**Faith to Let God Fight the Battle**

Sunday School Lesson 7

*Faith in Action*

Hebrews 11:30

6/16/2024

**Introduction & Recap:** Last week, we look at how our faith helps us to take a stand. We only had time to look at the first three observations of the lesson; consequently, we will look at the final two observations before we look at some truths for today’s lesson on *Faith to Let God Fight the Battle.* Let’s reflect briefly on the observations that were covered in the prior lesson. First, we can take a stand against ungodly commands because our trust in the Lord causes us to not be afraid. Simply put, we ought to obey God rather than men. It really doesn’t matter who the person giving the command is. Second, we can take a stand for our brethren because we trust the Lord loves them. God loves His children. The trust in that love motivates us to stand for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Third, we can take a stand against our own self-interests because we trust that the blessings of God are more beneficial for us. It can be very challenging to stand up against our own flesh. Moses rejected his position in Egypt because he trusted the blessings of God as more valuable.

1. **WE CAN TAKE A STEADFAST STAND OF GODLY SEPARATION, EVEN IN THE FACE OF WRATH, BECAUSE WE TRUST THAT THE LORD IS WITH US.**

* *Hebrews 11:27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. Exodus 5:1 And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. 14:13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. 14 The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.* Most Bible students agree that Egypt is a picture of the world for the believer. As Israel was called to go out of Egypt, believers are called to go out from this world. We are to separate ourselves unto the Lord. When Moses sought to separate the people from Egypt, he was met with fierce opposition from the Egyptian pharaoh. Likewise, when the believer seeks to separate themselves to God, they can expect that there will be strong opposition to that choice. The separation may require confrontation for us in the same way that it did for Moses. Yet, Moses trusted the Lord through the process. He forsook Egypt. He was not afraid of the wrath of the king. He had to endure for a time through it, but the strong resistance and wrath against him was ultimately subsided through the providential hand of the Lord. He saw the Invisible One. He saw that God was with him throughout the entire confrontation in Egypt. When they left and faced the sea, he reminded the people that God was with them. He told them that God would fight for them. He never waffled from his faith in the Lord.

1. **WE CAN TAKE A STAND AGAINST THE DISCONTENTMENT OF OTHERS BECAUSE WE TRUST THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD TOWARD US.**

* *Exodus 16:6 And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the Lord hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: 7 And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the Lord; for that he heareth your murmurings against the Lord: and what are we, that ye murmur against us? Numbers 12:1 And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. 2 And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it.* From what we read in the books of Exodus and Numbers, it seems that the hardest fight that Moses had was against his own brethren and their extreme discontentment. He had to take a strong stand against their discontentment. In fact, their discontentment was so bad that it even led to his own frustration and failure. It seems that it would have been much easier for Moses to go along with the discontentment of the people toward God, but he never gave in to them. He trusted the goodness of the Lord. There is tremendous peer pressure in discontentment. It seems to be a very infectious spiritual issue. An entire generation of Israel was infected with it. Likewise, we have the fight against discontentment in front of us today. There are many Christians who enjoy complaining and murmuring against God and others. May we be bold enough in our faith to take a stand against such thinking. May our faith in His goodness affirm our contentment.

1. **WE CAN LET GOD FIGHT THE BATTLE BECAUSE WE TRUST THAT THE ENEMY ISN’T AS BIG AS IT MIGHT SEEM TO BE.**

* *Joshua 2:23 So the two men returned, and descended from the mountain, and passed over, and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all things that befell them: 24 And they said unto Joshua, Truly the Lord hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us. Numbers 13:32 And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.* Consider the contrasting reports between the spies that went into the land of Canaan and the ones who went up to Jerusalem. The ten spies gave a report that there were men of great stature in the land. The Lord called this report an evil report. Was it evil because it was untrue? No. It was evil because it lacked faith. What is the stature of a man in comparison to the stature of God? The city of Jericho was known as a strong city. It had great fortification. Yet, the spies told Joshua that the people of the city were scared of them. We can let God fight the battle because we trust that the enemy isn’t as big as he seems. Satan is a strong adversary, but he cannot stand against God’s Word. He flees when he is resisted.

1. **WE CAN LET GOD FIGHT THE BATTLE BECAUSE WE TRUST THE PROMISED VICTORY.**

* *Joshua 6:1-2 Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in. 2 And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.* *1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* The Lord told Joshua plainly that He had given Jericho into his hand. This would be an easy victory for Joshua and the children of Israel. Joshua did not know yet the specifics of how the Lord was going to bring about the victory, but he trusted God’s promise. The children of Israel had the same promise given to them in the days of Moses. Unfortunately, they did not trust God’s promise. As a result, they never experienced the victories that were waiting for them. As believers, we have the same promise given to us today. God promises us victory through Jesus Christ. We are told in 1 John 5:4 that our faith in the Lord gives us the victory. Sadly, many Christians do not live a victorious life because they don’t trust God’s promises. They want to fight their own fight.

1. **WE CAN LET GOD FIGHT THE BATTLE BECAUSE WE TRUST THE LORD’S METHODS.**

* *Joshua 6:3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. 4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. 5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.* The story of the walls of Jericho is one of the favorite stories in most children’s Sunday School classes. The Lord commanded the children of Israel to march around the walls once per a day for six consecutive days. On the seventh day, they would march around it seven times. At the conclusion, they were blow the horns and make a great shout, and the Lord would bring down the walls of the city. Imagine how the reaction might have been when Joshua first told the people the plan. Thankfully, they chose to trust God’s methods.

1. **WE CAN LET GOD FIGHT THE BATTLE BECAUSE WE TRUST THE LORD’S STRENGTH MORE THAN OUR OWN STRENGTH.**

* *Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Joshua 10:25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the Lord do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.* Joshua and the people put their trust in the strength of the Lord. This is the key to having God fight your battle. We must see our inadequacy and lack of strength. This will lead us to claim the strength of the Lord. Too often, we try to do things in our own strength. The strength of man is fleeting. It is here today and gone tomorrow. Additionally, our spiritual strength is only available through Christ. Our flesh is weak. We serve a strong God. Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world. May we as Christians trust the Lord to fight our battles. If we do, we will find sweet rest.