

**May 29, 2022**  
**We Remember Joshua 4:1-24**

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This is Memorial Day weekend and I want to share with you on the need to REMEMBER. That's really what Memorials are for, they help us to remember and not forget something of importance.

**Joshua 4:1-24**...When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, <sup>2</sup>“Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, <sup>3</sup>and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.”<sup>4</sup> So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, <sup>5</sup>and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, <sup>6</sup>to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ <sup>7</sup>tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”<sup>8</sup> So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. <sup>9</sup>Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.<sup>10</sup> Now the priests who carried the ark remained standing in the middle of the Jordan until

everything the LORD had commanded Joshua was done by the people, just as Moses had directed Joshua. The people hurried over, <sup>11</sup>and as soon as all of them had crossed, the ark of the LORD and the priests came to the other side while the people watched. <sup>12</sup>The men of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over, ready for battle, in front of the Israelites, as Moses had directed them. <sup>13</sup>About forty thousand armed for battle crossed over before the LORD to the plains of Jericho for war.<sup>14</sup> That day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they stood in awe of him all the days of his life, just as they had stood in awe of Moses. <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to Joshua, <sup>16</sup>“Command the priests carrying the ark of the covenant law to come up out of the Jordan.” <sup>17</sup>So Joshua commanded the priests, “Come up out of the Jordan.”<sup>18</sup> And the priests came up out of the river carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD. No sooner had they set their feet on the dry ground than the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and ran at flood stage as before.<sup>19</sup> On the tenth day of the first month the people went up from the Jordan and camped at Gilgal on the eastern border of Jericho. <sup>20</sup>And Joshua set up at Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken out of the Jordan. <sup>21</sup>He said to the Israelites, “In the future when your descendants ask their parents, ‘What do these stones mean?’ <sup>22</sup>tell them, ‘Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.’ <sup>23</sup>For the LORD your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The LORD your God did to the Jordan what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over. <sup>24</sup>He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God.”

## **I. We Need To Remember The Soldiers Who Died For Our Freedom!**

“John F. Kennedy once said, “Let every nation know. Whether it wishes us well or ill....that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and the success of LIBERTY!”

Jesus said in *John 15:13* “*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*”

In the Civil War, 365,000 Northern soldiers were killed, and 133,000 soldiers from the South died. In World War I, 116,000 American soldiers were killed. In World War II, 407,000 died, 54,000 died in Korea, 58,000 in Vietnam, 148 in the Gulf War. And since 2001 ....4,454 American soldiers have died in Iraq and 1582 in Afghanistan. More than a million Americans have died in our wars. Everyone of those men and women paid the ultimate price in the support of and defense of our freedom! We are free today..... free to pray, free to worship, free to speak, free to assemble, free to vote because of their sacrifice.

These men and women are our real heroes!”Chapman

A. It is the soldier, not the theologian, who has secured our freedom of religion.

B. It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has secured our freedom of the press.

C. It is the soldier, not the protestor, who has secured our freedom to demonstrate.

D. It is the soldier, not the judge or the lawyer, who has secured our judicial system.

E. It is the soldier, not the entrepreneur, who has secured our economic opportunity.

F. It is the soldier, whose coffin is draped in the flag, who has secured freedom for those who wish to burn the flag.

Someone has said...A MAN IS NOT DEAD UNTIL HE IS FORGOTTEN. We must not forget those who have given their lives for freedom.

*“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified shall be direct proportion as to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.” - George Washington*

## **II. We Need To Remember The Saints Who Died For The Faith!**

*Heb 13:3 "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body."*

Church, our brothers and sisters in Christ are being persecuted around the world. While we set in our comfortable building insulated from the elements, Christians are dying for their faith. Believers are suffering persecution in other parts of the world while I speak! Remember your persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ the world over!

## **III. We Need To Remember The Savior Who Died For Our Forgiveness!**

**John 3:16,17...** *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17 "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."*

“What causes up to stray, to wander sometimes away from the Lord? Is it not because we sometimes stray from the cross? We lose sight of it, and become forgetful of what the Lord has done for us! It is imperative that the cross be fresh in our mind”. CHapman

## **How do we remember the Savior who died for us?**

- A. We Remember Him When We Are Faithful!
- B. We Remember Him When We Are Forgiving!
- C. We Remember Him When We Are Fruitful!

Adapted from by Jimmy Chapman . Sermon Central.com. Memorials.