

The Inll Gospel Church

November 23, 2003

Walls We Have Built



WALLS WE HAVE BUILT

Many people have built barriers and walls around themselves. Some have built a wall around themselves to keep God out. Just like the people of Jericho who had a wall, many do not want any interference in their life from God. They want "freedom" to live their life as they want to live their life no matter who gets hurt in the process. If they want to live a life of sin and debauchery infecting others with venereal disease along with AIDS, they do not want anyone telling them that they are living in sin.

These same walls that they have built will be their demise just like the walls of Jericho were the demise to the residents of Jericho.

Joshua 6:1-27

- 1 Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.
- 2 And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.
- 3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.
- 4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.
- 5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.
- 6 And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of

the LORD.

- 7 And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.
- 8 And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.
- 9 And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets.
- 10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.
- 11 So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about it once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.
- 12 And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.
- 13 And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually, and blew with the trumpets: and the armed men went before them; but the rereward came after the ark of the LORD, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets.
- 14 And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.
- 15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.
- 16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the

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LORD hath given you the city.

17 And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

18 And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

21 And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

22 But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.

23 And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel.

24 And they burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

25 And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this

day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

26 And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying, Cursed be the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it.

27 So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.

Not only has the sinner built the walls around themselves, but a number of Christians have built a wall where they are attempting to live both in the world and being a Christian. This attempt to live in both worlds will be their undoing. Jesus said you cannot serve two masters.

Luke 16:13

13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Many have been deceived by the devil into thinking that they can serve both the lust of the flesh along with serving God. You cannot serve both. As Jesus insinuated, you will end up choosing one or the other. Needless to say I have noticed that the majority have chosen the world of sin over living for God. One time while preaching on the street, a drunk came up to us saying that he used to be a Baptist minister. He now was homeless and spent all of the money he could get on alcohol. He asked us to pray for him and that night he left a changed man. The life of sin has its dire consequences.

Sin	Consequence
Drinking Alcohol	Homeless dependent
Smoking	Cancer

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Sin	Consequence
Adultery	Loss of Family
Fornication	Venereal disease

You can fill in the blanks considering the end result.

Satan always starts off the sin as a little bit, and as time goes by he gradually increases the dependency on the sin until you are totally consumed by the sin. For instance fornication may start out as a fling while in school, and it could lead to a life of adultery, which will lead to divorce.

These walls of sin are designed to keep God out of your life while at the same time are made to bring down your total destruction. No matter what wall you have built around yourself, you cannot keep God out of your life. Those walls will either be your own undoing, or they will come down when you allow yourself to become free. When you open your heart to the Lord, the walls you have built will come down and you will be free from the bondage of sin.

Are you going to dismantle the walls of sin, or are those walls going to destroy you in the end? The choice is yours, and only you can choose to dismantle the walls of sin.

If you choose to keep God out of your life you will see the walls come tumbling down on top of you. Needless to say when that happens there will be no more repentance.

Now is the time to take down that wall around you, and let Jesus come into your life.

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Sunday School11:30 AMSunday Morning Worship12:00 NoonSunday Evening6:30 PMWednesday Evening7:30 PM

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