

“Not By Chariots and Not By Horses”

Joshua 11:1-15

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I: Joshua 11:1-5 (Kings Gather Against Israel)

When Jabin, king of Hazor, heard of this, he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph, and to the kings who were in the northern hill country, and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, and in the lowland, and in Naphtodor on the west, to the Canaanites in the east and the west, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, and the Jebusites in the hill country, and the Hivites under Hermon in the land of Mizpah. And they came out with all their troops, a great horde, in number like the sand that is on the seashore, with very many horses and chariots. And all these kings joined their forces and came and encamped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel. (Joshua 11:1-5, English Standard Version)

Take Home Truth #1: God’s people are insufficient to **fight** their battles without God.

Application #1: **Remind** yourself, and celebrate, all life’s battles that God got you through.

II: Joshua 11:6-7 (God’s Promise & Joshua’s Action)

And the Lord said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid of them, for tomorrow at this time I will give over all of them, slain, to Israel. You shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire.” So Joshua and all his warriors came suddenly against them by the waters of Merom and fell upon them. (Joshua 11:6-7 ESV)

Take Home Truth #2: Seek God ... Hear God ... Take **Action**.

Application #2: Assume that all spiritual growth requires **action**.

III: Joshua 11:6, 9 (Hamstringing the Horses & Burn the Chariots)

. . . You shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire . . . And Joshua did to them just as the Lord said to him: he hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire. (Joshua 11:6, 9 ESV)

Take Home Truth #3: Sometimes, God asks us to put aside conventional wisdom to grow in our dependence of Him.

Application #3: Ask God regularly to help you grow in **dependence** of Him and Him alone.

IV: Joshua 11:10-15 (Joshua Does All that the Lord Asked)

Just as the Lord had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the Lord had commanded Moses. (Joshua 11:15 ESV)

BIG TAKE HOME TRUTH: Growing in faith is growing in dependence of God.