**A Life Lived for God [The Book of Joshua]**

**Title: 70 - From Death to Life – September 18, 2022**

**Review from last week… Deception’s Impact Joshua 9:16-20**

We saw through Joshua and the Israelite’s story that Deception will

- Bind us to Wickedness

- Desensitize us to Evil

- Bring internal Unrest

Joshua and his men keep their vow to do what was right in the sight of God. And a challenge was issued to us: Will we do what’s right and honor God? Or simply do what’s easy?

Today we will see how the Israelite’s decision impact their new pagan allies… In our message entitled: **“From Death to Life”**

**Joshua 9:21-27** *21 And the princes said unto them, Let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation; as the princes had promised them. 22 And Joshua called for them, and he spake unto them, saying, Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying, We are very far from you; when ye dwell among us? 23 Now therefore ye are cursed, and there shall none of you be freed from being bondmen, and hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God. 24 And they answered Joshua, and said, Because it was certainly told thy servants, how that the LORD thy God commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you, therefore we were sore afraid of our lives because of you, and have done this thing. 25 And now, behold, we are in thine hand: as it seemeth good and right unto thee to do unto us, do. 26 And so did he unto them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, that they slew them not. 27 And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, even unto this day, in the place which he should choose.”*

The events took place on the “third day” representing the pattern of restoration and redemption - all culminating with the resurrection of Jesus Christ*. “…Ye must be born again”* John 3:7

**Ephesians 2:1-**6 *1And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. 4But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:*

**Romans 8:29** *29For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

**We see what is happening with the Hivites is a picture of Gentile salvation**.

The Hebrew God, the God of Jacob (Israel)… who came to reach the Jewish nation and use them to reach the world made provision for those who were not Jews (the Gentiles).

**Matthew 10:5-6** *5These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: 6But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*

**[Jesus is telling the disciples that their ministry was to the Jews.]**

**Acts 9:15** *15But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:* [Paul was the apostle to the Gentiles]

1. **Mercy Displayed** “*21 And the princes said unto them, Let them live;..”*

* These Hivites were slated to die at the hand of God’s judgment. **Reference: Deuteronomy 20:16-18**
* In Joshua 9:21, life was offered to people who are deserving of death. **This is mercy.**

Matthew 15:22-28 22And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. 23But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. 24But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 25Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. 26But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. 27And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

28Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

**Salvation is by way of the Lord’s Mercy because we all deserve death. Reference Romans 5:12-21**

**We also receive GRACE.**

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.”*

1. **Grace Extended** “21 *And the princes said unto them, Let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation; as the princes had promised them.”*

* Mercy offered a new identity to the Canaanites in a role amongst God’s people. **Reference Joshua 9:23 and 9:27**

By MERCY their lives are saved and by GRACE they have been given a new identity.

By MERCY and GRACE we are saved and given a new identity!!

**Romans 6:23** *23For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.* [we deserve death]

**Ephesians 2:8** *8For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:* [we are saved by grace]

**Ephesians 2:9** *9Not of works, lest any man should boast.* [not by works that we do]

1. Accountability for Sin Revealed [Reference Joshua 9:22] *“… ye beguiled us…”*

* These deceivers stand before Joshua. (an O.T. type of Christ) and he is confronting them with their sin.
* There are consequences of their deception… [Reference Joshua 9:23] *“…Now therefore ye are cursed…”*

**Romans 3:20** *20Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

Remember how Jesus tested the faith of the Canaanite woman in Matthew 15? *“It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.”* Matthew 15:26. Their “curse” would be that they get to serve the one true God.

1. **Contrite and Humble Response** (Contrite means remorseful and repentant) [Reference Joshua 9:24]

* An insight into the heart of God’s enemies… they fear Him and want to make peace!!
* Our reverential faith in our Savior that gives us eternal life. Look up Psalm 51:4, see what David said.
* When we understand our sin, we humble cry out for mercy.
* The Publican in Luke 18:13-14
* God requires a humble and contrite heart from those who come to Him. [Reference Isaiah 57:15]

**Salvation requires a heart of submission and humility, seen in the Hivites…**

*25 And now, behold, we are in thine hand: as it seemeth good and right unto thee to do unto us, do.*

God always keeps His promises: Reference John 3:16-17, Luke 24:44-47

The Hivite kings have true repentance and submission to the will of God.

1. **Servants of the Lord – Joshua 9:26-27** 26*And so did he unto them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, that they slew them not. 27 And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, even unto this day, in the place which he should choose.*

These Pagan people were the enemies of God and headed for death and are now redeemed from their sins by Joshua and given a new identity as servants of God!

He changed the story of these undeserving people and gave them life. [Joshua 9:27]

**Has He changed your story from one of death…unto life?**

***“From Death to Life”* (Bible Study Questions) Wednesday 9/21**

**Joshua 9:21-27**

1. This week, we revisited the Biblical pattern associated with the “*third day”*; give an example from scripture of it being used and do your best to explain how it’s associated with restoration and redemption. [You might want to write this out on a separate sheet of paper.]

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Bonus: Using your example from above, try and see if you can identify and explain ways that you think it is picturing or pointing to the resurrection of Christ.

2. When God shifted His plan to reach the world from the Jews only to the church, He activated His apostle to the Gentile world. What was his name and who did God tell him to preach to?

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3. As we examined this account in Joshua we saw Mercy and Grace being extended to the deceivers from Canaan. Define each term and give a Biblical example of each in use.

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Bonus: Give a modern-day example of Mercy and Grace being displayed.

4. Explain how God extends both Mercy and Grace to us through the coming of Christ and why are they absolutely essential to our salvation?

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5. Why is it so important for someone to understand that they’re a sinner and that they will stand accountable to God in order for someone to be saved?

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Bonus: What’s the Biblical term for recognizing and turning away from one’s sin? Give an example from scripture of someone doing this.

6. With repentance, comes humility. Please explain why this is true and give a Biblical example to substantiate your point.

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Introspection: When considering your new identity in Christ after salvation. Are you living and fulfilling all that God’s called you to be? If not. Then in what areas do you feel that you are most lacking and what are you going to do to change?