



On the Wings of Prayer

"Because thou hast been my help,
therefore in the shadow of thy wings
will I rejoice:" Psalm 63:7

Something Only God Can Do

In Israel's conquest of the Promised Land, there are many important lessons that we can apply to our journey of faith today. Salvation happened in Egypt. Instruction happened at Mount Horeb. Provision happened in the wilderness. And all of these involved the miraculous Hand of God. And while God's promises are true, not all that were saved from bondage in Egypt entered into the Promised Land of Canaan.

To have victory in the Promised Land, there is a different type of miracle that must become a daily part of our life. It involves entering into strongholds already possessed by others stronger and bigger than us. We see an important part of that step in Joshua 5:12, "And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year." Their lives were forever changed. Gone were the days of living off the miracles of God's Provision. From this day forward, they would depend on the fruits of Victory as they marched against God's enemies. I think there are many in our churches that are satisfied to seek miracles of God's provision and have not yet entered the battle against the giant enemies of God that confront our world today.

One of the saddest testimonies in all the Bible is that of the children of Gad and Reuben in Numbers 32:19, "For we will not inherit with them on yonder side Jordan, or forward; because our inheritance is fallen to us on this side Jordan eastward." Saved and satisfied, they traded the incredible and yet unseen riches of the Promised Land for what had already been conquered east of Jordan. Today, there are many who are so satisfied with the blessings of God that they have already received; that they no longer hunger for God's best promised blessings as Caleb did when he said, "Give Me This Mountain."

It is interesting to note that only after they crossed over Jordan and the manna had ceased, did the children of Israel receive God's plan for victory against Jericho. I want to mention two aspects of God's plan. First, all of Israel helped each individual win the battle for their inheritance. No one had to fight alone. While Jericho would end up as part of the inheritance of Benjamin, every tribe was present at the battle of Jericho. As we send out missionaries and church planters around the world, they should not go alone. They should have the prayers, help and support of many churches and co-laborers to help them in their task.

I also notice that God's plan to conquer Jericho will only work if God shows up to fight. Seven days of marching and a great shout won't get a lot done, unless God gives the victory. That was the plan. Israel was obedient to follow God's plan. And God gave a great victory. As we faithfully follow God and obey his leadership in our lives, we should not be surprised when we end up in a battle so great that only God can give the victory. Are you praying for something that only God can do? Are you attempting to do something for God so great that only He can give the victory? He has done it before. I pray that he will do it again.

John Peeples, IBFI Mission Director

- **Ted and Karin Johnson (Mexico-Medical Leave)** report Karin has completed her Chemo and radiation treatments. She is recovering from a ruptured Achilles Tendon and other health issues resulting from Chemo and antibiotic treatments. Karin was able to lead three to Christ while in the hospital. Ted continues to walk with a cane, but he is feeling stronger.
- **Melissa Houston (Croatia)** reports that preparation is being made for the upcoming Kid's Bible Camp. Melissa request prayer for the children to come to Christ during the camp.
- **Larry and Regina McKinney (N.A. Indians)** report a good turn out at the meeting for the Native American Baptist Fellowship. A young lady received Christ the first night. Preparations are being made for a meeting on the Flathead Reservation in an attempt to begin a new church there. The McKinney's will be working with another missionary in this new work.
- **Daniel and Michelle Jones (Rio Grande Valley/Mexico)** report the institute graduates have reached out, not only to the Hispanic community, but those of other languages as well. The Jones' request that you continue to pray for the graduates and their ministries.
- **Mark and Tricia Haynes (Navajo Nation)** report that Jannah, the five year old daughter of missionaries Ryan and Amber Nez, continues to get stronger after thirty days in the intensive care unit. Please pray for complete recovery of her health. There has been seven baptized so far this year. The church is now meeting in their new auditorium! Bro. Haynes writes, "pray that we will endeavor to continue following the leading of the Spirit without hesitation."
- **Darrain and Mari Coker (Mexico)** report the mission work just celebrated their third anniversary. The Coker's praise the Lord for those saved while out on visitation and in the church service. The Coker's begin furlough August 2016.
- **William and Sharon Smith (Brazil)** recent improvements have been made on the church building. The Bible Institute in Caracarai continues to train nationals for the ministry. The Institute and church in Caracarai is being lead by Pastor Luiz Costa. He has been an answer to prayer in the Smith's ministry.
- **Prayer Request:** Our missionaries health, safety, wisdom, and victory over the trials they face daily and "following the leading of the Spirit without hesitation."