**The Book of Joshua**

Series: A Life Lived for God

**04.04.21 Blameless Before God**

**Text: Joshua: 2:17-20**

**Recap from Last Week: A Promise of Life**

We saw God’s hand reaching out to the lost, symbolized in Rahab and her family and foreshadowing of the sacrifice Jesus would make for mankind; giving His life for ours!

**Hebrews 11:1** *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”*

This verse personifies Rahab’s choices and is a wonderful lesson to us as we’re called to *(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)*

**2 Corinthians 5:7**

**Blameless Before God**

Joshua 2:17-20

*“17 And the men said unto her, We will be blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear. 18 Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee. 19 And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him. 20 And if thou utter this our business, then we will be quit of thine oath which thou hast made us to swear.”*

**1. Conditionality**

*“17 And the men said unto her, We will be blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear. 18 Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee.*

Joshua 2:14 *And the men answered her, Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.*

2 Chronicles 7:14 *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

Mark 11:26 *But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.*

John 6:35 *And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*

John 6:35 *“And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.”*

John 6:40-54 *“40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

**Prophetically pointing to His Second Coming!**

*41 The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven. 42 And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven? 43 Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves. 44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me. 46 Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father. 47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. 48 I am that bread of life. 49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. 51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. 52 The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? 53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

**In scripture, the idea of taking God’s word to heart and believing it, is described as eating it.**

**Ezekiel 3:3** *And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.*

**Psalms 119:103** *How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*

**Revelation 10:9** *And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.*

**John 1:14** *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

**When trusting and believing in *Christ*, we are receiving Him and making Him a part of us. *Spiritually* consuming Him.**

*“…if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” John 6:51*

**“If you will receive me, then I will receive you.”**

**The religious crowd takes what’s intended to be spiritual as if it’s literal. “…How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”**

**John 3:3-*4*** *3Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?*

**Let’s Look at this “Scarlet Thread”**

**Exodus 12:21** *Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover*.

**The Passover is a foreshadowing of the coming of our Lord.**

**Exodus 12:22-25** *22And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. 23For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. 24And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. 25And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.*

**This is to be a memorial of God’s deliverance and a shadow of what’s to come: The Messiah**

**Exodus 12:26-29** *26And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? 27That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped. 29The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*

**The blood red cord tied in her window will bring deliverance to Rahab and her family!**

**Acts 16:30-31** *And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house*.

**Romans 10:13** *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

**2. Accountability**

**Joshua 2:19-20** *19 And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him. 20 And if thou utter this our business, then we will be quit of thine oath which thou hast made us to swear.”*

**Joshua 2:18** *“18…and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee.”*

**Matthew 28:19-20***19Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

**Romans 10:12** *For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.*

**Joshua 2:19** *And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless…*

**This is a picture or our loving Lord, taking responsibility for our lives, as He looked on fallen man, and chose to come to earth in the form of a servant to serve humanity with not only His life,…but also His death.**

*John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*

**Matthew 26:17-20** *“17 Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover? 18 And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples. 19 And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover. 20 Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve.”*

**The Passover is pointing to (John 1:29) “….the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.”**

**Pictured in the Exodus from Egypt and in the window of Rahab.**

**When Jesus, the Lamb of God, sits down to eat the Passover, instead of celebrating what is to come;**

**Jesus is going to make it a celebration of Who has come.**

**Matthew 26:26-28** *“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. 27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”*

Colossians 2:16-17 *“16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.* “

**Isaiah 45:23** *I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.*

**Joshua 2:19b** “… we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him.”

**1 Peter 1:15** *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;*

**Mark 8:34** *And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*

**1 Corinthians 11:26-28** *26For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. 27Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.*

**In observing the Lord’s Supper….**

**We can either dishonor His sacrifice, by taking part while our hearts are polluted by sin, thus standing guilty before God.**

**Or**

**We can be honest with Him and ourselves, forsaking our sins before Him and come together as a church to be:**

**“Blameless Before God”**

**If we’re to be effective for *Christ* in this world, this must be our daily desire.**

 ***“Be ye holy, as I am holy.”***