

# Wall of Prayer

October 27, 2016



Dear Faithful Prayer Warrior,

We recently presented the story of Joshua and the Israelites circling the city of Jericho to our three-year-old Sunday School class ~ we didn't go into all the details of the Canaanites who inhabited Jericho and the promised land practicing rampant idolatry, incest, adultery, child sacrifice, homosexuality and bestiality. Deuteronomy 9 begins with God's words, "You are now about to cross the Jordan to go in and dispossess nations greater and stronger than you, with large cities that have walls up to the sky." And now, in full obedience Joshua followed God's instructions for conquering this stronghold and the priests and the army followed Joshua. So odd that a battle would be won, an entire fortified city would essentially implode without a spear being thrown, a battering ram being thrust or a wall being scaled. Just circling, circling in obedience.

This true physical story in history, gives us many spiritual truths for today. There is no doubt that sin is rampant and that there are strongholds of evil within our culture. We as believers are told in 2 Corinthians 10 that, "though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds." We cannot rid our land of evil with clever words, sleek programs or by force. Our weapons are the spiritual weapons of *faith* in the unseen God who has proven Himself mighty and faithful time and again in history; calling on Him in *prayer* through the power of His Spirit within us, with words of truth found in *His word* that is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword.

We may wonder what the inhabitants thought as they listened to the cadence of the hundreds of thousands of feet marching in silent obedience with the ark of the covenant—symbolizing God's presence—right in the very middle of the Lord's army. Was there fear or was there ridicule and jeering from those inside the closed city? We are only told of one woman, a prostitute. (Joshua 2) Rahab was a woman of hope and faith in the one true God. Long before this day, she had heard of the God who parted the Red Sea and who had recently destroyed the cities of Og and Sihon which were fortified with "high walls, gates and bars." (Deuteronomy 3:5) She confessed that "the Lord God is God in heaven and on the earth below" and that the land was melting in fear of Him. Her anticipation of the arrival of the spies and the risk she took to protect them were outward signs of her faith in the God of rescue and redemption. Her faith was made sight when, after seven days of the Lord's army encircling the city, she and her family emerged from the rubble and death that surrounded them to a new life. She was eventually brought into the nation of Israel and is found in the lineage of Jesus Himself—our Savior!

We are an army obediently, silently using the weapons we have been given to bring down evil strongholds that keep our teens from coming into the blessed nation of God. The Bible is filled with true stories of how our Triune God used His people—weak and imperfect in so many ways—to usher in His kingdom. God orchestrated this entire story of redemption. Imagine a "Rahab," or her brother, for whom you pray on the other side of the walls watching and waiting, searching for a way out of the evil stronghold that holds them captive. We must trust that in God's timing and in His way, these teens for whom we pray will be rescued and will come into the Kingdom that will never pass away, whose light is the Lord Himself! Never give up!

In Him,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan".

Susan Admire

*"Lord, there is no one besides Thee to help in the battle between the powerful and those who have no strength; so help us, O Lord our God, for we trust in Thee, and in Thy name have come against this multitude. O Lord, Thou art our God; let not man prevail against Thee." 2 Chr. 14:11*