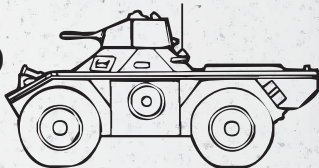


TAKING THE LAND



WARM UP

Jesus made it plain we have to die to live.

There are some things we have to die to in order to achieve what God has for us. Dr Dan Erickson describes it as choosing the greater yes. We can say yes to a number of things, but some 'yesses' have a great impact.

Today we want to see how these verses work out in real life:

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2

BACKGROUND

Joshua has led the people across the Jordan. They have taken a lot of the land. But they have not taken all that God has promised. God has fulfilled His part without fail. We could liken this to our lives. God has made specific promises to us. We may have taken some ground, but not all. Sadly, Israel did not go on to take all the land, and what inhabitants were left, God used to test them.



READ Joshua 21:43-45; Joshua 23:5-11



QUESTIONS

1. What stops us from achieving the promises God makes to us?

2. We see from the scriptures that God was faithful. What principles do you see from Joshua 23:5-11 that we need to employ to take "the land"?

3. Verse 11 says to love the Lord. Rate your relationship with the Lord. What can you do to build your relationship with Him?

4. What do you need to die to in order to live?

CONSIDER THIS

God commanded the tribes of Israel to destroy the inhabitants of the land completely along with their gods. Jesus commanded us not to destroy, but to make disciples. Today we don't put them to a physical death, but a spiritual death by baptising them.

The tribes had to work together to take the land. We also need to work together to take the land. Read the following verses from Jesus on being a disciple: John 8:31-32, John 13:34-35, John 15:8.

WRAP UP

How can you work together with others to make disciples? Pray... and die to anything that would hinder you from working with others to accomplish the promise of taking the land.



IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER

MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER

I will read PK Promises 1 and 6 and think about how I can apply my commitment to being a Promise Keeper.

