Joshua - Commentaries by Paul J. Pascoe

CareLines: Volume 3, Speak Your Heart

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APRIL 3

Forty years old was I . . . and I brought [Moses] word again as it was in mine heart.

Joshua 14:7

Caleb was one of the 2 faithful spies who investigated their land when Moses first got to the border of Canaan. Now, 40 years later, Caleb is recalling that he had reported to Moses what had been in his heart. Ten of the spies gave a bad report. Two didn't, Caleb being one. He spoke what was in his heart. This is a real lesson to us. Speak what's in your heart - don't be swayed by the opinions of others.

CareLines: Volume 3, Diligence

MAY 7

Take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law.

Joshua 22:5

He goes on:

1. to love the Lord,

2. to keep His commandments,

3. to cleave to Him,

4. to serve Him

WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL.

This takes diligence and produces happiness and peace in a believer's heart.

CareLines: Volume 3, Faith

AUGUST 12

And [Rahab] bound the scarlet line in the window.

Joshua 2:21

Rahab was probably not a well-respected person in Jericho. But she had something that no one else in that city had: Faith. She believed the spies. She believed their word. And she demonstrated her faith by tying the scarlet line in her window. Her faith was put into action. Her faith was the means of her salvation. And by grace God chose Rahab to be in the lineage of the Lord. God rewards faith!

CareLines: Volume 2, Worship: JOS 5:14

JOS 5:14

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

Josh. 5:14

Joshua showed what he thought of himself when he came into the presence of a heavenly being. He humbled himself and was ready to listen. How much better for us to humble ourselves (that is to put aside everything that we think we are) when we come into the presence of the Son of God to worship Him. And we should be ready to listen, too. Listen for the leading of the Spirit, listen to what the hymns say, listen to what Scriptures are read. Our worship sometimes is so superficial. Let's be real.

CareLines: Volume 2, Worship: JOS 5:14

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Joshua 5:14

Here is an attitude that we can have while we worship: to listen to what the Lord is saying to us. We should hear a theme in the worship meeting that speaks of Christ. We should feel His presence and enjoy Him there. We need to practice making ourselves available for the Lord to use. While the sisters are not to speak in the meeting (except for singing and saying “Amen”), they too should listen for the Lord’s voice speaking through the brothers. Sisters too can say, “What says my Lord unto His servant.” Worship. Listen. And then respond in audible praise.

CareLines: Volume 7, Worship

Joshua fell on his face . . . and did worship.

Joshua 5:14

In the presence of the Lord, Joshua (even as powerful a leader as he was) fell on his face. There is an important lesson here for us. When we come into the Lord’s presence, we must show respect, reverence and humility. The Lord - He is God. We are His creatures. We must show reverence to Him. This is not fear as in “afraid”; it’s just that we recognize the Lord as our God and Creator. We must respect Him and take our proper place, the only place of blessing - at His feet.

CareLines: Volume 7, Worship

Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

Joshua 5:15

There is a lesson here for us. We cannot bring any of the world’s contamination into the Lord’s presence when we go to Him to worship. It must be left behind. That is pictured to us by Joshua having to remove his shoes. They were in constant contact with the ground and picked up contamination. We are in contact with the world and its ways. We have to put them off before we go to meet with the Lord.

CareLines: Volume 2, Covetousness

JOS 7:21

I saw . . . I coveted them, and took them.

Josh. 7:21

And what did Achan do with all the silver, the gold, and the coat that he coveted and took? He buried them in the ground in his tent! He didn’t even enjoy what he had taken. Why? Bad conscience, I’m sure. He knew he was wrong. And he knew that the punishment for taking those things would be his death. Is there anything wrong with wanting a new coat? No! - unless you covet to the point of taking that which is forbidden or does not belong to you. The Scripture is full of warnings of the dangers of covetousness. Don’t get caught in its trap.

CareLines: Volume 3, Confession

MAY 16

Give, I pray thee, glory to the Lord God of Israel, and make confession unto Him; and tell me now what thou hast done.

Joshua 7:19

Confession is extremely important. No, more than that - it is absolutely necessary. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” If we don’t confess, the Lord may have to pass us through trials until we acknowledge our wrongdoing. Keep short accounts with God. It’s the only way to happiness.

CareLines: Volume 3, Ask God

And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the Lord.

Joshua 9:14

Here we have a great lesson. Fellowship with the world will dull our communion with the Lord. What Joshua and his men saw convinced them that their visitors were telling the truth. So they accepted them without asking for the Lord’s thoughts on the matter. From that day on, the Jewish people formed an alliance with a tribe of the land. This alliance should never have been made. ALWAYS ASK THE LORD for guidance, young believer. The world can put on a pretty good act if they choose to and may trap you in a wrong relationship.

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