

/I will now begin the fifth lecture on the book of Joshua. / I will lecture on Joshua 5:1-15 this time. /In chapters 3 and 4, the people of Israel miraculously crossed the Jordan River.

/Now in chapter 5, the people of Israel are being ordered to have a proper relationship with God to destroy the seven Canaanite tribes. / They have to follow the law and get circumcised after crossing the Jordan. / In verse 1, it is written that the hearts of the enemies have melted away and lost courage.

/Read verse 1. / Now when all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the coast heard how the LORD had dried up the Jordan before the Israelites until we had crossed over, their hearts melted and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites.

/God has dried up the Jordan River when the Israelites crossed it. / Because of that, the enemies in Canaan feared God and Israel. /Because Israelites have obeyed the words of God, He caused fear in the hearts of the Canaanites.

/It is written that their hearts melted away and they no longer had the courage. /All the Amorite kings' and all the Canaanite kings' heart melted away and lost courage to fight. /God has put fear in the hearts of the enemies.

/No matter how strong our enemies are, God will strike fear in their hearts if we advance by faith. / The enemies were trembling before the people of Israel. / So, regardless of the number of our enemies, /if we simply obey the word of God, we would experience such miracles

/The people of Israel have come to experience the work of God. / And the Canaanites were trembling in fear because of God. / Now, Joshua ordered to circumcise the people of Israel.

/in verses 2-9, a record of carrying out circumcision is written. / In verse 2, God ordered Joshua to make a flint knife and circumcise the Israelites. /You must remember that medical technologies were not advanced at that time.

/But God ordered Joshua to use flint knives to carry out circumcision. / He cannot disobey this command. / Israelites can conquer the land of Canaan only if they obey the commands of God.

/In verse 3, it is written that Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites. /Children who were born in the desert were not circumcised. / The "circumcision" in the Old Testament is the same as the "Baptism" in the New Testament.

/The people of Israel were to be circumcised at the eighth day from birth. / And circumcision refers to cutting out a skin of male reproductive organ. / What is the purpose of God ordering circumcision? / It is a sign of the people of God.

/It is practiced to signify that the circumcised people do not belong to the world but to God. / Today, truly saved people are considered as the children of God.

/Baptism is practiced to signify that one has become the child of God in front of the people and God. / Also, circumcision is a sign that one is included in the covenant of God. / It is to live by the Word, /pursue it, / and to make a promise to believe as well as obey the Word of God.

/It also symbolizes the removal of fleshly desires; / the nailing of one's old self on the cross. / So the baptized person lives a new life. / Hence, we must repent of our sins, /remove our fleshly desires, / and advance by believing in the covenant of God.

/God would not take hold of us if we try to accomplish by our strengths. / His works will begin only if we nail our fleshly thoughts and desires on the cross.

/But the people born in the desert were not circumcised. / Though the people who came out of Egypt were circumcised, / people who were born during the forty years of wilderness wandering were not circumcised.

/Verses 4-5. / Now this is why he did so: All those who came out of Egypt--all the men of military age--died in the desert on the way after leaving Egypt. All the people that came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the desert during the journey from Egypt had not.

/In verse 4, it says that all those who came out of Egypt – all the men of military age – died in the desert. /But in verse 5, / it states that all the people born in the desert were not circumcised. / So God ordered Joshua to circumcise the people as a sign that they are the people of God.

/Why did the Israelites wander in the desert? / And why were the Israelites who came out of Egypt not allowed to enter the land of Canaan?

/In verse 6, it is written that they were destroyed because they did not obey God. / By the miraculous act of God, the people of Israel were freed from Egypt. / But they wandered around the wilderness.

/Why? Because they have disobeyed the Word of God. / The same reason goes for the people who wander today; they left God and disobeyed Him. / The wandering in life would end when we meet God.

/Why do so many people wander today? / That is because they have left God / and disobeyed the Word of God. / Thus, we must personally experience God who is the creator and absolutely sovereign.

/And God leads the saints to a path of righteousness when they obey the Word of God. / Some people of Israel were not able to enter the promised land. / They all fell in the desert. / Why was this the case?

/Because they have made idols, / tested God, / committed adultery, / and blamed God. / Even today, if the redeemed saints disobey God, /although their souls can be saved, their life on earth becomes miserable.

/That is why Joshua carried out circumcision to the people. / He had to do it because the Israelites who were born in the desert were not circumcised.

/Verse 7. / So he raised up their sons in their place, and these were the ones Joshua circumcised. They were still uncircumcised because they had not been circumcised on the way.

/Those who were born in the desert have become the holy people and children of God through circumcision. / They had to be circumcised before the war with the Canaanites /because of God's covenant.

/The land of Canaan cannot be conquered by human strength. / The Israelites must set a proper relationship with God / and live a holy life, in order to conquer the land of Canaan. / Also, they had to be circumcised before the war / because the conquest of Canaan depends on the power of God.

/There are limitations in the strength and wisdom of people. / That is why they need the power of God to conquer the land of Canaan. / But these kinds of aids come when we have a good relationship with God.

/Thus, the Israelites were circumcised according to the command of God. / Likewise, we must walk the path of God while we live in this world. / Our relationship with God must be restored whatever we do.

/God helps students, / businessmen, / and pastors / if they restore their relationship with God. /No matter how hard we try, we are doomed to fail if God does not help us.

/The key to a successful life is in the hand of God. / Whether we succeed or fail, / and whether the promise of God is fulfilled or not, / they are all in the hands of God. /Therefore, God commanded them to be circumcised to restore their relationship with Him. / Through circumcision, God rolled away the reproach of Egypt from them.

/Verses 8-9./ And after the whole nation had been circumcised, they remained where they were in camp until they were healed. Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." So the place has been called Gilgal to this day.

/In verse 8, it is written that after the whole nation had been circumcised, they remained where they were in camp until they were healed. / And in verse 9, it is written, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you."

/So the word "Gilgal" refers to being rolled away. / This indicates that the Israelites have gotten rid of all the Egyptian traditions. / It also refers to clearing away the past life and beginning a new life as believers.

/Israelites begun a new life in Gilgal. / Egyptian customs, / traditions, / and idolatry have been rolled away. / Christians today must roll away their past customs to have a proper relationship with God.

/Hence, baptism signifies the nailing of our desires and greed on the cross. / Through the death and resurrection, we are already dead to ourselves / and we now possess a new life. / We know that in our heart the new self struggles with the old self.

/But we must daily nail our old self on the cross. / And by acknowledging that the reproach of Egypt has been rolled away, we must not live according to the old person. / If we live by the old person in our heart, / we would be inclined to the greed of this world, / and put our hope on this earth / and pursue worldly traditions even though we are Christians.

/Therefore, we must live according to the new self in our heart. / Since we have been baptized through faith in Christ, / we must not return to our past lifestyle. / We also should not draw ourselves to the world. / We can please God if we daily live through the new life we received.

/Even though we are Christians, we would commit sin if we live by our old self. / Also, we would rebel against God / and put our hopes in this world. / We would then live by the greed of the flesh. / Thus, we must roll away the reproach of Egypt.

/We must pursue Jesus, not this world. / We must settle our past lifestyle and live by the new person in us. / Only those who do so can please God and obey His words.

/We must put off the old person and live by the new person. / In verses 10-12, it is written that they observed the Passover.

/Verse 10. / On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover.

/Israelites were enslaved by Egyptians for 400 years. / So through Moses God spoke to Pharaoh / to "release the people of Israel." / "We would go worship and serve our God." / But because Pharaoh had a hardened heart, he did not free the people.

/Thus, God sent plagues on the land of Egypt through Moses. / The last plague was the death of the firstborn. / The firstborns of all humans and animals were killed. / However, God protected the people of Israel.

/Who were protected by God? / Those who slain the lamb / to paint blood on the doorframes of the house were protected by God. / So the Israelites began to observe the Passover since then. / The Passover is the day of celebrating freedom from Egypt.

/That day was to be commemorated by the Israelites to remember the grace of God. /How should we interpret the Passover in today's context? / Jesus came as the lamb of the Passover. / He was killed on the cross and resurrected in three days.

/Just like God has promised to send the Savior after the fall of Adam, / Jesus came to this earth and redeemed us through His death on the cross. / What can wash away our sin? / Money cannot do it. / Power and authorities are not enough.

/It cannot be done even if we offer this world. / Only the blood of Jesus Christ is sufficient to wash away our sins from the past, present, and future. / Our sins were completely washed away through the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

/Therefore, there are two most important pillars in Christianity. / One is the cross of Jesus and the other is resurrection. / Jesus redeemed us through His blood / and forgave all our sins from the past, present, and future.

/In addition, we have been called righteous through faith in Him. / This applies the same for the commandment to observe the Passover. / They are to conquer the land of Canaan through repenting their sins and advancing by faith. / Only faith can bring them to the land of Canaan.

/Likewise, we are not saved by / our good deeds / or accomplishments; / no human actions can save us. / We are saved through faith in Jesus Christ.

/There is no salvation except in Jesus Christ. / Only He is our Savior, / the son of God, / and only He can mediate between humans and God. / Therefore, we can only be saved through faith in Jesus.

/When we pray, God answers our prayers only if we pray in the name of Jesus. / Because God saved us, we must serve the church, / worship God, / and observe the day of the Lord.

/There is no salvation aside from Jesus. / All religions in this world are formed by man / but Christianity is the way to salvation established by God. /Many people nowadays think that they have to perform good actions to enter heaven.

/But we must remember that / only faith in Jesus can save us. /Jesus is the only way to salvation.

/Through Him, our sins are forgiven, / called righteous, / become the children of God, / and enter heaven, / and our prayers are conveyed to God if we pray in the name of Jesus.

/Then what does it mean to believe in Jesus? / There are five important doctrines regarding Jesus Christ. / First, he was born through the virgin. / It is biologically impossible. / How can a virgin bear a child?

/He was conceived by the Holy Spirit to be born sinless. / Also, believing in Jesus means believing in His cross. / We must believe that He died for our sins on the cross.

/He paid all our debts of sin on the cross. / That is why we are now free from sin. / Also, to believe in Jesus is to believe in His resurrection. / The resurrection tells us one important thing.

/If there is no resurrection, / our faith is meaningless / and we would be still in sin, / which automatically means that we cannot enter heaven. / Even though there are various religions today on this earth, / all religions have died when the founder died. / But only Jesus was resurrected.

/We ought to praise the resurrected Jesus and glorify Him. / Believers! Do you believe in the cross and the resurrection of Jesus Christ? / We cannot be saved / or become the children of God / even though we diligently attend church services / unless we believe in the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

/Also, our Jesus ascended to heaven. / After He was resurrected, He shared the Gospel for forty days and ascended to heaven. / And He will surely return. / We must always prepare for His second coming.

/No one knows when He would return. / Those who say that Jesus would return on a certain day of the month are all wrong. / The Bible simply asserts that Jesus will return, / but the time is not recorded.

/Nobody can foretell / if He will come today/ or tomorrow. / But He will surely come. / Only those who believe in these five doctrines about Jesus can be saved and enter into the kingdom of God.

/Once again, what are they? / They are, the virginal birth, / the cross, / the resurrection, / the ascension, / and the second return. /These five doctrines are significant. / Just like how the people of Israel observed the Passover, / we must observe the day of the Lord out of gratitude for saving us / and live a life that is pleasing to God.

/In verses 10-11, it is written that manna was no longer given to the Israelites. / When they passed through the wilderness for forty years, / God provided manna as daily food to eat.

/He daily provided manna in the wilderness. / But after they have entered the land of Canaan, /the day after the Passover, / they ate unleavened bread / and roasted grains. / After they have eaten from the harvest of that land, manna was no longer given to them.

/God provided them daily with manna in the wilderness, / but why did God stop raining manna in the land of Canaan? / There is a wonderful lesson to learn from this account. / God helps us to accomplish impossible task.

/But He intentionally allows us to solve the things we are capable of doing so. / In other words, the Israelites can harvest fruits and vegetables in the land of Canaan. / Can they do it in the desert? / Of course not. / They had to simply walk toward the land of Canaan.

/Thus, because they cannot harvest any food, God carried out miracles for them to survive in the desert. / But when they can harvest their food in the land of Canaan, God intentionally allowed them to live by their harvests. / Now, they must solve their own problems / without external help.

/In such way, God rained manna in appropriate times. / Likewise, today, there are things / that God freely gives to us. / But there are times when He commands us to work to eat. / We have to work to gain daily meals.

/That is why manna was no longer given in the land of Canaan. / God has made Christians / to live diligently to provide meals for their family. / After the fall of Adam, / what did God say?

/He stated that Adam has to labor to survive in the land. / That goes the same for Christians today. / But there are people who do not labor but depend on other people for food.

/There are people who are lazy and do not work. / But according to the nature of God's creation, we must labor to survive on this land. / That's the reason why God stopped providing manna in the land of Canaan, / unlike in the wilderness.

/We have been saved by the grace of God. /But we can mature in faith if we labor to grow / and be blessed if we strive to obey the Word of God. / We must diligently work to make a living.

/In verses 13-14, the commander of the LORD's army appeared in front of Joshua.

/Verse 13. / Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"

/God sometimes protects His children by sending angels. / They are the servants of God. / God personally come to His people and guides them. / He sent angels to solve the problem.

/He did it for the Israelites to destroy the seven Canaanite tribes / and take the land of promise. / To those who trust and obey God's Word, / He sends angels to guide them. / In the text today, the army of God / is on God's side.

/God personally fights His enemies. / If we live by faith and trust God, / His armies will stand on our side. /if we pray and believe in God, / we will be protected by His angels

/It is written in verse 15 to take off the sandals. / The commander of the LORD's army said, / 'take off your sandals.' / "The place where you are standing is holy." / Then Joshua obeyed. / But why did the commander ordered Joshua to take off the sandals?

/In ancient civilizations, all servants and slaves lived without sandals. / And the holy saints of God are the servants of God. / Though we do not live bear-foot, we must treat Jesus as our master / and receive His command.

/Redeemed saints must never forget that they are the servants of God. / He is my king / and my master. / We must always serve Jesus as our master. / And for whom does a servant live?

/The master of all creations is our Lord. / And servants must live for the master. / They must live according to the will of the master / and please Him / by obeying His commands.

/God is our creator and the master of the entire creation. / Thus, we must not act like a master. / Jesus is the master of the church, / the family, / and our life.

/That is why we must serve our Lord as His servants. / In addition, the implication of the command to take off the sandals / is to put away his self and sinful nature. / All people are corrupted.

/All people possess the old self, / their fallen nature, / and have selfishness and greed. / We must throw away these worldly nature / and receive God's guidance obediently. / Who are successful in this world?

/People who obey God's guidance are successful. / A lot of Christians / pursue their selfish desires. / And wicked people cannot pursue Jesus Christ.

/That is why we must put off our self and selfish desires. / We must obey the guidance of God every day. /That is how we can walk with Jesus.

/We should be loyal servants of God / and after taking off our corrupt nature, /we must repent of our sins. / Then we can be used by God / and accomplish the mission of conquering the land of Canaan.

/Now I will end the fifth lecture on the book of Joshua. / Thank you.