

**Title: Why Did He Do That? - Joshua 6 21-27**

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**Read:**

<sup>21</sup> They put everything in the city under the holy curse, killing man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey. <sup>22-24</sup> Joshua ordered the two men who had spied out the land, "Enter the house of the harlot and rescue the woman and everyone connected with her, just as you promised her." So the young spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, mother, and brothers—everyone connected with her. They got the whole family out and gave them a place outside the camp of Israel. But they burned down the city and everything in it, except for the gold and silver and the bronze and iron vessels—all that they put in the treasury of God's house. <sup>25</sup> But Joshua let Rahab the harlot live—Rahab and her father's household and everyone connected to her. She is still alive and well in Israel because she hid the agents whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. <sup>26</sup> Joshua swore a solemn oath at that time: Cursed before God is the man who sets out to rebuild this city Jericho. He'll pay for the foundation with his firstborn son, he'll pay for the gates with his youngest son. <sup>27</sup> God was with Joshua. He became famous all over the land.

**Think:**

As we go back to Joshua we return straight to the heat of battle. Joshua's men totally destroy Jericho. They didn't just mess it up a bit, they killed everyone and then burnt the place to the ground. Why? Why would they do this? The answer is simply because God told them to. So I can imagine the scene now at the college or school canteen. You have spent all your time telling your mates that God is a God of love and that it is the best decision they could to follow him. Then they walk in and say "How about all those people God commanded others to kill?" So what's the answer, why did God command people to kill people? Well the answer is simple. The answer is.... Well actually the answer isn't simple and I don't know the answer. There are so many things about God that I don't know the answer to. I don't know why God commanded people to kill other people. I don't know why God gave us free will. I don't know why God sent his son to die for me. When it comes down to it there are a lot of questions that I want to ask God when I get to Heaven. Thankfully you and I will have plenty of time to ask them.

**Pray:**

Father you are a mystery to me in so many ways. Lord please help me to accept that there are some things about you I won't know until I see you. Amen.

**Action:**

Do you have a list of friends who don't know Jesus who you are praying for? If not, why not created one now. If you do have list, when did you last pray for them? Cheerio.