

**Title: Who Was That Masked Man? - Joshua 5 10-15**

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**Read:**

<sup>10</sup> The People of Israel continued to camp at The Gilgal. They celebrated the Passover on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month on the plains of Jericho. <sup>11-12</sup> Right away, the day after the Passover, they started eating the produce of that country, unraised bread and roasted grain. And then no more manna; the manna stopped. As soon as they started eating food grown in the land, there was no more manna for the People of Israel. That year they ate from the crops of Canaan. <sup>13</sup> And then this, while Joshua was there near Jericho: He looked up and saw right in front of him a man standing, holding his drawn sword. Joshua stepped up to him and said, "Whose side are you on—ours or our enemies'?" <sup>14</sup> He said, "Neither. I'm commander of God's army. I've just arrived." Joshua fell, face to the ground, and worshiped. He asked, "What orders does my Master have for his servant?" <sup>15</sup> God's army commander ordered Joshua, "Take your sandals off your feet. The place you are standing is holy." Joshua did it.

**Think:**

Back when my Dad was a nipper there was a show called The Lone Ranger. You may have heard about it. The show was about a cowboy who wore a mask and went around saving the day with his trusty sidekick Tonto the American native Indian. Anyway at the end of each show the person who had been saved looked into the distance at The Lone Ranger riding away and said Who Was That Masked Man? That's how Joshua must have been here when he saw this lone stranger standing in front of him. Most people believe this to be Jesus, but what you have to remember is this is way before Jesus came to Earth to be born in a manger. Never the less Joshua fell to his feet and worshipped the man that claimed to be the leader of Gods army. This stranger said I am not on anyone's side I am the leader of Gods army, and Joshua instinctively knew that he should worship Jesus. Do we do that, do we drop to our knees and worship Jesus, who rescued us from death? You might say, I haven't physically seen Jesus. Bad news there I'm afraid. Because later in the Bible, Jesus says, whatever we do to other people, is as though we are doing it to him. When we are mean and harsh to those who need love, Jesus says we are mean and harsh to him. Equally when we are kind and loving to others, Jesus says we are kind and loving to him. So when we bump into people at school and college, lets treat them like we would treat Jesus. Then maybe, just maybe, they will look at us as we walk away and wonder to themselves; who was that person, they looked just like Jesus.

**Pray:**

Father let me be your masked superhero, bringing the love of Jesus to those who need it. Amen.

**Action:**

Well superhero time to put the words into action. Who can you show love to today? I bet I can love more then you, ready steady go.