

HARVEST ROCK CHURCH

TRANSFORMING A NATION BY VOTING BIBLICALLY: PART 1

TRANSFORMING OUR NATION SERIES

A Study in the Book of Joshua

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September 6, 2020

TEXT: Joshua 1:1 Now it came about after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' servant, saying, **2** "Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel. **3** Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses... **6** Be strong and courageous, for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. **7** Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go. **8** This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. **9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 5:13 Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand, and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us or for our adversaries?" **14** He said, "No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant?" **15** The captain of the LORD's host said to Joshua, "Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

REVIEW:

- 1. KNOW THAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU**
- 2. KNOW THAT GOD HAS COMMISSIONED YOU**
- 3. KNOW THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US THE GREAT COMMISSION**
 - **Matthew 28:18** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19** Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

I. WE ARE TO DISCIPLE A NATION WITH GOD'S WORD

- A. Joshua 1:7** "Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go. **8** This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."
 - 1.** This commandment from God is not just for Joshua but for the people of Israel.

2. The Word will not depart from your mouth. Meditate on it day and night.
3. This is so that they will build the nation on biblical principles.
4. Our nation was founded with “certain unalienable rights endowed by our Creator”: Equality, Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

II. DISCIPLING A NATION BY VOTING BIBLICALLY

A. Joshua 5:13 Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand, and Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us or for our adversaries?” 14 He said, “No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, “What has my lord to say to his servant?” 15 The captain of the LORD’s host said to Joshua, “Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

1. Who is this “Captain of the Lord’s host”? He is what is called a Theophany. *Theo-* God; *phaino-* appear.
2. Theophany: Jacob wrestling with God in Genesis 32:24-32. “I have seen God face to face, yet my life has been preserved” (Genesis 32:30).
3. **Exodus 3:2** The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed. 3 So Moses said, “I must turn aside now and see this marvelous sight, why the bush is not burned up.” 4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” 5 Then He said, “Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” 6 He said also, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

B. THREE THINGS JOSHUA DID

1. He prostrated himself and worshipped. Our battles are going to be won through worship and intimacy with God.
2. He acknowledged the Captain as his Lord, and Joshua, His servant. Are we on God’s side? What does He want?
3. He consecrated himself by taking off his sandals. The land you are standing on is holy. *Holy* means to be set apart. They had already crossed the Jordan and he was about to take Jericho, the first city in Canaan. God says, “This land has been separated for Me.”

C. THREE LESSONS AS WE GO INTO THE ELECTIONS

1. God is not a Republican and He is not a Democrat. He is not an elephant or a donkey. He is the Lion of Judah.
2. Are we on God’s side? Is He the Lord of your life?
3. God has set apart the USA for a special destiny to disciple nations. The USA is an apostolic nation. As the USA goes, so goes the rest of the world, either good or bad. We are still the number-one sending missionary nation and the number-one mission giving nation. The exceptionalism of America.

D. BEING PRO-LIFE

1. **Proverbs 6:16 There are six things which the Lord hates, yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood...**
2. **Genesis 9:6 Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed, for in the image of God He made man.**
3. I believe that abortion is the number-one injustice issue of our time. Some will say racism is the issue, or concern for the poor. But as I have often said, there are 631 laws in the Old Testament, but it has been reduced to a "top Ten." The sixth Commandment is "Thou shalt not murder" (Exodus 20:13).

E. THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM ON ABORTION

1. One by one, the Democratic candidates running during the 2020 primaries were all for abortion up to the ninth month.
2. In the last debate between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, she said that it is a woman's right to choose until the last day of the ninth month. Trump responded, "You should be ashamed of yourself."
3. The New York "Reproductive Health Act," a law signed by Gov. Cuomo in January 2019, removed the previous ban on abortion after 24 weeks, thus allowing it by default through the ninth month.
4. The New York law also decriminalizes third trimester abortion as a felony by removing it from the criminal code and redefining it under public health law.

F. THE PRO-LIFE PLATFORM: A look at what President Trump has done for the pro-life movement.

1. In 2017, President Trump asked Vice President Mike Pence to speak at the March for Life. This was the first time a VP spoke at the March for Life event since it started in 1974.
2. President Trump became the first president who attended and spoke at the March for Life on January 24, 2020.
3. **"Every child is a precious gift from God. Together we must protect, cherish and defend the dignity and sanctity of every human life. When we see the image of a baby in the womb, we glimpse the majesty of God's creation." President Trump, January 24, 2020, March for Life Speech.**
4. He oversaw the appointment of 187 federal judges and two Supreme Court justices.
5. He strengthened and expanded the Mexico City Policy to prevent U.S. taxpayers' funds from being used to perform abortions overseas.
6. He defended the pro-life speech of students on college campuses.
7. He promoted faith-based adoptions.
8. He supported the Pain-Capable Abortion Ban.

CONCLUSION: 1RACE4LIFE. I feel so strongly about this issue and that we have to do something practical about this issue, that I started a new 501(c)(4) organization called 1RACE4LIFE. This was birthed out of the George Floyd tragedy. What the enemy meant for evil, I wanted to do something good to advance unity for the purpose of voting for pro-life candidates.

This past week, on September 2, 2020, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of TheCall DC. At TheCall, we prayed that God will reverse *Roe v. Wade*. We also encouraged people to vote pro-life. Out of TheCall came a book that I edited called *The Reformer's Pledge*. **PLEDGE 5: I**

will contend for the rights of the unborn until abortion is illegal and rare. I will not vote for anyone who is pro-choice (Exodus 20:13). I am asking you to make this pledge before God, that you will vote pro-life. It doesn't matter if it is a Democrat or Republican. I have abstained from voting when both of the parties' leaders were pro-abortion. You can go to 1RACE4LIFE.ORG and make your pledge online. Finally, if you have not registered, please do so at our registration table out in our lobby and vote biblically. Vote what is on God's heart!