

The Battle Belongs to the Lord

Joshua 10.1-15

March 27, 2022

Introduction

- chapters 10-12 of Joshua explain the ultimate _____ of the land

Explanation of the Text

- the sun and the moon stood still – various theories:
 - it's literal -- the sun and moon simply stayed where they were in the sky until the battle ended and light was no longer necessary.
 - a solar eclipse.
 - It is a metaphor. for a bad omen
 - *The words are poetical.*
 - *A miracle of refraction of the sun's rays made it seem as if the sun and moon were out of their regular places.*
 - There are two unverified claims that might have bearing here. First, some writings about this miracle report that there are Egyptian, Chinese, and Hindu records of a long day. Second, there are unconfirmed reports that "it is common knowledge among astronomers that one full day is missing in our astronomical calculations and that Professor Pickering of the Harvard observatory has traced it back to the time of Joshua."
 - *Joshua did not ask for a longer day but rather for a release from the day's great heat.* The Hebrew verb *dom*, which most of the English versions translate as "stand still," usually means "be silent, cease, or leave off."

Implications of the Text

1. the sovereignty and omnipotence of God
 - God assured Joshua of the _____
 - 1Chronicles _____
 - Colossians _____

2. faith vs. fear
 - there is the recurring motif of fear and _____
 - faith conquers fear
 - Mark _____
3. God answers prayer
 - the point of the Sun standing still isn't so much that the sun stood still but that God _____ to Joshua
 - Joshua addressed the sun and the moon, but God was listening
 - Matthew _____

Application of the Text

1. rely on God's _____, not your own
 - a. let God fight your battles for you
 - b. _____
2. resist _____
 - a. remember that the Devil is the father of lies and will try to make you question the goodness and love of God
 - b. _____
3. fight on your _____
 - a. prayer can stop the sun and move mountains if God so desires
 - b. _____

Conclusion

- the ultimate battle is the battle for our _____
 - Jesus went to the cross
 - Jesus rose from the grave
 - Jesus bestows to us the gift of grace