

Joshua: Chapter 5

- V. 1 – Now it came about when all the kings (SC: Plural) of the Amorites (SC: So the Amorites *weren't* just one nation. Interesting. The Amorites may have been, like an *ethnic* group?) who were beyond the Jordan to the west, and all the kings (SC: Plural) of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard how the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan before the sons of Israel until they had crossed, that their hearts melted
 - SC: And I wrote out to the left in the margin, “This is what your *success* does to your enemies.” In other words, it melts their hearts. Imagine the other chapter... what was the word that was used for “melted”? “Their hearts were *demoralized*.”
 - “...and there was no spirit in them any longer, because of the sons of Israel.”
- V. 2 – At that time the LORD said to Joshua, “Make for yourself flint knives and circumcise again the sons of Israel the second time.”
- V. 3 – So Joshua made himself flint knives and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth.
- V. 4 – And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, died in the wilderness along the way, after they came out of Egypt.
- V. 5 – For all the people who came out were circumcised, but all the people who were born in the wilderness along the way as they came out of Egypt had not been circumcised.
 - SC: So it's *not* double circumcised; this would have been the first time they were circumcised.
- V. 6 – For the sons of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, that is, the men of war who came out of Egypt, **perished because they did not listen to the voice of the LORD**
 - SC: And that's *huge* and you should find the reference to that. It's in **Numbers 14**. Tie that passage together with this passage.
 - “Because they did not *listen* to the Lord.” People don't *listen* – not even to other people. They'll listen to the first two or three words a person says and their mind *races* to something *else*, what they want to say *next*, or what they *think* the person's saying, instead of *fully listening* to what the person is saying. It's a common human fault.)
 - Continuing in the passage: “...to whom the LORD had sworn that He would not let them see the land which the LORD had sworn to their fathers to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.”
- V. 7 – And their children whom He raised up in their place, Joshua circumcised (SC: This is *key*. So *find* those references.); for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them along the way.
- V. 8 – Now it came about when they had finished circumcising all the nation, that they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed.
- V. 9 – Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.”
 - SC: So that's *huge*. So that *circumcision* meant this is a new life, a new beginning and a future. *This* generation *replaced* the generation that failed to:
 - (1) listen,
 - (2) believe, (3) trust
 - And it continues. “So the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.”

- SC: And that's *true*. It's still called Gilgal.
- V. 10 – While the sons of Israel camped at Gilgal, they observed the Passover on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month on the desert plains of Jericho.
 - SC: So it was a desert back then. That's important.
- V. 11 – And on the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.
 - SC: They ate bread and grain (like toast and grits).
- V. 12 – And the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten some of the produce of the land (SC: That's *huge*), so that the sons of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate some of the yield of the land...
 - SC: I mean, we're talking 40 years here. Turn to Exodus 16:35. It says, "And the sons of Israel ate the manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate the manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan."
 - Isn't that something?
 - So connect Exodus 16:35 and Joshua 5:12
- V. 13 – Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand, and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us or for our adversaries?"
 - SC: So what's he saying? Are you my *enemy* or are you my *ally*?
 - When you're in a new environment: One of the first things you do is you figure out is: are they your enemy or are they your ally. Here he's asking the guy direct, right at the beginning. He just asks the guy *directly*.
- V. 14 – And he said, "No, rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant?"
- V. 15 – And the captain of the LORD's host said to Joshua, "Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.