

## ***"The Battle Begins"***

*Wednesday Evening Adult Class by Ray Reynolds (October 9, 2013)*

Introduction: Have you ever faced an overwhelming challenge that scared the death out of you? If so, did you confront it or retreat? In ***The Story*** we find Israel facing an overwhelming challenge. After 600 years from God's promise to Abraham to make him a great nation, the children of Israel are ready to advance into the Promised Land. They face a BIG problem. There are wicked people already living in the land and among those people are some literal giants. The children of Israel are under a new leader, Joshua, and they are at Kadesh-Barnea where 40 years earlier they took a major wrong turn. Under Joshua, God tells the new generation to take the land. Joshua is told 4 times by God to "be strong and courageous." Now is the time for courage! Let's study together....

Discussion:

### ***I. Three Successful Steps Before The Battle***

- A. Be people of the book (**Joshua 1:8**).
- B. Be people of prayer (**Joshua 1:9**).
- C. Be people of covenant (**Joshua 5:1-9**)

### ***II. Three Successful Steps During The Battle***

- A. Trust in God's deliverance (**Joshua 5-7**).
- B. Trust in God's providence (**Joshua 5-12**).
- C. Trust in God's guidance (**Joshua 13-21**).

### ***III. Three Successful Steps After The Battle***

- A. Remembering "Who" & "How"
- B. Remembering "Why"
- C. Remembering "What"

Conclusion: We need to seek success before, during, and after the battle. We cannot have any "Achans" in our midst. So we need to regularly remind ourselves that God has delivered us, He did this because He loves us, and He wants us to tell others about His works. If we're not doing this, we have forgotten Who fights our battles for us. It is time for us to make the courageous decision and rise to the challenge that God places before us. Are you prepared for the battle? Are you involved in the battle? Have you forgotten what God has done? Are you ready to surrender to His will?