



The Library

Old Testament Stories For Today

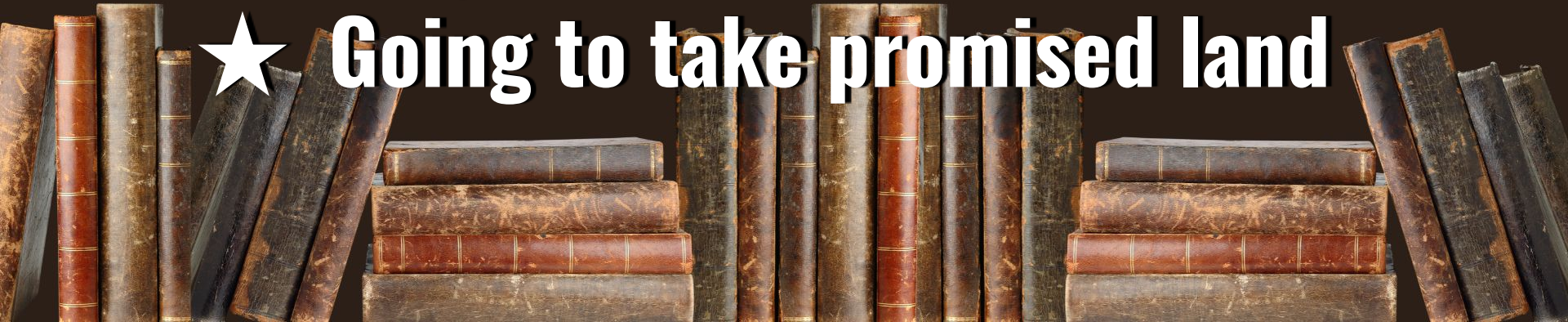
Punchline

God's presence is felt in His plans



Set Up The Story

- ★ Joshua is installed as new leader of the Israelites
- ★ God promises to be with Joshua as he goes
- ★ Going to take promised land



Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?”



Joshua 15: 13 NIV

“Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.” Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, “What message does my Lord have for his servant?”



Joshua 15: 14 NIV

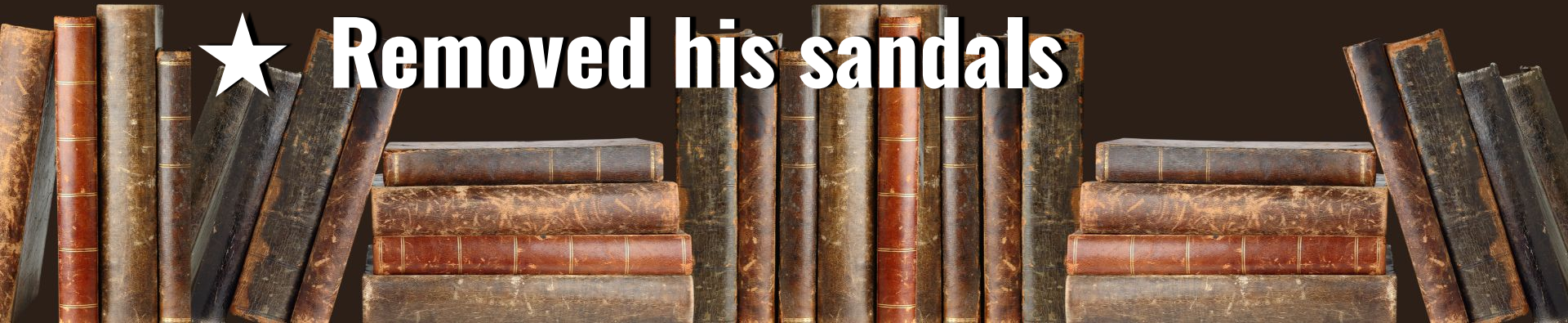
**The commander of the Lord's army replied,
"Take off your sandals, for the place where you
are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.**



Joshua 15: 15 NIV

Tell The Story

- ★ Joshua is visited by someone
- ★ Divine commander of Lord's army
- ★ Joshua falls face down in reverence
- ★ Removed his sandals



Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in. Then the Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.



Joshua 6: 1-2 NIV

March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets.



Joshua 6: 3-4 NIV

When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in.”



Joshua 6: 5 NIV

Tell The Story

- ★ Jericho is completely shut
- ★ Sets up God's plan
- ★ Seems like a military procession
- ★ Nothing can hold God back



So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant of the Lord and have seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.” And he ordered the army, “Advance! March around the city, with an armed guard going ahead of the ark of the Lord.”

Joshua 6: 6-7 NIV



When Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the Lord went forward, blowing their trumpets, and the ark of the Lord's covenant followed them.



Joshua 6: 8 NIV

The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark. All this time the trumpets were sounding.



Joshua 6: 9 NIV

But Joshua had commanded the army, “Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then shout!” So he had the ark of the Lord carried around the city, circling it once. Then the army returned to camp and spent the night there.

Joshua 6: 10-11 NIV



Joshua got up early the next morning and the priests took up the ark of the Lord. The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went forward, marching before the ark of the Lord and blowing the trumpets. The armed men went ahead of them and the rear guard followed the ark of the Lord, while the trumpets kept sounding.

Joshua 6: 12-13 NIV



So on the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for six days.



Joshua 6: 14 NIV

Tell The Story

- ★ **March around the city**
- ★ **Trumpets bookend the marches**
- ★ **No war cries yet**
- ★ **God will be present as they carry out the plan**




On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times. The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, “Shout! For the Lord has given you the city!”

Joshua 6: 15-16 NIV




The city and all that is in it are to be devoted to the Lord. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be spared, because she hid the spies we sent.



Joshua 6: 17 NIV

But keep away from the devoted things, so that you will not bring about your own destruction by taking any of them. Otherwise you will make the camp of Israel liable to destruction and bring trouble on it.



Joshua 6: 18 NIV

All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the Lord and must go into his treasury.”



Joshua 6: 19 NIV

When the trumpets sounded, the army shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the men gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city.



Joshua 6: 20 NIV

They devoted the city to the Lord and destroyed with the sword every living thing in it—men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys.



Joshua 6: 21 NIV

Tell The Story

- ★ 7th time around trumpets sound
 - “Shout! The Lord has given you the city”
- ★ Everything must be devoted to God



GOLAZO!!!



God Makes His Presence Known

- ★ Holy Spirit makes His presence known
- ★ Convictions - things you cannot get off of your mind or heart



God Makes His Presence Known

- ★ In things that shouldn't have fallen into place but they do
- ★ At different times God's presence will be louder



Accept God's Presence

- ★ He is now, and He is near
- ★ Don't fight God's presence
- ★ No matter how God's presence comes accept that it is coming for you



Accept God's Authority

- ★ Based on who He is and who He has been
- ★ He is Lord and He acts like it
 - Does this consistently



TECHNICAL CHALLENGE



God Lays Out His Plan

- ★ How is God using my life as part of His plan?
- ★ Our part might be big or small
- ★ Our part is important



Respond in Obedience

★ Reasons we don't....

- Don't want to
- It's not important enough
- I'm not good enough



Respond in Obedience

- ★ God will get you ready and go with you wherever He calls you to
- ★ If you weren't the right person He wouldn't call you





God Goes With

- ★ God is with you
- ★ Pray as you go
- ★ Don't cut Him out at this stage



Claim the Victories

- ★ Don't miss the small victories
- ★ We may not see the final score but it's still a win
- ★ Claim the victory and let it fire
you up



Wrap Up

- ★ God makes His presence known
- ★ God is there when He lays out His plan
- ★ God is there when we carry out His plan

