject Him, even as He goes to die for them. How does this shape:
- the way we speak about judgment,
 - the way we think about evangelism, and
 - the compassion we show to people who do not yet believe?

Extra Passages to Consider

- Zechariah 9:9 – The promised King comes humble and riding on a donkey.
- Psalm 118:25–26 – The words the crowds are echoing.
- Isaiah 53:3–5 – The suffering servant, rejected yet saving.
- Daniel 9:26 – The Anointed One rejected and cut off.

- Romans 9:1–5 – Paul's grief for Israel mirrors Jesus' heart here.
- 2 Peter 3:9 – God's desire that none should perish.

Closing Paragraph

Luke 19 shows us a King unlike any other. He receives praise like a conqueror, yet He weeps like a shepherd who has lost His sheep. He is celebrated as the fulfilment of God's promises, yet rejected by the very city that should have known Him best. In Joshua, God brought His people into the land through power and victory. In Luke, God comes to His people in humility and tears. Both show us the same faithful God keeping His promises. But here, the conquest is not of cities, it is of hearts. And the victory will not come through destruction, but through the cross. Jesus moves steadily toward His death, not as a tragic victim, but as the promised King who loves His people too deeply to walk away, even when they refuse Him.

Prayer Points