

## Joshua 5:13-6:27 “Looking Back” (1/28/2024)

### OPENING QUESTION:

**SERMON DISCUSSION:** How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

### READ Joshua 5:13-6:27

1. “The commander of the LORD’s army said to Joshua, ‘Take off your sandals from your feet for the place you are standing is holy’...” (5:15). Recall a similar encounter experienced by Moses (Exodus 3:1-5). What do you think was implied that the place Joshua was standing was holy?

2. Consider what Joshua might have thought as he contrasted the appearance of Jericho described in 6:1 with what the LORD told Joshua in 6:2. Share a time you struggled to trust God when the circumstances seemed contrary. Give an example of trusting God’s promise before you see it come into fruition?

3. How would “looking back” to remember what God had done to enable the Israelites to cross the Jordan (Joshua 3:14-17) have helped Joshua lead the people in obedience regarding Jericho? In what ways, does “looking back” help you in obedience today?

4. "In efficacious grace we are not merely passive, nor yet does God do some, and we do the rest. But God does all, and we do all...God is the only proper author and fountain; we only are the proper actors. We are, in different respects, wholly passive and wholly active."

(Remarks on Important Theological Controversies by Jonathan Edwards)

The fall of Jericho raises the question of the relationship of divine and human action. Discuss how you see this evident in the passage.

5. What warning is given to the Israelites to heed after the victory (6:18-19)?

How could victory/successes in your life led to temptation and how do you avoid this?

6. The destruction of Jericho was the judgement of God upon Canaan. Identify the story of salvation and rescue found in this passage. What principle(s) do you discover?