Meditation on the Word Causes Victory

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Wed., 9/1/21

Opening Summary

You've probably heard about Joshua and the walls of Jericho. Those huge walls supernaturally fell flat, and the children of Israel won the battle. In this lesson we will look at what led to such a miraculous victory and how you can apply this principle to your own life. Rom. 1:16 tells you the Word of God is the power of God to all deliverance. Let's discover how It works in the First (Old) Covenant as well as in the New Covenant.

I. Why did God tell Joshua to meditate the Word?
   A. They were to take seven nations with only 40,000 soldiers.
   B. God gives Joshua supernatural equipment (Deu. 34:7). This equipment is found also in the New Testament; it's called grace, the anointing.

II. Joshua was on his assignment from God.
   A. Jos. 1:1: Joshua was Moses' assistant.
   B. Jos. 1:2-3: God calls those things that be not as though they were.
   C. Jos. 1:4: God lays out the land that belongs to Joshua.
   D. Joshua's ministry assignment is war. There is a time for war (Ecc. 3:8).
   E. Jos. 23:1-3: The battle was not won by Joshua's military brilliance.
   F. Joshua stayed out of God's way. It was God Who defeated the seven walled cities.

III. They are greater and mightier than you (Deu. 7:1-2).
   A. The God of mercy told him to show them no mercy.
   B. The people are tough (Deu. 9:1).
   C. Remember the children of Anak? They are giants (Deu. 9:2; Num. 13:28).
   D. God gave them a wealth transfer (Deu. 24:13; Pro. 13:22).
   E. Wealth transfer is in the Old and New Testaments.

IV. Jos. 1:5: The only way you can go before such a large army is with the anointing and a spoken (*rhema*) Word from God. The Word from God is the power you need.
   A. In the Bible is the power for everything you need.
   B. We had a *rhema* Word from God to leave my Michigan and go to Oklahoma. The miracles that followed occurred because we had a *rhema* Word.
   C. Our Southfield church building is the result of a *rhema* Word from God.
   D. Jos. 1:6: God mentions the covenant "I swore to your fathers…" Anything God said is so. If He says you are healed, you are.
   E. Jos. 1:7: The law is the Word of God.
   F. Be strong and courageous; have an attitude that if God's Word says it, I believe it.

G. Once you get the Word don't turn away from it.
H. *Prosper* means to *push forward, break out, be good*.

V. Jos. 1:8: This is what he must do: imagine, speak, and ponder the Word day and night.
   A. Meditating the Word keeps your mind stable.
   B. *Observe* (Hb. shamar) means *to guard, protect, attend to, take heed to* (Mat. 28:20).
   C. When you meditate the Word, the circumstance won't discourage you.
   D. When you meditate the Word, you'll have success: operate in a wise fashion.
   E. Meditating the Word brings the wisdom of God, which makes you smart.
   F. Meditating the Word helps you follow Him without question.
   G. Jos. 1:9: Don't let fear grab you.
   H. Meditation the Word breeds success.
   I. Meditating the Word keeps you in the Word so God can work.
   J. Meditating reminds you of what God said and allows Him to move.
   K. Keep God's commandments (Deu. 11:22-23).
   L. Do not add to nor take away from the Scripture (Deu. 12:28-32; Rev. 22:18-19).
   M. Don't follow the ways of people outside God's Word. Woke-ism is outside the Word.
      1. Abortion is sacrificing babies to the god of convenience.
      2. The argument is whether the woman has the right to do what she wants with her own body. At the same time, she must have a vaccine whether she wants it or not.

VI. Jos. 2:11: God prepared your victory in advance. He already has people, a situation or circumstance waiting for you.
   A. The day I walked into this building and went to the office of the head priest, he said to me, "You're Keith Butler. You're the man I'm supposed to sell this building to." I said, "I am the man." God had prepared the situation before I got here.
   B. If you are strong and courageous, you'll stay on track.
   C. Jos. 6:1-2: God said, "I have given you Jericho."
   D. Details matter when you get a *rhema* Word from God. He gave specific instructions to his men. They didn't have to know why. Their job was to just do it.

VII. Jos. 6:7-21: They took the city.
   A. It happened because Joshua meditated the Word day and night.
   B. When you don't know what to do, meditate the Word. The *rhema* Word will follow.
   C. Jos. 7:1-5: Achan "took of the accursed thing…" Israel was defeated and lost 36 men.
   D. How can they defeat Jericho and go to a small place like Ai and lose 36 men?
   E. Jos. 7:11: They were killed because they led people outside the will of God.
   F. Jos. 12-26: The Lord told him to find Achan and stone him and his family to death.
   G. Jos. 8:1: They return to Ai and took the city.

Closing Summary

There is a price to pay when you follow the Lord's way. That price is blessing. There is a price to pay for going outside the Lord's way. That price is defeat. God told Joshua the way to success is through meditating the His Word. As a result of following God's directions, during his entire reign, Israel always succeeded. The closer we get to the end, the more important meditating the Word will be. When you do, you will have victory in troubled times.