

Sermon Notes

July 30, 2017

“Whose Side Are You On?”

Joshua 5:13-15

Pastor Bill Hoffman

Verse 13. Why would it have been important for Joshua to know whether this mysterious person was on his and the Israelites' side?

- In what situations do you feel compelled to take a side and to know who is on that side with you?

Verse 14. Who is this “man” Joshua meets? (See Genesis 18 and 32 for other instances in which mysterious men/God-like messengers appear.)

- This commander really is on the side of Israel's armies; why doesn't he say so?
- Have you ever been part of a contentious situation in which it was clear to you that there were more important issues at stake than being on the right or winning side?

After bowing in reverence, Joshua asks what message this person has for him – and note that in the next chapter he receives instructions on how to wage the battle against Jericho.

- Do you ask God for messages about what you ought to do?

Verse 15. Before answering Joshua's question, the commander calls him to worship further. How can worshipping God put someone in a position to receive more specific direction for their life?