

Courage to Claim Promises

Joshua 10:1-14:15 || Lesson 5 Review Outline

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Introduction

- **Opening Prayer**
 - Acknowledging God's goodness
 - Asking for understanding and transformation
- **Theme of the Message:** *Courage to Claim Promises*
 - Stepping into what God has promised
 - Wrestling with faith, fear, and obedience
 - Israel's journey from promise to possession

Think About This...

"The moment, the space between what God has said and what you have yet to step into—you know it's there, and you're here—that's where we find Israel in Joshua 10-14. That's what this is all about."

"The question isn't if God will be faithful. The question is, will we have the courage to claim what He has given?"

1. The Call to Courage in Joshua 10-14

- **The Transition Moment: Between the Promise & Possession**
 - Relating to personal decisions, new beginnings, or spiritual growth
 - Israel standing at a moment of decision—will they move forward?
- **Key Question for Reflection:**
 - Do I truly believe in God's promises?
 - Am I bold in my prayers like Joshua?
 - Am I confident in God's strength like Caleb?
 - Or am I hesitating on the edge of obedience?
- **Truth to Hold On To:**
 - *The battle has already been won!*
 - The real question: *Will we have the courage to claim what He has given?*

Think About This...

"The question isn't whether God will be faithful. The battle has already been won. The real question is whether we will have the courage to claim what He has given."

"Do not be afraid. Do not be dismayed. Be strong. Be courageous. For the Lord will do to all your enemies what He has already done. Victory isn't possible—it's promised."

2. Bold Prayers & God's Supernatural Intervention (Joshua 10)

- **The Gibeonites Under Attack**
 - They aligned with Israel and immediately became a target
 - A lesson in spiritual warfare: *The enemy fights hardest when we step toward God's promises*
- **Joshua's Response:**
 - He leads the army all night (20 miles uphill!)
 - God reassures him: *"Do not fear them, I have given them into your hands."* (Joshua 10:8)
- **God's Miraculous Intervention:**
 - Confuses the enemy
 - Sends deadly hailstones (*more die from hailstones than from Israel's swords!*)
 - **Joshua's Boldest Prayer:** *"Sun, stand still!"*
 - An impossible request—yet God answers!
 - Do we pray bold, audacious prayers?

Think About This...

"Joshua prays, and he doesn't just pray like, 'Hey God, we'd like a little help down here.' He prays an absolutely, ridiculously impossible prayer: 'Sun, stand still!' And you know what? God does it. Some of us need to stop praying weak prayers and start praying faith-filled, bold, 'sun-stand-still' prayers."

"We have a God who answers prayers. We have a God who answers prayers. We have a God who answers prayers. Write that down."

3. Victory Over the Five Kings & Spiritual Warfare (Joshua 10)

- **The Five Kings' Defeat:**
 - They hide in a cave—Joshua has the entrance sealed
 - Later, they are executed, and Joshua's commanders put their feet on their necks

- **Symbolism:**
 - *Foreshadows Christ's ultimate victory over all enemies (Psalm 110:1)*
 - *The enemy tries to hide in darkness, but God exposes and defeats him*

Think About This...

"Sin loves the shadows. Fear hides in the dark. And these five kings thought they could escape by ducking into a cave. But Joshua rolls a stone over the entrance—no hiding, no escape. Some of us have sins we've been hiding in caves, hoping no one will notice. But caves don't keep things safe from God. It's time to roll away the stone and deal with it completely."

"Do not be afraid. Do not be dismayed. Be strong. Be courageous. For the Lord will do to all your enemies what He has already done. Victory isn't possible—it's promised."

4. The Ongoing Battle for the Land (Joshua 11-14)

- **Massive Opposition Arises:**
 - *The Northern Kings gather against Israel*
 - *But God is not intimidated!*
- **God's Command:** *"Do not be afraid."*
 - *The size of the enemy doesn't change the certainty of God's promise*
 - *Joshua obeys fully—total destruction of enemy forces*
- **Caleb's Bold Faith (Joshua 14)**
 - *Caleb, now 85, still asks for the hardest land: "Give me this mountain!"*
 - *He had a different spirit—wholly followed God*
 - *Application: Do we have the faith of Caleb to ask for difficult things?*

Think About This...

"Caleb, 85 years old, steps forward and says, 'Give me this mountain.' Not the easy land, not the safe land, but the hardest, most fortified land. Why? Because faith doesn't shrink back—it steps forward. Some of us need to stop waiting for easy and start stepping into what God has already promised."

"The size of the enemy doesn't change the certainty of God's promise. God isn't up there wringing His hands, wondering how things will work out. He's already decided—victory is yours. The question is, will you take it?"

5. Walking in Victory Today

- **Christ as the Greater Joshua:**

- He defeats every enemy (Colossians 2:15)
- He bore our curse on the cross (Galatians 3)
- He puts all enemies under His feet (1 Corinthians 15)

Think About This...

"Some trust in chariots. Some trust in horses. Some trust in their own strength, their own wisdom, their own 'self-help' fixes. But we? We trust in the name of the Lord our God. Burn the chariots. Burn the backup plans. Walk forward in faith, because the battle is already won."

"Jesus didn't conquer some sin. He conquered all sin. He didn't defeat part of the grave. He conquered death itself. So why do we live like the battle isn't over? It's time to step into victory."

 **Final Takeaway:**

Think About This...

"No partial victories. No halfway obedience. No settling for 'good enough.' The Lord has already won. The question is—will we have the courage to claim it?"

"The battle is over. The victory is won. The real question is—will we step into it and live like it?"