
Tear Down This Wall, Part III (The 7th Day)

Vision in The Land of Giants

Pastor Wil Nichols

August 8, 2021

Victorious Praise Fellowship Church of God in Christ

2116 Page Rd. Durham NC 27703

WEBSITE: www.VictoriousPraise.org

EMAIL: PastorWil@VictoriousPraise.org, Info@VictoriousPraise.org

PHONE: (919) 957-7500

Sermon: Vision in The Land of Giants: Tear Down This Wall, Part III (The 7th Day)

Lesson Text

Joshua 6:10 (AV)¹⁰ And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall *any* word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

Joshua 6:14–16 (AV)¹⁴ And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days. ¹⁵ And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times. ¹⁶ And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.

Joshua 6:20 (AV)²⁰ So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

Introduction

So far in dealing with our Walls in the Land of Giants, we've learned that

- There is a Plot, but we have a Plan and a Promise
- We must execute the Plan by Following The Ark (The Presence of God), The Priest (The Heart of God), and the Praise (The Spirit of God)

Let's now look at the Fulfillment of the God's Plan and Promise to Tear Down This Wall!

In God's Plan we have 7 priests with 7 trumpets, marching 7 Days, and on the 7th Day marching 7 times around the Walls. Why such an emphasis on 7?

The number 7 is the foundation of God's word. It derives much of its meaning from being tied directly to God's creation of all things. It's used 735 times (54 times in the book of Revelation alone)

According to some Jewish traditions, the creation of Adam occurred on September 26, 3760 B.C. (or the first day of Tishri, which is the seventh month on the Hebrew calendar).

The word "created" is used 7 times describing God's creative work in Genesis. There are 7 days in a week and God's Sabbath is on the 7th day.

The Bible, as a whole, was originally divided into 7 major divisions. 1) the Law; 2) the Prophets; 3) the Writings, or Psalms; 4) the Gospels and Acts; 5) the General Epistles; 6) the Epistles of Paul; and 7) the book of Revelation.

Seven is the number of completeness and perfection (both physical and spiritual).

A thing is not done until it is completed or perfected! Today we want to talk about completing, perfecting God's work to Tear Down This Wall!

Series and Sermon: Vision in The Land of Giants: Tear Down This Wall, Part III (The 7th Day)

“7 Days of Listening, 7 Days of Failure, 7 Days of Victory”

I. 7 Days of Listening (Getting the COMPLETE Message)

Joshua 6:10 (AV)¹⁰ And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall *any* word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

One of the first things we must do when it comes to fulfilling the Plan of God is we must complete our listening tour.

In order to fulfill the Promise, you must hear the complete message of the Plan.

Some people fail their calling because either they don't wait long enough to get the complete message, or there is too much noise around them and they miss the complete message.

- Have you ever had a child come to you to get an assignment, and take off to do it without getting the complete message?
- Have you ever been in a “discussion” with someone and you couldn't get a word in edgewise? You may have the answer, but they never hear it.

Someone once said that God gave us two ears and one mouth so that we could listen twice as much as we talk.

James 1: ¹⁹ Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

People in a heated discussion will get upset about what they think you said, but they have not listened to hear what you actually said! And now they are angry!

Psalms 1: ¹ Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

There are those who can't hear God because they have other people in their ears.

- The Ungodly who gives advice that is not biblical or godly
- The Sinner who gives advice that is against the ways of God
- The Scornful (Atheist or Agnostic) who gives advice and they don't even believe in God.

Imagine as the Children of Israel were marching around the wall, and complainers are saying day after day, “I don't know why we are walking around this wall?” “We out here looking fooling and stupid walking around!” “This doesn't make any sense.”

And so, God gives them instructions to “Shut up and Listen!”

1 Kings 19:11–12 (AV)¹¹ And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; *but* the LORD *was* not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; *but* the LORD *was* not in the earthquake: ¹² And after the earthquake a fire; *but* the LORD *was* not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

It's during the 7 Days that you hear the still small voice of God's Message, the still small voice of God's instructions, the still small voice of God's blessings, healing, deliverance, and miracle.

II. 7 Days of Failure (PERFECTING Your Failure)

Joshua 6:14–16 (AV)¹⁴ And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days. ¹⁵ And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times. ¹⁶ And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.

Imagine day after day marching around the walls, nothing happening. Not only must we COMPLETE our listening, but we must become PERFECTED through our failure.

According to John Maxwell's 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader, failure is a necessary component of a leader's growth as he or she learns from it.

1. "I have not failed. I have found 10,000 ways that don't work." — *Thomas Edison*
2. "Giving up is the only sure way to fail." — *Gena Showalter*
3. "You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, and how you can still come out of it." — *Maya Angelou*
4. "The difference between average people and achieving people is their perception of and response to failure." — *John C. Maxwell*
5. "Success is most often achieved by those who don't know that failure is inevitable." — *Coco Chanel*
6. "Failure happens all the time. It happens every day in practice. What makes you better is how you react to it." — *Mia Hamm*
7. "Most of us are here today not because of our successes, but because of our failures." — *Pastor Wil Nichols*

2 Corinthians 12:¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Proverbs 24:¹⁶ For a just *man* falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

It's the 7th time that he reaches perfection from his failures!

God doesn't even begin to work until we get to the point of human failure!

Mark 10: ²⁷ And Jesus looking upon them saith, **With men *it is impossible*, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.**

James 1: ² My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ³ Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. ⁴ But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Psalms 138: ⁸ The LORD will perfect *that which* concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, *endureth* for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

Milton Brunson: 'In God there is no failure. He will do whatever you ask Him to. Just have faith, and believe, many blessings you will receive. For there is no failure in God.'

III. 7 Days of Victory (The Victory Shout, The Victory Lap, The Victory Dance)

Joshua 6: ²⁰ So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

- After you have had 7 Days of Listening, and received your COMPLETE Message
- After you have had 7 Days of Failure, and PERFECTED your calling
- Then you will have 7 Days of VICTORY!

1 Peter 5: ¹⁰ But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

2 Corinthians 2: ¹⁴ Now thanks *be* unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

1 Corinthians 15: ⁵⁷ But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the 7th Day we have a VICTORY SHOUT: Joshua 6: ²⁰ So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat...

On the 7th Day we get a VICTORY LAP: 2 Timothy 4: ⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith: ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, ...

On the 7th Day we get a VICTORY DANCE: 2 Samuel 6: ¹⁴ And David danced before the LORD with all *his* might; and David *was* girded with a linen ephod.

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Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: Tear Down This Wall, Part III (The 7th Day))

Lesson Text

- Joshua 6:10, Joshua 6:14-16, Joshua 6:20

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. 7 Days of Listening (*Getting the COMPLETE Message*)

II. 7 Days of Failure (*PERFECTING Your Failure*)

III. 7 Days of Victory (*The Victory Shout, The Victory Lap, The Victory Dance*)

Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)

I. Getting to Know "Me"

1. Have you ever binge-watched an entire season of a show over a course of a few days? a) Yes, several times; b) Yes, once or twice; c) No, I'd consider it if the show is good enough; d) No, I prefer to take my time watching shows.
2. *Brain teasing riddle:* What is the most self-centered letter of the alphabet?

II. Into the Bible

1. Read Joshua 6:17-26.
 - i. Why do you think that the Israelites were told to destroy everything in the city of Jericho, except for items sacred to the LORD?
 - ii. Why would silver, gold, bronze, and iron be sacred to the LORD? What is the significance of those items/materials?
 - iii. What family was allowed to be spared from the city of Jericho? Why?
 - iv. Joshua invoked a curse in v. 26 of the same chapter that involved the firstborn son. Does this remind you of a previous curse? (Hint: Egypt). Why would a curse need to be invoked after the fall of Jericho?

III. Life Application

1. What are the steps you take in your daily life to ensure that you get the complete instruction from the Lord?
2. In the past, what has been your response to failure? What change do you need to make in how you respond to failure based on this week's sermon?