

December 11
Joshua 6

Conquest

As for me and my house,
we will serve the LORD
Joshua 24:15

Israel Tribe Allotments
Joshua 13:8 – 19:49
● City ○ City uncertain location
▲ Mountain peak



Joshua Crossing the Jordan with Ark of Covenant
c. 1800, by Benjamin West

FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS

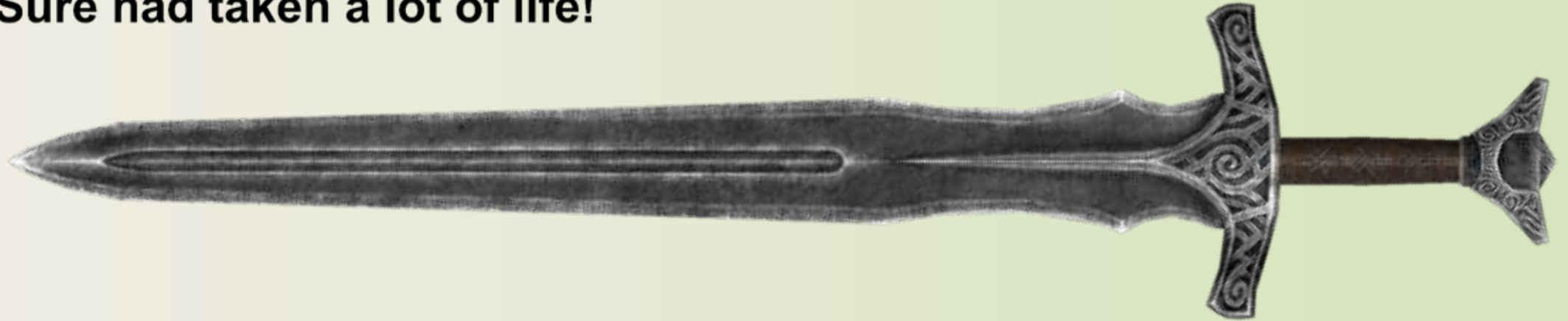


The Sword

What's it for?

In some places, it s symbol of seriousness

Sure had taken a lot of life!




Well, ladies and gentlemen, the sword the co-star of this show ...

And before the lights go out in Jericho ... **hopefully, prayerfully** ...

we'll see the redemptive side of God's work

Conquest and Challenges of Israel's Settlement

1.	Dec 4	Commissioned	Joshua 1	Lord Calls Joshua
	Dec 11	Conquest	Joshua 6	Jericho Walls Down
3.	Dec 18	Commitment Kept	Joshua 10	"Sun, Stand Still!"
4.	Dec 25	Savior Announced	Luke 1	<i>Angel Gabriel to Mary</i>
5.	Jan 1	Settled	Joshua 22	Home Sweet Home
6.	Jan 15	Value All	Prov. 24 & Mark 10	<i>Sanctity of Life Sunday</i>
7.	Jan 22	Rebellion's Cycle	Judges 2	Return to God to Live
8.	Jan 29	Willing Servants	Judges 4	Deborah Lifts Barak
9.	Feb 5	Timid Warrior	Judges 6	Angel Charges Gideon
10.	Feb 12	Compromised Potential	Judges 16	Samson & Delilah
11.	Feb 19	Faith Through Trials	Ruth 1	Ruth Helps Naomi
12.	Feb 13	Redeemed & Secure	Ruth 3-4	Noble Ruth Wins

Lesson Author's Theme

**God gives His people victory when
they trust Him and obey His commands**

Please look at our passage closely ...

Yes, God gave a great victory ... and Jericho paid terribly

It is an exceedingly violent passage ...

And it defies our 21st sensibilities almost 100%

6:12-14 Patient Obedience – March around Jericho 6 Days

6:15-19 Final Preparations – 7th Day, 7x Around, Ram Horn & *SHOUT*

6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall ... Gold & Rahab Saved

We DO PROMISE a happy ending ... *quite beyond the slaughter of Jericho
I promise ... a happy ending.*



Look hard with a **H E A R T** at what happened

God gave a Great Victory ... yet ... ahhh ...
please ... a a a h h h ...

I *doubt* the **KILLING** of Jericho was pleasant

Joshua 2 – Two Spies Come to Rahab

Joshua 3 & 4 – Crossing Jordan

Joshua 5 – Fear, Circumcision & Angel

6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & *Dah Plan*

6:12-14 Patient Obedience – March around Jericho 6 Days

6:15-19 Final Preparations – 7th Day, 7x Around, Ram Horn & **SHOUT**

6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall ... Gold & Rahab Saved

6:26-27 Joshua's Curse ... and His Fame



Key Verse Joshua 6:21 ?

Selah ... I wish there was an EASY verse for you
so ... I hope you have had your coffee

Wish there was a cool, sublime verse for you

Yet, our “Key Verse” *ought* to reflect the HEART
of the passage we are looking at ...

The **KILLING** of Jericho was NOT pleasant

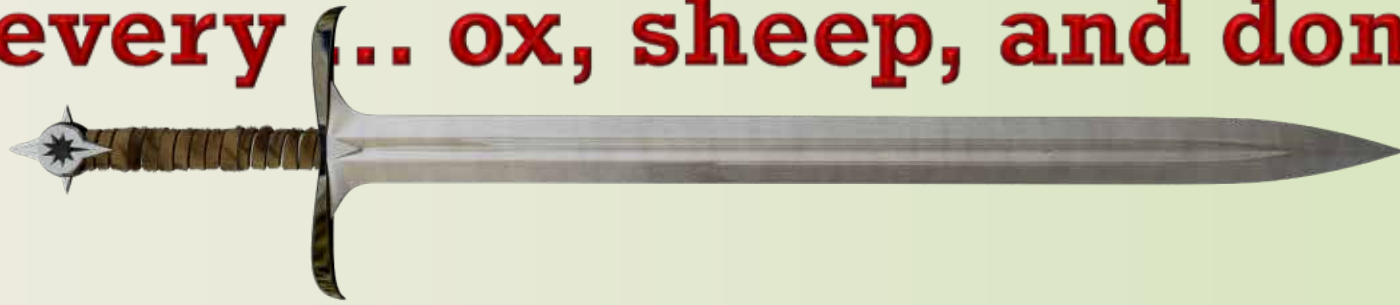
No Man of God can STAB Child & feel GOOD

We have a job to do here ... let's do it!



Key Verse Joshua 6:21

**They completely destroyed everything
in the city with the SWORD—every
man and woman, both young and old,
and every ... ox, sheep, and donkey.**



**NIV: They *DEVOTED* the city to the LORD and
destroyed with the SWORD every living thing in it.**

including pet turtles and puppies!



TODAY—we never, *EVER* ... target children

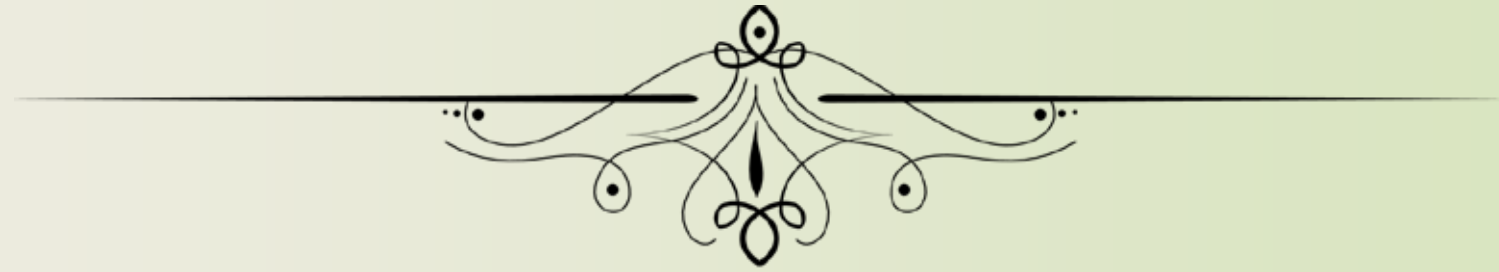
- ✓ Closest we get to killing innocents on purpose is called “Collateral Damage”
- ✓ Only, solely when we **MUST** take out a high-value enemy to **SAVE** many
- ✓ Hiroshima ... Nagasaki—sad—but we most certainly did **SAVE** millions

TODAY—we’d **NEVER** do what Joshua did!

Best of all, God will never ask us ... *let me show you*

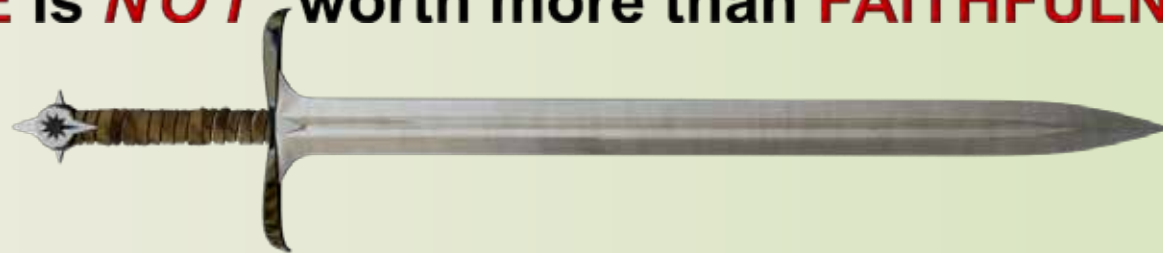
Alternate Title

Trusting God when Understanding FAILS



In 4 weeks, **Sanctity of Life Sunday**. Know this, Joshua informs!

KNOW this: **LIFE** is **NOT** worth more than **FAITHFULNESS** to God.



God's Work H E R E

A man was on his rooftop in a FLOOD ...

Man cries, "God help me!"

A man in a row boat comes along.

Man rejects row boat. "God will supply."

Another man in a motor boat comes along.

Man on roof rejects, "God will supply."

A man in a helicopter flies by.

Man on roof yells up, "GOD WILL SUPPLY!"

The FLOOD rises ...

The man DROWNS and go heaven.



God's Work H E R E

In heaven,
the man is escorted to the THRONE.

Man cries, "God—why am I here."

God replies, "Cause you drowned."

But, the man pleads,
"I was trusting you.

How come you did NOT help?

God replied, "Oh, I did, three times."

Man's eyes get big. "*Whaaat?*"

God said, "I sent two boats and helicopter."



God's Led Joshua to Take Jericho

The narrative is simple and straightforward ...

Joshua 2 – Two Spies Come to Rahab

Joshua 3 & 4 – Crossing Jordan

Joshua 5 – Fear, Circumcision & Angel

6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & *Dah Plan*

Then the DOING of the Dah Plan

6:12-14 Patient Obedience – March around Jericho 6 Days

6:15-19 Final Preparations – 7th Day, 7x Around, Ram Horn & *SHOUT*

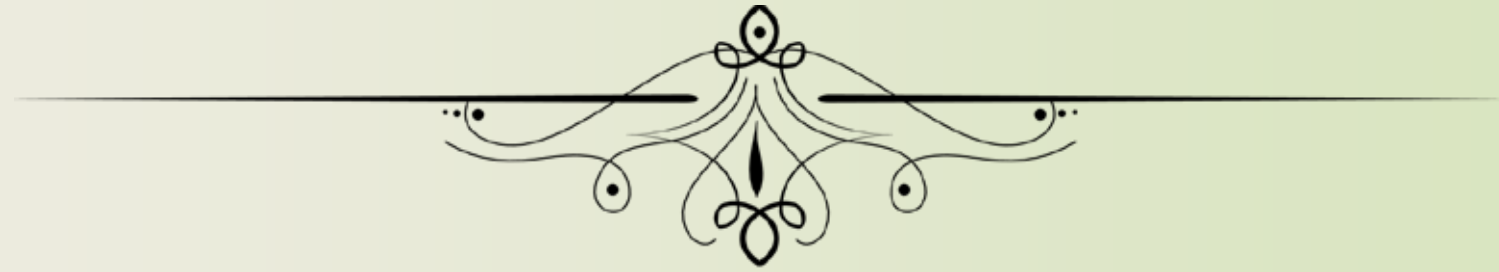
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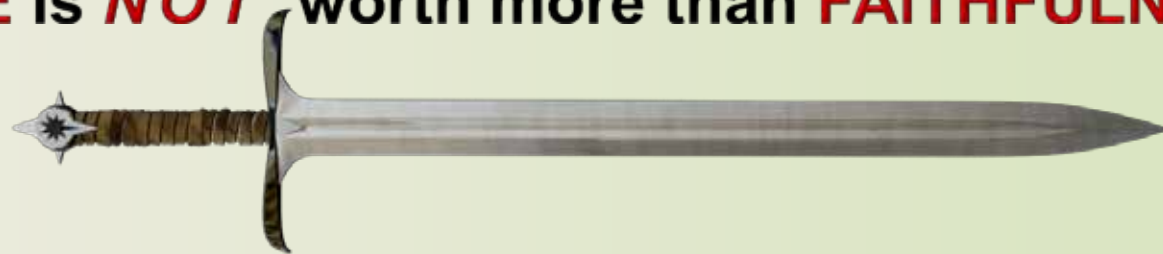


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Joshua 2 – Two Spies Come to Rahab

Rahab lies to the king ... hides them ...

Then she says to the two spies:

11 “When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.”

As instructed, she hangs a **Scarlet Cord** out her window

Jericho ... walls so large that people had houses on top of the walls



Joshua 3 & 4 – Crossing Jordan

⁵ Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.”

Priests lead w Ark ... middle of Jordan

WARNING: stay 2,000 cubits away!

Cubit 18": 2,000 = 3,000 ft or 1,000 yds

Water upstream “piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan.”

40,000 armed men cross



Joshua 3 & 4 – Crossing Jordan



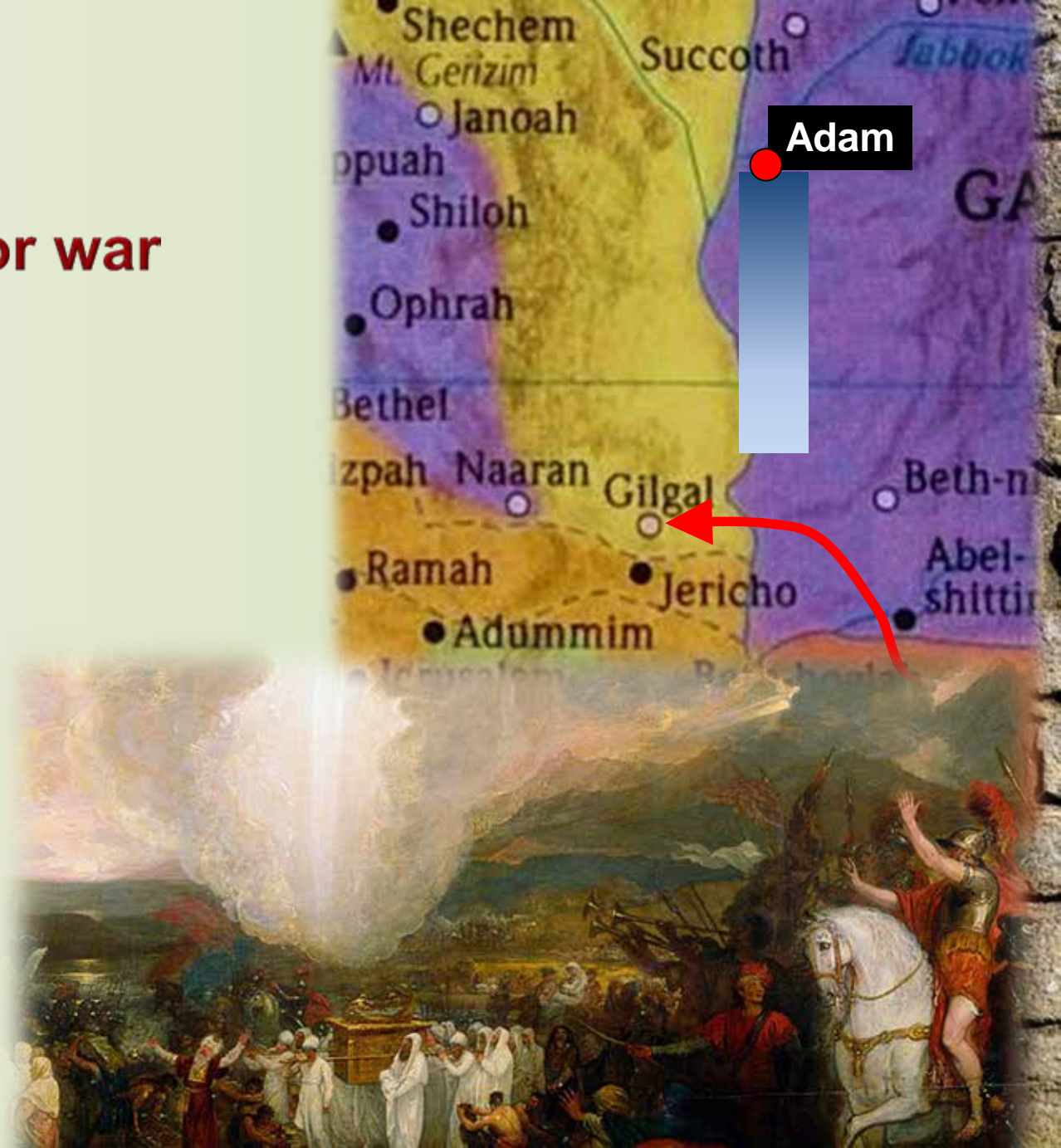
Ark Crossing Jordan, by Juan Montero de Rojas (1613-1683), Madrid, Museo del Prado

Joshua 3 & 4 – Crossing Jordan

40,000 armed men READY for war
cross the Jordan to the
Plains of Jericho

12 men from 12 tribes took
12 stones from river ... memorial

REMEMBER—river cut off before
the Ark of the Covenant



Joshua 5 – Fear, Circumcision & Angel

¹ Amorite & Canaanite kings heard—
Hearts MELTED with FEAR.

flint knives & men circumcised

⁵ All who came out of Egypt had been circumcised, but all born in the wilderness had not.

They Celebrated Passover ...

Joshua meets an Angel w sword drawn,
“Commander of the army of the LORD”

“Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.”

NOTICE:

Angel is the “COMMANDER”

battle is ... the Lord's Battle



Commander of the Lords Army, 1860
woodcut by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld

Joshua 6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & Dah Plan

¹ Jericho was strongly fortified because of the Israelites
—no one leaving or entering.

Jericho Locked Down!

²⁻³ Lord said to Joshua, "Look, I have handed Jericho, its king, and its fighting men over to you. March around the city with all the men of war, circling the city one time."

The Joshua is told

Dah Plan

When you think of Battle Plans ...

hardly one stranger than this ...

Joshua 6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & Dah Plan

¹ Jericho ... strongly fortified—no one leaving or entering.
Jericho Locked Down!

Dah Plan

- ✓ 6 days, 7 priests carrying 7 ram's-horn trumpets in front of the ark
Blew Trumpet each time ...
- ✓ 7th day, march around city 7x ... priests blow the trumpets.
- ✓ with blast of horn, ***ALL SHOUT***, city wall will fall—*then advance*
- ✓ Joshua will send 7 priests w ark to go forth with troops front & rear
- ✓ No one spoke a word ... **SILENCE on the battle line**
- ✓ See God work ... *let's look at Jericho a bit*



Joshua 6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & Dah Plan

Shofar ... ram's horn ...

- ✓ Many kinds and levels finishes
- ✓ Dall Sheep ...
- ✓ Nubian Ibex of Negev
- ✓ Kudu of Namibia ...



Kudu Shofar
שופר די שון



Joshua 6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & Dah Plan

Shofar ... ram's horn ...

- ✓ Many highly polished
- ✓ Some with silver & gold trappings



Silver Designed Kudu Shofar
שוֹפָר דִּישׁוֹן בְּעִיצוֹב כֶּסֶף



Joshua 6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & Dah Plan

Shofar ... ram's horn ...

- ✓ Blown every morning in 12th months of Elul
- ✓ Blown at Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year
traditional anniversary of creation of Adam & Eve
- ✓ Rosh Hashanah – also the Feast of Trumpets
Fate of wicked, righteous, in-between recorded
- ✓ Blown at end of Yom Kippur, Day of Judgment
holiest day of Jewish Year
- ✓ *Ba'al Tekiah* is an expert with Shofar
– meaning “Master of the Blast”
– high honor in Jewish circles
- ✓ That's right, an expert with the Shofar is **Master Blaster**



Jericho Strategic Map

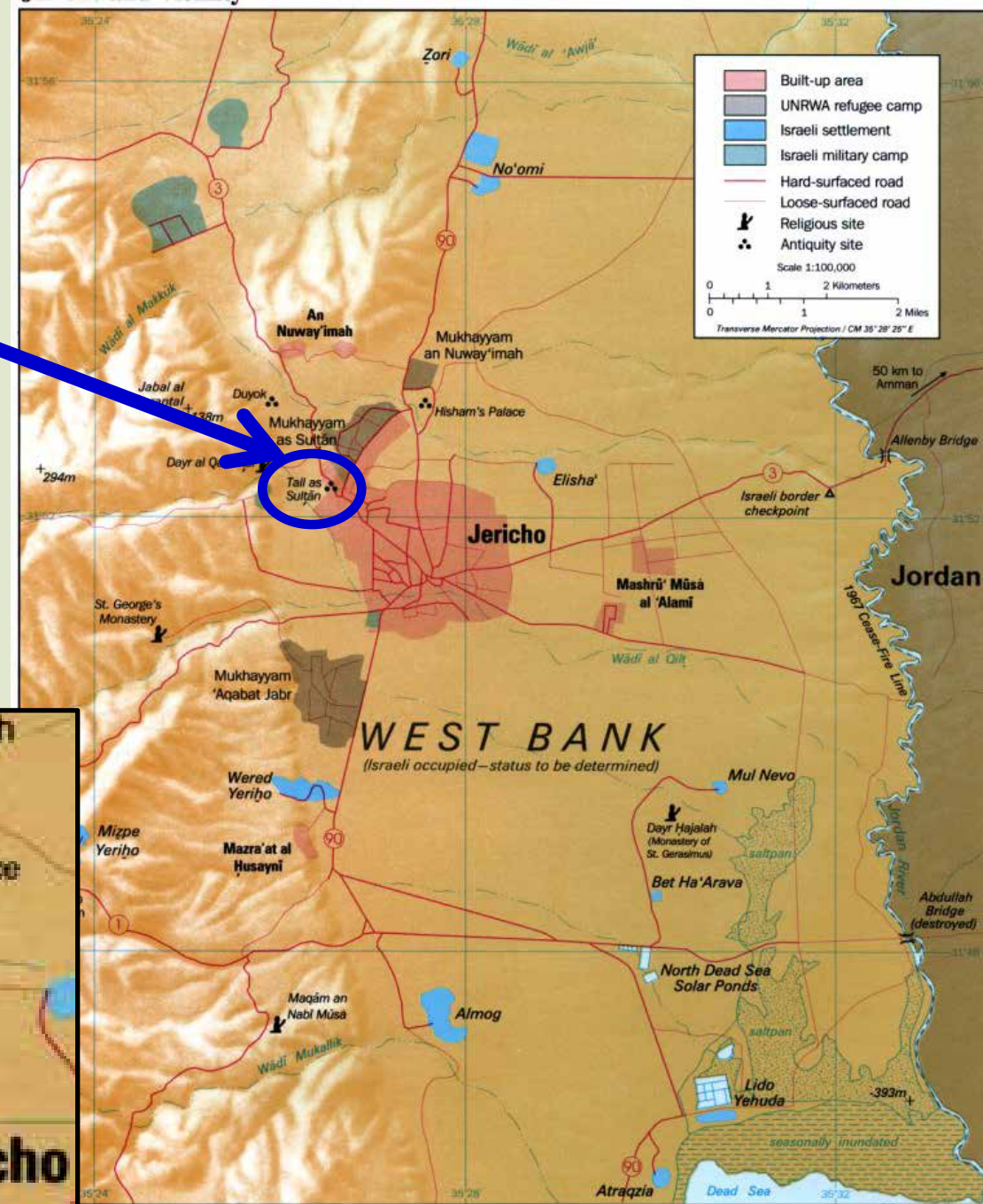
Old Jericho of Joshua

Strategically ... Jericho

important pathway to and
from Israel's heartland

North and South, East and West
through Central Hill Country

Road to Jerusalem UP valley



Ancient Jericho ... 9000 B.C. ?

Jericho is today Tell al-Sultan

- ✓ 8000 B.C. walled city
- ✓ 370,000 sq ft or 8.5 acres
- ✓ walls 12 ft tall
- ✓ Over 70 dwellings have been found
- ✓ Several have excavated from 1868 ...

Most famous was Kathleen M. Kenyon
who worked 1952-58 ...

did NOT yield 15th century wall

Kenyon & Thomas A. Holland's *Excavations at Jericho:
The Architecture and Stratigraphy of the Tell* (1981).

Might seem trite, but she found no wall **BECAUSE?**

It was destroyed by God at trumpets and shouts



8000 B.C. Dwelling

Ancient Jericho ... 9000 B.C. ?

Jericho – today Tel al-Sultan ...

Oldest city in Land of Israel according to the *Encyclopedia Judaica*

Considered THE oldest WALLED city found

Considered one of the OLDEST inhabited cities in the world, like Damascus

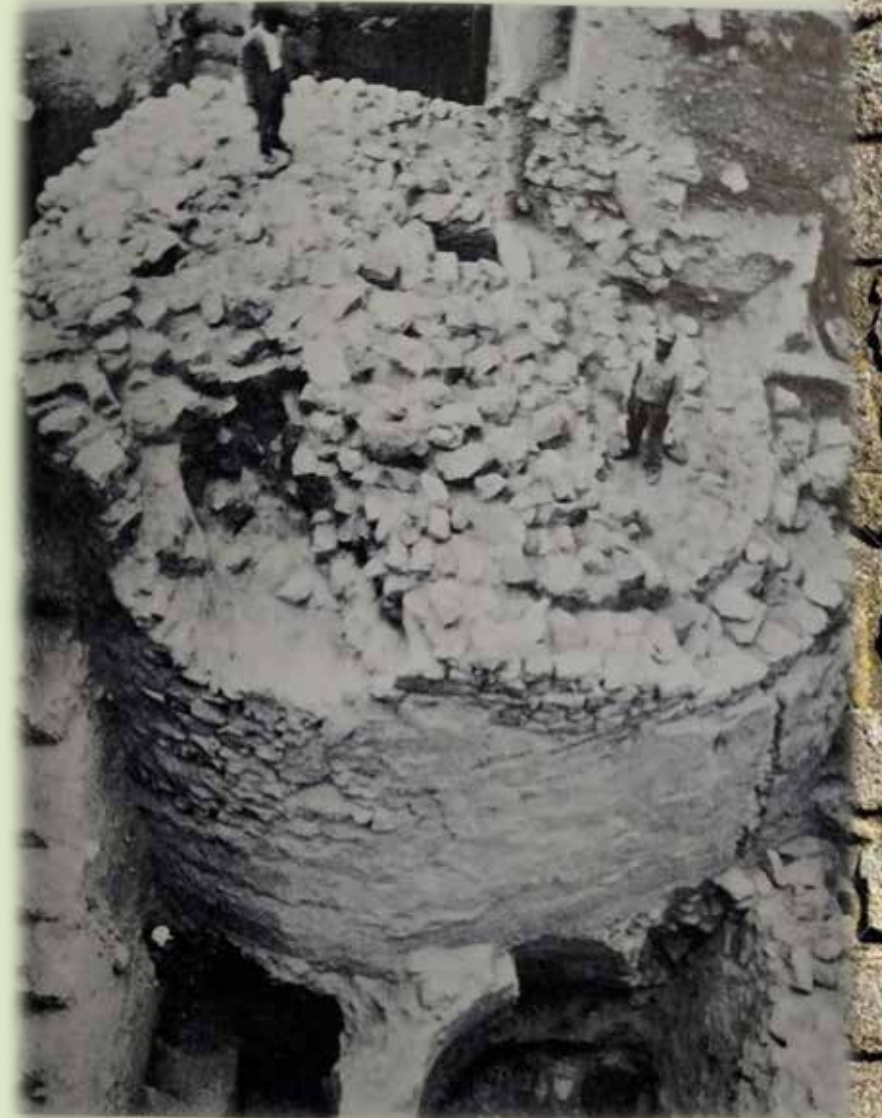
only a couple of breaks

According to archaeologists ... Jericho is
“Citadel of the Neolithic Age”

i.e., Citadel of the New Stone Age

One of the most advanced cities of 8000 B.C.

... if you do NOT believe in a young earth



8-7000 B.C. Tower

Ancient Jericho

Maness view on Young Earth

In 1980s, I was on an archaeological dig in Israel ...

Tel Yoqne'am ... just below Mt. Carmel

LOT OF WORK done in archaeology ...

Biblical chronology dates Creation circa 4100 B.C.

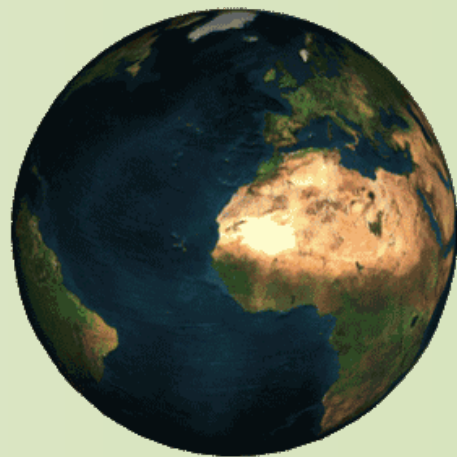
Aware of most of dating methods ... and gaps in record
and a few of arguments for 5 billion-year-old earth

During our study of 2 Peter, we saw Scientific Creationism

Don't really care to debate ... or deal with all the fluff ...

My view is that the earth was CREATED c. 4100 B.C.

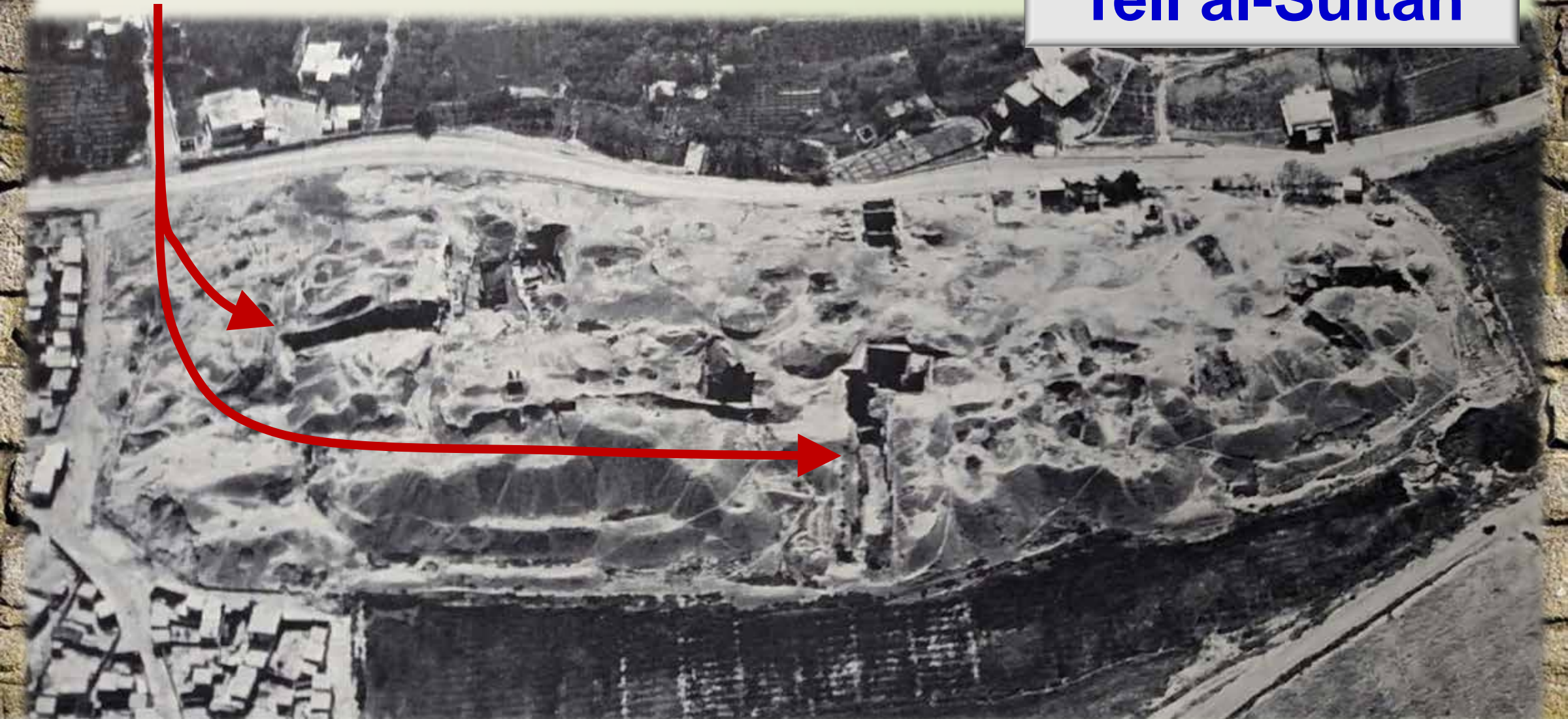
I'm gonna ride with the Bible



Ancient Jericho – 8000 B.C. walled city, 8.5 acres with 12 ft walls

Trenches to kick-start archaeological dig

Tell al-Sultan



Modern Jericho – about a mile from old city

In West Bank under
Palestinian Authority
since 1994

Considered THE
oldest WALLED city,
circa 8000 B.C.

one of the OLDEST
inhabited cities in the world,
like Damascus

20 settlements since 9000 B.C.

Hebrew Bible – “City of Palm Trees”

Natural springs yield 1,000 gals per hour!



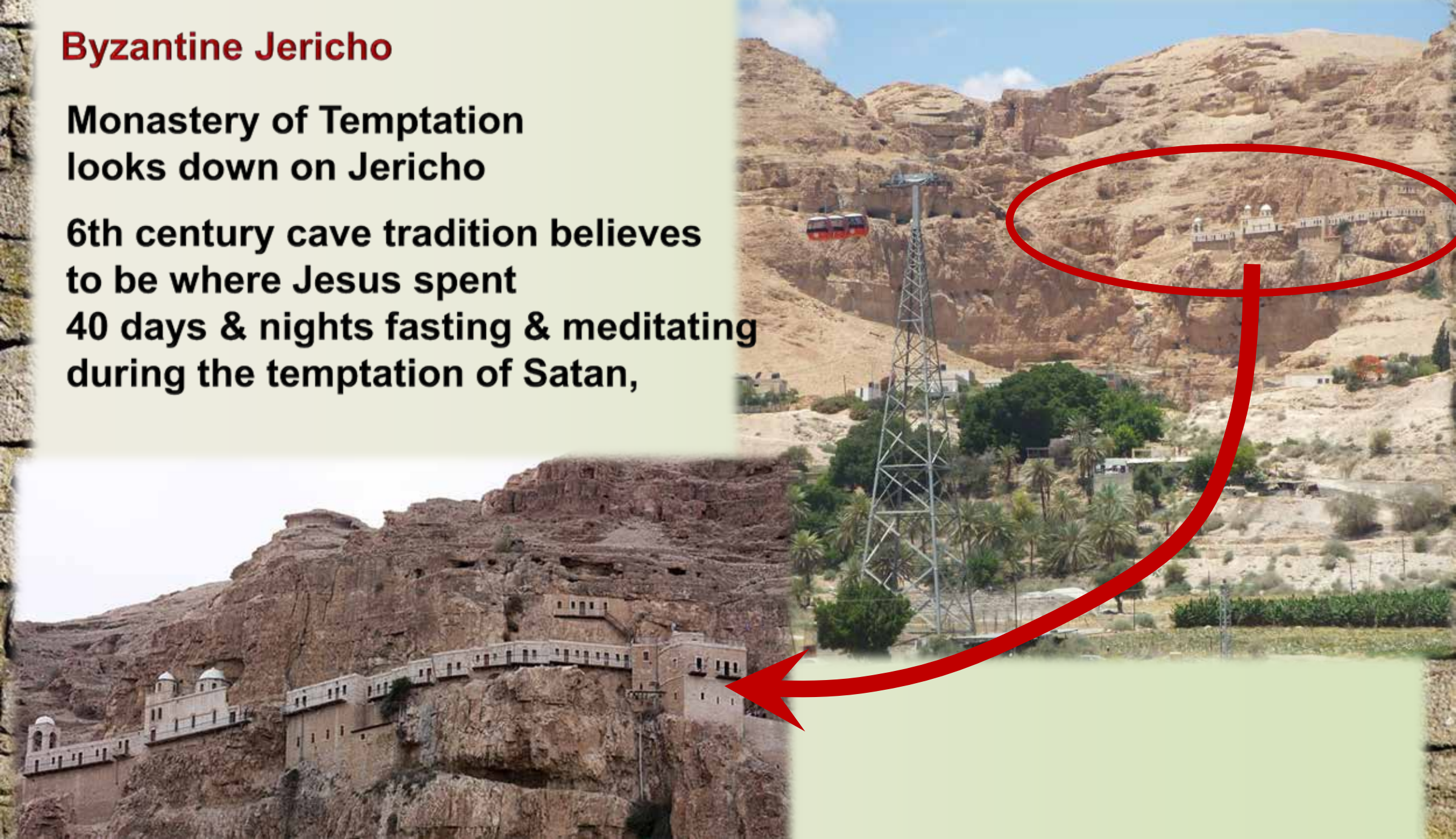
Municipal Seal of Jericho



Byzantine Jericho

Monastery of Temptation
looks down on Jericho

6th century cave tradition believes
to be where Jesus spent
40 days & nights fasting & meditating
during the temptation of Satan,



Jericho FROM Monastery of Temptation

Looking down ...

Old Jericho

Jordan River 4 miles East

New Jericho



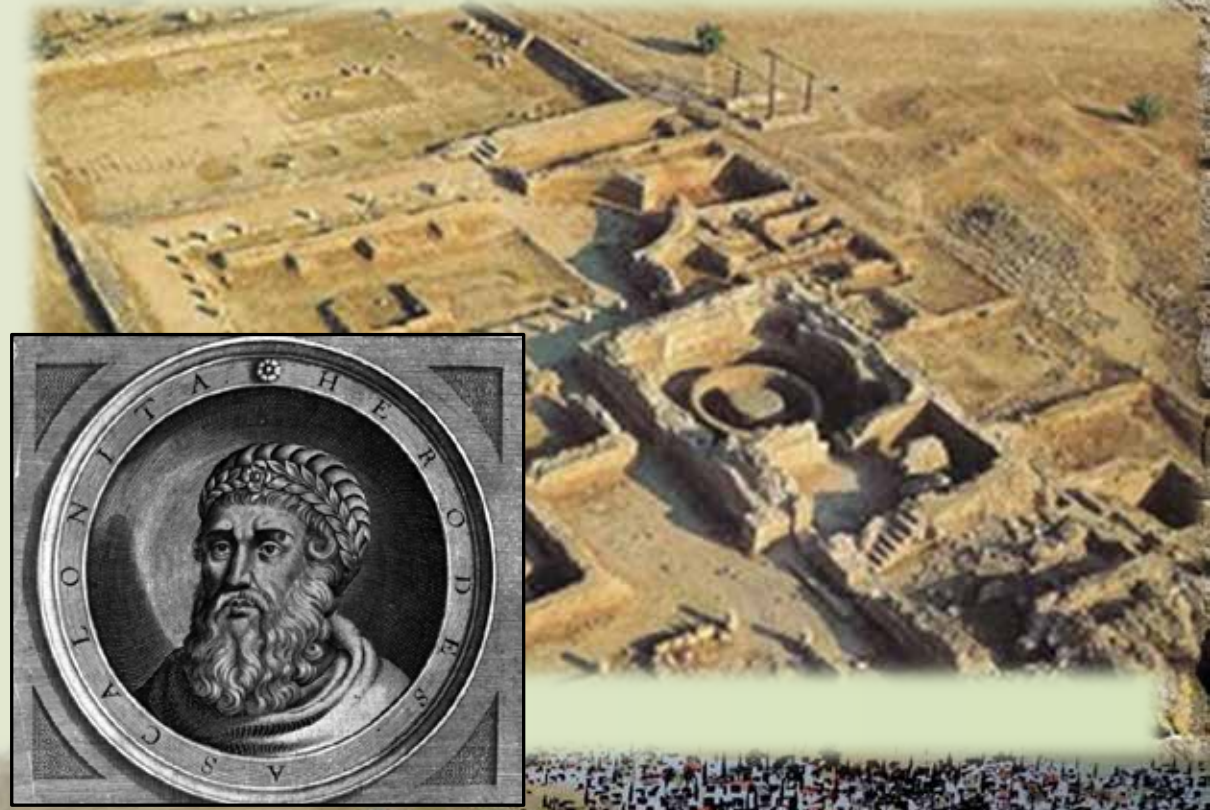
Dead Sea
5 miles SW

New Testament Jericho

Herod the Great (37-4 B.C.)
built huge palace @ Jericho

Herod retired and died in Jericho

- ✓ He built 2nd Jewish Temple called "Herod's Temple"
- ✓ He built Great Port of Caesarea
- ✓ He built fortress @ Megiddo
- ✓ He built palace on Masada
- ✓ He built the Herodium
- ✓ His building was legendary
- ✓ He was also insane paranoid



New Testament Jericho

Luke 10:25-37

Who is your neighbor?

Jesus replied: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho”

he was attacked by robbers ...

Samaritan came ... bandaged his wounds.... brought him to an inn

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”



Parable of the Good Samaritan, 1670
by Jan Wijnants

New Testament Jericho

Luke 18

**Near Jericho, Jesus
heals a Blind beggar**

By “El Greco”: the Greek

**Because his Greek
name is hard too
pronounce**



Christ Healing the Blind , by El Greco (1541-1614)

New Testament Jericho

Luke 19

**as Jesus passed through
Jericho on way to Jerusalem**

**Jesus meets Zacchaeus
and will be his guest**

**Jericho was a good place
to collect taxes**

**Then Jesus heads
UP to Jerusalem**



Zacchaeus in Sycamore Awaiting Passage of Jesus
by James Tissot (1836-1902)

Joshua 6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & Dah Plan

¹ Jericho was strongly fortified because of the Israelites
—no one leaving or entering.

Jericho Locked Down!

Today ... a Palestinian controlled tourist attraction

Then ... in 1400 B.C. a major walled city ...

Rahab reveals something to us when she lies to the king:

2:4-5 “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them.”

Apparently, EVERYONE knew the gate to Jericho closed at dusk.

She was very good at what she does ... they did believe her!

Joshua 6:1-11 Fortified Jericho & Dah Plan

Gate Locked at dusk ... this was a well-regulated city

In chapter 6:1, “Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.”

Jericho Locked Down!

Gate Locked at dusk ... this was a well-regulated city

A well-policed city in an rather remote hostile area ...

Apparently, EVERYONE knew the gate to Jericho closed at dusk.

**What does this mean as Joshua and
40,000 soldiers surround Jericho?**

Jericho Locked Down!

Gate Locked at dusk ... this was a well-regulated city

A **well-policed** city in an rather remote HOSTILE area ...

EVERYONE knew the gate to Jericho closed at dusk.

Jericho ... alive and kicking soon after Creation!

Jericho—walled city 1,500 years BEFORE Great Pyramid

Jericho was a WIDELY known city ... for **1,000 years!**

People vacationed to Jericho for **1,000 years!**

Jericho had a great bottled water industry for travelers

Jericho Fresh Spring Water ... for the thirsty traveler!

Get your Fresh Water at Jericho ... Spring Fed, Spring Brewed!



Let me toss a few far throws for force

Jericho Locked Down!

Jericho had its own cell tower ...

Jericho had TWO newspapers ...

- ✓ *Jericho Daily Tribune*
- ✓ *Jericho Weekly Booster*

Jericho Weekly Booster was loaded on a caravan & sent to west & north

Paper published Rates at the Jericho Hilton ...

Rent prices of Penthouses on City Wall ...

GREAT VIEWS

Jordan River Guided Fishing Tours ...

Great Quail Hunts in Mountains ...



a few far throws for force

Jericho Locked Down!

... Not all ...

Jericho had its own Great Auction Barn

Get yourself a new goat ...

Or a new spouse!

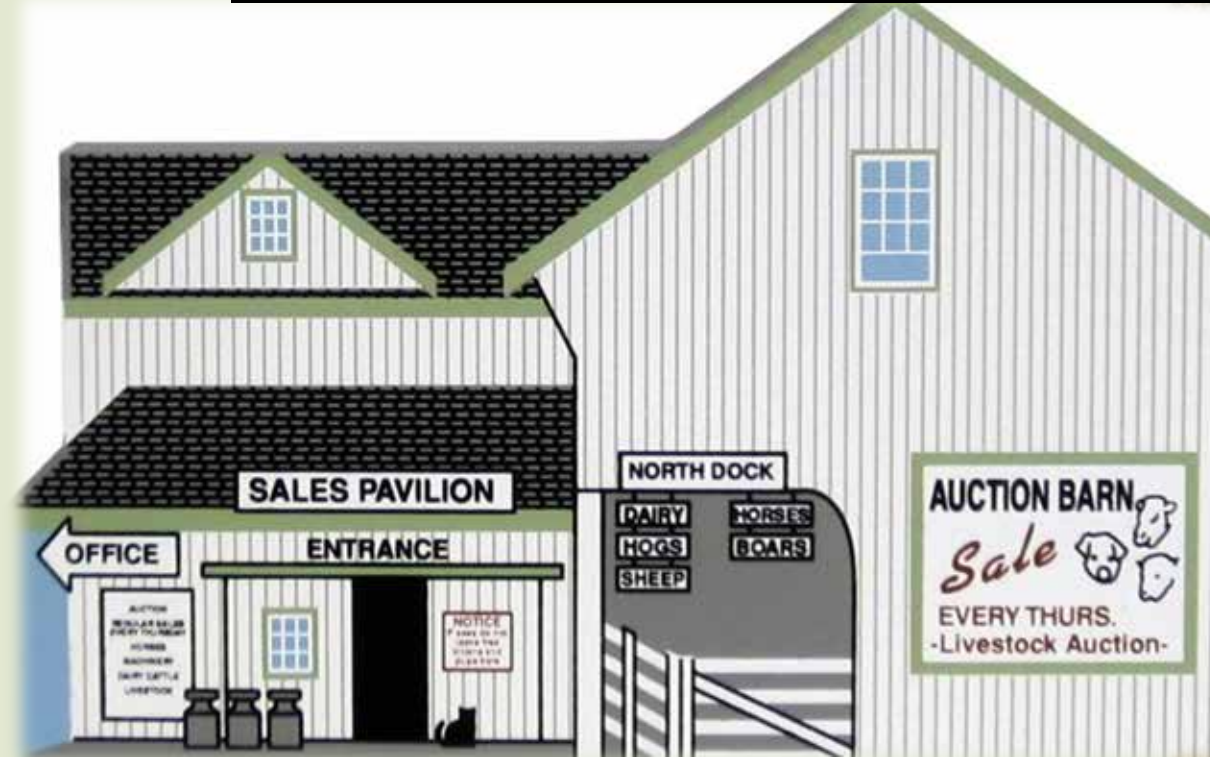
Produce Market—*fresh t'maters*

Bar & Honky Tonk

Lost and Found ...

Hair dressers too ...

New set of pottery or Goat Jerky



NOW a few REALITY throws for force

Jericho Locked Down!

Jericho was a flourishing town

Full of Milk and Honey

Much, much MORE than a village ...

Town with families ...

Schools and Pagan Temples

It was a commercial center with a KING

**Relatives and friends connected
throughout Canaan**

throughout Canaan's Happy, Happy Land ...



Jericho Locked Down!

... yet ... Jericho did NOT have

- ✓ a Salvation Army
- ✓ a Red Cross
- ✓ a Geneva Convention

ALL were doomed ... to be **KILLED**

No Ambassador was sent to Jericho

On the 7th day ... No Escape!



Jericho Locked Down!

On the 7th day ... no escape

All locked in their own

Death Chamber

I'm NOT certain I like what ...

I am told happens next ...

even women and children!?!?



Joshua 6:12-14 Patient Obedience – March around Jericho 6 Days

¹²⁻¹³ Joshua got up early the next morning. The priests took the ark of the Lord, and the seven priests carrying seven trumpets marched in front of the ark of the Lord. While the trumpets were blowing, the armed troops went in front of them, and the rear guard went behind the ark of the Lord.

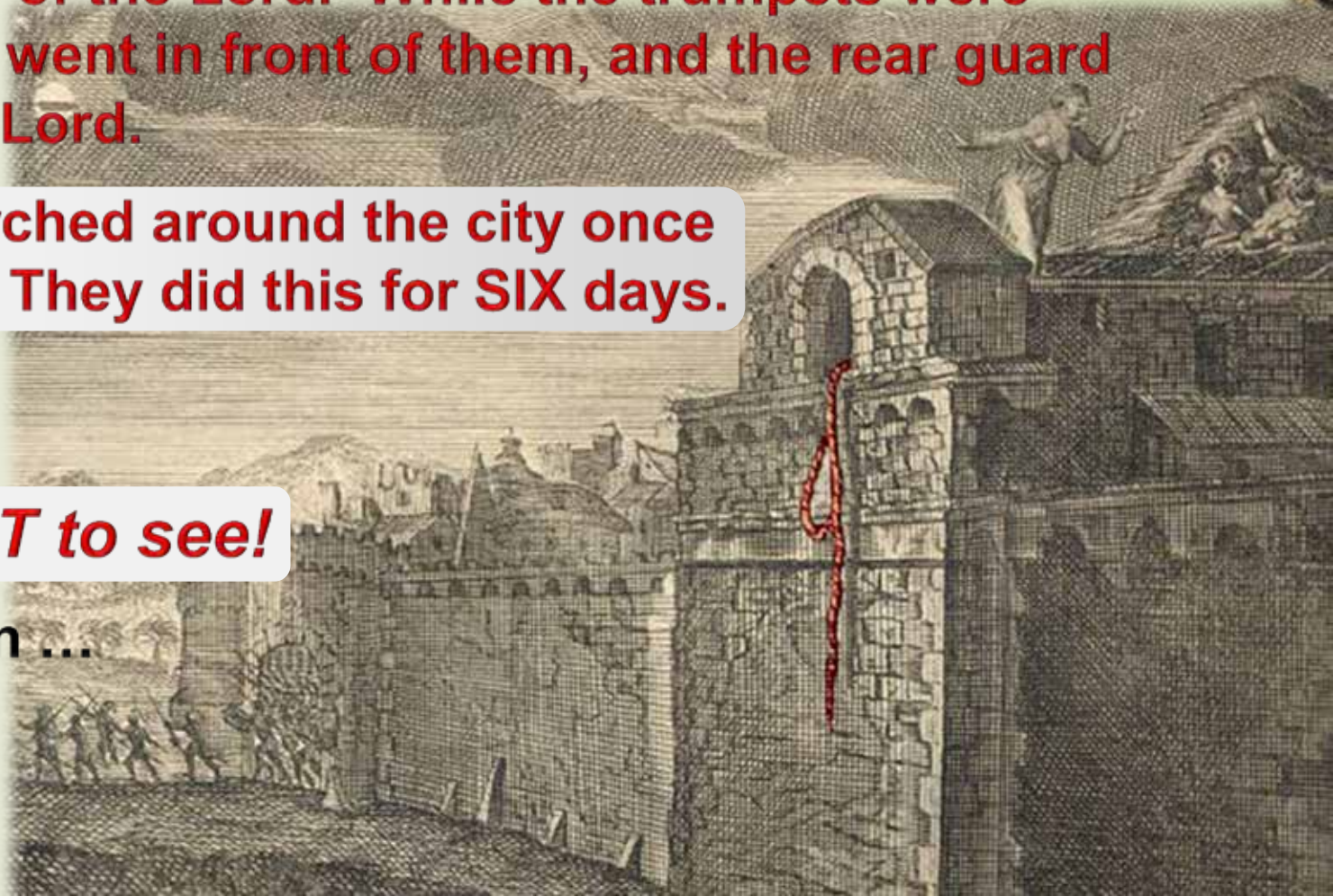
¹⁴ On the 2nd day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for SIX days.

From high on the city wall,
many looked in fear ...

what a FEARFUL SIGHT to see!

Rahab, harlot, looked down ...

Not long, she would be
free too



Joshua 6:15-19 Final Preparations – 7th Day, 7x, SHOUT

15 Early on the seventh day, they started at dawn and marched around the city seven times in the same way....

16-17 After the seventh time, the priests blew the trumpets, and Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city. But the city and everything in it are set apart to the Lord for destruction...."

18-19 But keep yourselves from the things set apart, or you will be set apart for destruction.... For all the silver and gold, and the articles of bronze and iron, are dedicated to the Lord and must go into the Lord's treasury."

Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

²⁰ ... When they heard the blast of the trumpet,
the people gave a great shout, and the wall collapsed.

The people advanced into the city,
each man straight ahead, and
they captured the city.

God brought a great victory ...
and Jericho fell ...



Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

Indeed, God brought a great victory ...

Jericho fell ...



²¹ They completely destroyed everything in the city with the SWORD—every man and woman, both young and old, and every ... ox, sheep, and donkey.



Yes ... even the little puppies too

They could not save a puppy ...

... or a little child ... *mercy prohibited!??*



Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

Hard to conceive ... dare we try to deal with this ...

Dare we try to **SINCERELY** deal with this ... ???

Remember Vietnam?

Our soldiers were accused of atrocities.

Israel did NO atrocity ... they obeyed GOD

Israel DID in fact KILL ALL in Jericho!

No Man of God can **STAB** a child & feel that a VICTORY

Perhaps God knew something about Jericho's progeny



Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

Obedience Rewarded – the lesson ... for Rahab anyway

²² Joshua said to the two men who had scouted the land, "Go to the prostitute's house and bring the woman out of there, and all who are with her, just as you promised her."

²³ So the young men who had scouted went in and brought out Rahab and her father, mother, brothers, and all who belonged to her. They brought out her whole family and settled them outside the camp of Israel.

Rahab and her household were saved and resettled ...

Escorted out of town to a Safe Zone ... ALL in her HOUSE

Who was with her?

her family AND

a few *TRUSTED* friends



Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

Obedience Rewarded – the lesson ... for Rahab anyway

The OTHER people who are OBEDIENT are?

Israelites—OBEDIENT when they KILL all in Jericho with **SWORD**

Now, looking at this a bit ... I noticed **NO OFFER** of mercy.

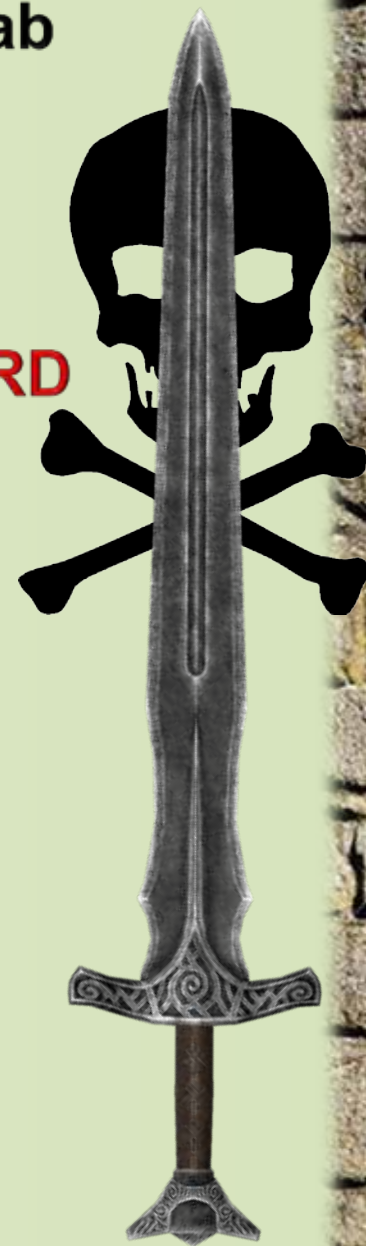
I see **NO truly fully absolutely satisfying REASON to**
KILL ALL ... including women and children ...

Especially WITHOUT an offer of mercy ...

As with 1 Samuel, yet here in an even GREATER sense ...

We have no reason OTHER than the promise to Abraham and that these people of Jericho were Pagans ...

How FAR and away is 1400 B.C. from us today in 2016?



Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

Obedience Rewarded – the lesson ... for Rahab anyway

How very far is 1400 B.C. from us today in 2016?

Here ... here is a sword ...

Shall I read YOU the orders of Joshua?

Will YOU ... enter Jericho and KILL ... all ... including kiddos?

Now, if you DO NOT ... and you SPARE any ... *even a puppy*

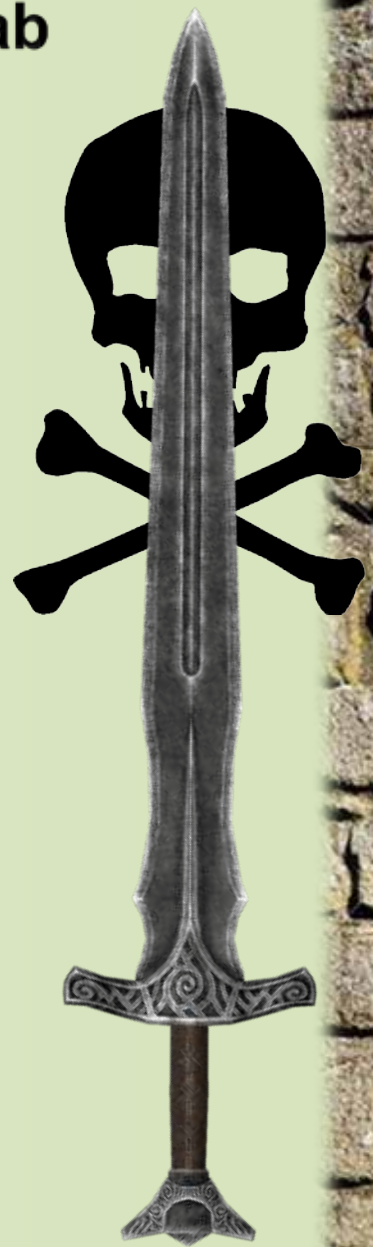
SPARE anyone or TAKE anything ... you cause

ALL of Israel to be threatened ... with destruction!

How VERY FAR are WE from 1400 B.C. ...

I tender ... we're TOO FAR away to FULLY grapple

Yet ... we do have SOME of the reason



Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

Here is a sword ... how hard is it for YOU?

To take the life of an enemy soldier is one thing.

What about the life of innocent women and children?

What about Joshua killing ALL in Jericho?

Our New Testament sensibilities ...

Our love for **LOVE itself** cry out from our souls ...

There is only ONE justification: that is, *TRUST God*.

In the N.T. ... we are MORE responsible for our actions

In the O.T., God does NOT give all the answers ...

Canaanites WERE Pagans ... and Israel was NOT to intermingle

Oh, God does value faithfulness MORE than life!



Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

God does NOT give all of His reasons ...

God does NOT tell us ALL of why the Land NEEDS cleansed

We are here today, in this church, BECAUSE of God's mercy

Our very sensibilities are BECAUSE He loved us FIRST, Saved US

The very sensibilities that REBEL against Joshua's slaughter,
are based upon God's LOVE and HIS LOVE in us ...

Same God that ordered Joshua to KILL ALL in Jericho and more

The New Testament Christianity that brought us Human Rights

The N.T. LOVE that showed us the LOVE of God ...

Remember 2 Peter ... there is a New World coming ...

The OLD WORLD will be destroyed with FIRE ...

Joshua 6:20-25 Obedience Rewarded – Walls Fall, Gold & Rahab

Just because we CANNOT conceive ...

We trust in God's judgment ... against Pagans in 1400 B.C.

Just as we will trust God's judgment when – in the future –

God burns the Old World and bring down the New World

So Joshua continues ...

²⁴ They burned up the city and everything in it, but they put the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron into the treasury of the Lord's house. ²⁵ But Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, her father's household, and all who belonged to her, because she hid the men Joshua had sent to spy on Jericho, and she lives in Israel to this day.

In saving Rahab ... we also see that God is no respecter of persons

Joshua 6:26-27 Joshua's Curse

When all is said and done ... Joshua curses Jericho:

²⁶ At that time Joshua imposed this curse: Cursed before the Lord is the man who undertakes the rebuilding of this city, Jericho. He will lay its foundation [at the cost of] his firstborn; He will set up its gates [at the cost of] his youngest.

²⁷ Lord was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout the land.

We do NOT know much about those who rebuilt around the old city

Or how Joshua's "curse" may have affected them ...

In the chapters that follow, we have the rest of the conquest

In 4 weeks, Sanctity of Life Sunday. Know this, Joshua informs!

Your LIFE is NOT worth more than FAITHFULNESS to God.

Joshua 6:26-27 Joshua's Curse

We are NOT really stranded here in 2016

Brutal parts of the Old Testament are HARD on
our N.T. HEARTS ...

Truly impossible to bear with good sense

Yet, the brutal parts of the O.T. are NOT that hard to understand **IF**
IF we lean NOT to OUR understanding ... and Trust GOD's judgment

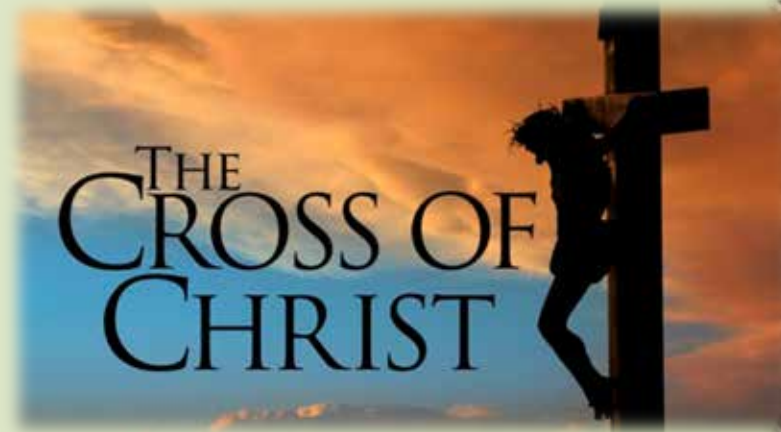
LIFE is God's Gift most of all ... God gives and takes ...

It is APPOINTED unto man ONCE to die ...

The old WILL be burned up ... and NEW HEAVENS and EARTH come

Remember the man in the flood on the roof top? ...

God sent two boats and helicopter – God's done MUCH MORE!



Joshua 6:26-27 Joshua's Curse

What's God supposed to do? He *is* jealous.

His value of FAITHFULNESS kicked Adam & Eve out of the **Garden of Eden**

Because of OUR rebellion, God decides to START over after a **Great Flood**

After screwy ideas & a **Tower to Heaven**, God divided the languages

Where did BELIEVERS go? – whew,
God has to CALL Abram from Ur

Then out of Egypt ...
and 40 more years of rebellion

We're LUCKY God did NOT end it all **LONG, LONG BEFORE Joshua**



Tower of Babel, 1653, by Pieter Bruegel

Joshua 6:26-27 Joshua's Curse

Talk about BRUTAL ...

Listen to Romans 8:32:

**“If God spared not His only son,
but gave Him up for us....”**

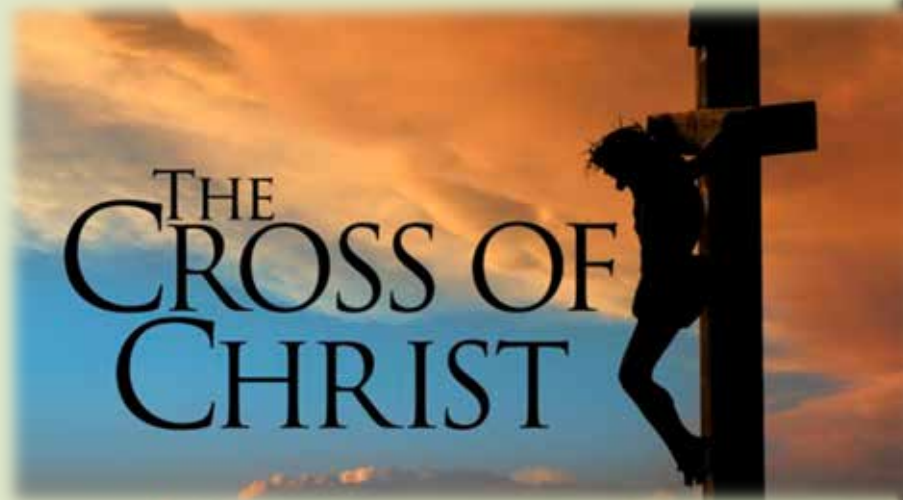
The BRUTALITY is in Hebrews 9:22,

“without the shedding of blood, there is no remission from sin.”

And the MOST brutal of ALL ... most brutal in ALL of TIME ...

The most UNJUST of ALL ... was that God so loved the world,
that he gave HIS ONLY SON ... that whosoever believeth in HIM

may have Eternal Life



Joshua 1:6 New Task – Be Strong, Lord to Distribute Land

We are VERY fortunate that ... with God, a 1,000 years is as 1 day.

We are VERY fortunate that God is NOT wanting any to perish

God has given us SO MANY chances ... **after so many failures**

I don't know WHY God did NOT give Jericho
a second a chance ... *I do not know*

I do KNOW that, because of the Cross,
the Old Testament *is OLD* ...

The O.T. *WILL* be fulfilled ...

Obedience is important, but can be faked ...

Not faithfulness ... NOT the heart ...

God sees the heart, the Precious Heart!



Joshua 1:6 New Task – Be Strong, Lord to Distribute Land

Christ fulfilled ALL the requirements of Law

Whatever ... WHATEVER God saw in Jericho ...

There will never, EVER be another Jericho ...

God will NEVER again ORDER killing like that ...

The END will come soon enough ...

The unfaithful and faithful separated forever ...

We, Christians, hope in a New Heaven!



**Though we will never understand all,
the mystery of iniquity in this
doomed world should help us
Trust God More**

View from Mt. Nebo

FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS

