



Sunday, November 3, 2019

Pastor Don Denyes

## **Intro to Joshua 6**

Pastor Don quoted from this hymn on Sunday and it seems worth re-printing the entire hymn:

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest your tents will be our home. Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong; and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet 'amen' of peace. For not with swords' loud clashing or roll of stirring drums, but with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal, we follow not with fears, for gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears. Your cross is lifted o'er us, we journey in its light; the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

“Lead On, O King Eternal” by Ernest Shurtleff

## **Context**

This story marks the completion of the first conquest in the land of Canaan. The overarching context is the promise God made to Abraham and his descendants to possess the land (Gen. 12:7, 15:18-21, etc.). The more immediate context is the work of the spies (Josh. 2). The first group of spies went in and came back fearful and led the people astray by convincing them not to enter the land (Num. 13). Now, the second group of spies has led them to enter the land and begin its conquest. The LORD proves once again that His ways are not our ways (Is. 55:8-9) by thwarting all human reason in His methodology, which is demonstrated repeatedly, climaxing in the ultimate unorthodox defeat of the powers and authorities in the broken body and blood of His Son, Jesus on the cross (Col. 2:13-15).

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Joshua 6:1-27

“The LORD Has Given You the City”

Outcome: God has given us the victory!

Process: God’s ways are not our ways.

Secret: God gives us the victory by faith.

## Discuss

- 1) Do you tend to think of the Christian life as a battle? Why or why not?
- 2) Read Ephesians 6:10-18. What are the “weapons of our warfare”? And how proficient are you in deploying them?
- 3) How does knowing that God has secured our ultimate victory over Satan, sin, and death in Christ impact the way you view the spiritual battle day-to-day?
- 4) Read John 16:33 and 1 John 5:4-5. What do these verses teach us about the spiritual battle?
- 5) What does it say about the character of God that Rahab was spared when the Israelites destroyed Jericho?