#### NOTHING LEFT UNDONE

The miraculous central campaign of the Conquest militarily split the southern region from the northern region (Josh. chs.3-8; 2 kings12:9).

The miraculous southern campaign defeated the military strength of nations of the land (Josh. chs.9-10; 14; kings 12:10-16).

Now Joshua turns his attention to the remaining 15 kings of the northern region (ch.11; 12:17-24).

King Jabin of Hazor formed an alliance with the remaining 15 kings of the north – "They came out with all their troops and a large number of horses and chariots – a huge army, as numerous as the sand on the seashore." (Josh. 11:4) [NIV]

Once again we see great use of military intelligence in the northern campaign – "Then it came about, when Jabin king of Hazor <u>heard of it</u>." (Josh. 11:1) Scholars think that Jabin is a hereditary title (Josh.11:10; Judges 4) [Deborah].

Israel's army of 500,000 men was no match for the northern coalition. The northern armies gather at the Waters of Merom for battle (Josh.11:5). In Hebrew, Merom means upper water. The length of this lake was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles and the width was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

**The Lord promised Joshua victory in one day** – "Do not be afraid of them because on this time tomorrow I will hand all of them over to Israel." (Josh.11:6)

"Some boast in chariots, and some in horses; but we boast in the name of the Lord, our God." (Ps.20:7; James 4:13-17)

We will study our lesson text by the following five homiletical points.

٠	Proponents of victory	(Josh.11:1-5)	Face off
٠	Promise of Victory	(Josh.11:6)	Fearless
٠	Place of victory	(Josh.11:7)	Famous battle at Lake Merom
•	Performance of victory	(Josh.11:9-14)	Fighting the good fight
٠	Personal victory	(Josh.11:15)	Faith cycle

Our lesson comes from the last statement of our lesson text – "He (Joshua) <u>left</u> nothing (lo-daber) [no word] <u>undone</u> (sur / hiphil pf) [to leave undone] of all that the Lord had commanded Moses." (Josh.11:15b)

We will study FIVE aspects of the spiritual qualities of Joshua's character that result in the Lord's boast.

# 1. Actually what Josh.11:5b says is "No word (Categorical Bible Doctrine) [CBD] was left undone by Joshua that was commanded Moses."

Joshua is an example of the Super Grace Believer. A doctrinal pastor named Bob Thieme coined the phrase, Super Grace, to explain Christ-like character of a spiritual mature believer. Joshua and Caleb were examples of Super Grace Believer amidst a congregation of older Exodus reversionists wilderness wanders. (Heb.3-4). "Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts." **"What others missed, they got!" They understood the practical or functional side of God's promises.** "For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit; of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." (Heb.4:12)

"Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need." (Heb.4:16)

## 2. Joshua was an example of a super grace believer who was committed to following the Lord wholeheartedly.

(Num.32:6-12; 13:25-33) [Spies report] "Except Joshua and Caleb, for they have followed the Lord fully." (Num.32:12) "not faint hearted, not broken hearted, and not hard hearted"

This didn't happen in one day of Joshua's life, but rather it occurred over a period of some 40 years of consistent walking faithfully with the Lord (Deut.1:38; 3:21-26; 31:5-8).

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve." (Col.3:23-24)

## **3.** Super grace is a category of spiritual growth maturity (adult status) to explain the development of Christ-like character of a spiritual mature believer (Eph.4:11-16).

There are three stages of spiritual growth that are never static.

They are either progressive or retrogressive. (2 Pet.3:18).

- **Baby** believer (brephos) 1 Pet.1:23; 2:2; Isa.28:9; Heb.5:12-13
- **Childhood** of believer (nepios-paidia) 1Cor.3:1;13:11; Heb.5:13; Eph.4:14; 1 John 2:14, 18; Matt.14:21
- Adult believer (teleios) Heb.5:14; Rom.12:2; Col.1:28; 2:6-7; 4:12; Phil.3:13-16;1 Pet.1:13-16

## 4. Every Super Grace Believer has the capacity to cycle the truth of the word of God by means of faith under the most extreme pressures of adversity.

Joshua, leading the fight for the Conquest of the land is an example – "And they came out, they and all their armies with them, as **many** people as the sand that is on the seashore, with **very many** horses and chariots." (Josh.11:5)

Reaching and maintaining **Super Grace** status wasn't an easy road for Joshua – it was a war! Two Super Grace Believers were called for the task of the Conquest. Moses failed (Deut.34:4, 10-12) and Joshua succeeded (Josh. 24:31). **Why? Principle** – "And from everyone who has been given much shall much be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they shall ask all the more." (Luke 12:48)

Super grace believers are given more grace to fight greater battles (James 4:5-6; 1 Pet.1:6-7; James 1:2-4; Rom.5:3-4; Col.1:9-12).

## 5. By reaching and maintaining super grace status, Joshua's leadership resulted in historical impact under the perfect timing of the plan of God (Josh. 24:11-13).

"Now Joshua the son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; and the sons of Israel listened to him and did as the Lord had commanded Moses." (Deut.34:9; Josh.11:15b)

"And Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua and all the days of he elders who survived Joshua, and had known all the deeds of the Lord which He had done for Israel." (Josh.24:31; Judges 2:7)