



PAIN

before

GAIN





² At that time the Lord said to Joshua, “Make for yourself flint knives and circumcise again the sons of Israel the second time.” ³ So Joshua made himself flint knives and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeathhaaraloth. ⁴ This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, died in the wilderness along the way after they came out of Egypt.

Joshua

5:2-9





⁵ For all the people who came out were circumcised, but all the people who were born in the wilderness along the way as they came out of Egypt had not been circumcised. ⁶ For the sons of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, that is, the men of war who came out of Egypt, perished because they did not listen to the voice of the Lord, to whom the Lord had sworn that He would not let them see the land which the Lord had sworn to their fathers to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.

Joshua

5:2-9





⁷ Their children whom He raised up in their place,
Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised,
because they had not circumcised them along the way.

⁸ Now when they had finished circumcising all the
nation, they remained in their places in the camp until
they were healed. ⁹ Then the Lord said to Joshua,
“Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from
you.” So the name of that place is called Gilgal to this
day.

Joshua

5:2-9





**FAITH
TO BELIEVE
GOD'S
PERFECT
WILL**

**PAYING
THE
COST**





- a. Israel had been enslaved in Egypt for 400 years.
- b. God finally gives them a deliverer in the person of Moses.
- c. After many signs and wonders and plagues upon Egypt, they were released by Pharaoh.
- d. Pharaoh changed his mind and gives chase to Israel with his mighty army.
- e. God performs a miracle by dividing the Red Sea and Israel walks on dry land.
- f. Pharaoh pursues them with his army, but the waters cover them and they drown.

BRIEF HISTORY of ISRAEL



- g. Israel marches towards the Promised Land but God brings them through a longer route.
- h. Israel grumbles and complains all the way to the Promised land and when they were on the brink of conquering the land, they didn't have the faith to engage the giants of the land.
- i. Because of their unbelief, God chastises them by making them wander in the wilderness for 40 years.
- j. The first generation dies leaving the children to step up and conquer the promised land.

BRIEF HISTORY of ISRAEL



- k. Moses dies and Joshua replaces him
- l. Once again a miracle over water takes place as God stops the river Jordan during the flood season. They were able to cross once again and now enter the promised land.
- m. Now that they were in, God asks them to do something which seemed illogical and that was to CIRCUMCISE themselves.

BRIEF HISTORY of ISRAEL



5R's

THE RADICALLY UNTHINKABLE (vv. 2 – 3)

THE RATIONALE (vv. 4 – 5)

THE REVIEW of their TRAGIC HISTORY (v. 6)

THE REQUIREMENT (vv. 7 – 9)

THE REWARD (FROM JOSHUA 6 ONWARDS)





²At that time the Lord said to Joshua, “Make for yourself flint knives and circumcise again the sons of Israel the second time.”

³So Joshua made himself flint knives and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth.

JOSHUA 5

THE RADICALLY UNTHINKABLE

**The sign that the Israelites
were God’s covenant
people is their
CIRCUMCISION.**





¹⁰“This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised. ¹¹“And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you.

¹²“And every male among you who is eight days old shall be circumcised throughout your generations, a servant who is born in the house or who is bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants.

GENESIS 17

THE RADICALLY UNTHINKABLE

**The sign that the Israelites
were God’s covenant
people is their
CIRCUMCISION.**





¹Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying,
²“Speak to the sons of Israel, saying:
‘When a woman gives birth and bears a
male child, then she shall be unclean for
seven days, as in the days of her
menstruation she shall be unclean. ³‘On
the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin
shall be circumcised.

LEVITICUS 12

THE RADICALLY UNTHINKABLE

**The sign that the Israelites
were God’s covenant
people is their
CIRCUMCISION.**





²⁵Now it came about on the third day, when they were in pain, that two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, each took his sword and came upon the city unawares, and killed every male. ²⁶They killed Hamor and his son Shechem with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah from Shechem's house, and went forth.

²⁷Jacob's sons came upon the slain and looted the city, because they had defiled their sister. ²⁸They took their flocks and their herds and their donkeys, and that which was in the city and that which was in the field; ²⁹and they captured and looted all their wealth and all their little ones and their wives, even all that was in the houses.

**THE
RADICALLY
UNTHINKABLE
GENESIS 34**





THE RATIONALE

⁴This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, died in the wilderness along the way after they came out of Egypt. ⁵For all the people who came out were circumcised, but all the people who were born in the wilderness along the way as they came out of Egypt had not been circumcised.

JOSHUA 2





THE RATIONALE

Joshua was determined to MAKE THINGS RIGHT, because He knew that if they were to be MIGHTY CONQUERORS, they had to be OBEDIENT to Yahweh.





⁶ For the sons of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, that is, the men of war who came out of Egypt, perished because they did not listen to the voice of the Lord, to whom the Lord had sworn that He would not let them see the land which the Lord had sworn to their fathers to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.

JOSHUA 2

THE REVIEW OF THEIR TRAGIC HISTORY



THE REQUIREMENT

⁷ Their children whom He raised up in their place, Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them along the way.

JOSHUA 2

1

For them to undergo this, meant that they believed that God was going to PROTECT them from being attacked in their helpless state.

2

They believed that God was going to make them conquer the land that He had promised to Abraham.

3

They were willing to PAY the COST, because circumcision meant PAIN before the GAIN! CIRCUMCISION BEFORE CONQUEST!

THE REQUIREMENT

“Circumcise yourselves to the Lord And remove the
foreskins of your heart, Men of Judah and inhabitants of
Jerusalem, Or else My wrath will go forth like fire And burn
with none to quench it, Because of the evil of your deeds.”

Jeremiah 4:4

THE REQUIREMENT

But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

Romans 2:29

**It is not
enough to
believe God for
the
FULFILLMENT
of His promise
to us. It is NOT
ENOUGH to be
at the center
of His will.**

- We have to be willing to be OBEДИENT even if it means PAIN.
- We have to be willing to walk in HOLY SEPARATION.
- We need to EXCISE the IDOLS of our HEARTS.
- We need to be willing to DIE to ourselves.
- We need to be willing to CHOOSE God over ourselves.
- We need to take the ROUTE that brings us into INTIMACY with God.

**Are you willing to yield to
God's pruning process?**

THE REQUIREMENT

¹ “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.

John 15:1-2

THE REQUIREMENT

⁵ and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, Nor faint when you are reprovved by Him; ⁶ For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives.” ⁷ It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom *his* father does not discipline? ⁸ But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

Hebrews 12:5-11

THE REQUIREMENT

⁹ Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He *disciplines us* for *our* good, so that we may share His holiness. ¹¹ All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

Hebrews 12:5-11

THE REQUIREMENT

⁸ Now when they had finished circumcising all the nation, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. ⁹ Then the Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” So the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.

JOSHUA 2

Illustrations & Analogies

Remember this, God is going to heal us from our pain, in the same way that He did that to the men of Israel physically, He is going to do that to us spiritually.

More than that, circumcised in heart, the STAIN of the world will be removed from us, in the same way that God took away the reproach of Egypt.



The Reward

CONQUEST of the LAND of CANAAN beginning at Jericho. Israel attacked the CENTER and sliced the LAND into the SOUTH and the NORTH. They first conquered the SOUTH and then the NORTH!



Whatever God has promised to us as a church or as individuals, we will be able to lay claim to victory!

BUT CIRCUMCISION FIRST, BEFORE CONQUEST!
The crown of thorns before the winner's crown.
The crucifixion before the resurrection!
PAIN BEFORE THE GAIN!

PAIN

before

GAIN

