

Waging Peace

Read: Joshua 11:1-23

Main Idea: To find and experience God-given peace, we must face our battles with faith and obedience, trusting that He leads us to victory.

Key Verses: "So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war." (**Joshua 11:23**)

Key Principles

- Because no enemy, however overwhelming, can stand against a single promise of God, we can face our greatest battles without fear.
- When God strips away the things we lean on for security, He is not weakening us but teaching us to rely on Him alone.
- We must trust that God is just as present in our ordinary, everyday obedience as He is in dramatic miracles.
- Since partial obedience is disobedience in God's kingdom, we must follow Him fully and leave nothing undone.
- A heart that keeps hardening itself against God invites His judgment, but His mercy remains open today to everyone who turns to Him.
- Every rest this world offers will fail us, so we must run to Jesus, the greater Joshua, who alone gives rest that never ends.

Discussion

1. Why do you think God allowed Israel to face its largest enemy last, and how does that shape the way we view the battles still ahead of us?
2. What "horses and chariots" are we tempted to trust for security instead of the Lord, and what would it look like to surrender them?
3. How does Joshua's example of leaving nothing undone (v. 15) expose the areas where we settle for partial obedience?
4. What does God's hardening of the Canaanites' hearts, alongside His mercy to Rahab and the Gibeonites, teach us about His justice and grace?
5. How does the rest Israel received in verse 23 point us to the greater rest Jesus offers (Hebrews 4:8-10)?
6. What long battle has God called you to keep fighting, and what one step of obedience will you take this week to persevere in it?

Prayer

- Praise God that He fights for His people and brings them to rest.
- Pray for:
 - Our church family to be stirred toward full obedience to God's Word.
 - Courage to surrender the false securities we cling to instead of Christ.
 - The weary people around us to find true and lasting rest in Jesus.

Joshua 11

I.	<u>Face</u> every <u>battle</u> with faith.	11:1–9
i.	<u>Trust</u> God's <u>promises</u> .	11:1-6
iii.	<u>Respond</u> with <u>courage</u> .	11:7–9
II.	<u>Follow</u> every <u>command</u> in full.	11:10–15
i.	<u>Confront</u> the <u>opposition</u> .	11:10–11
ii.	<u>Leave</u> nothing <u>undone</u> .	11:12–15
III.	<u>Find</u> true <u>rest</u> in God.	11:16–23
i.	<u>Persevere</u> in God's <u>mission</u> .	11:16–18
ii.	<u>Stand</u> in God's <u>victory</u> .	11:21–23

NEXT WEEK:
Count Your Blessings
Joshua 12