

# Speed Bump at Gilgal

The Joshua 5 speed bump



## Joshua 4:19-22 esv

The people came up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they encamped at Gilgal on the east border of Jericho. And those twelve stones, which they took out of the Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. And he said to the people of Israel, “When your children ask their fathers in times to come, ‘What do these stones mean?’ then you shall let your children know, ‘Israel passed over this Jordan on dry ground.’”

## Joshua 4:23-24 esv

“For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we passed over, so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever.”

## Joshua 5:1 esv

As soon as all the kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan to the west, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan for the people of Israel until they had crossed over, their hearts melted and there was no longer any spirit in them because of the people of Israel.

# Possessing the Promise

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Is this the Israelites' D-Day?

# Speed Bump or Prelude to Victory?

Between Jordan and Jericho three important events intervene to remind the Israelites of what they must not forget if they are to successfully take possession of what God has given them.



# Prelude to Victory

Event #1: Circumcision of a new generation

Sign of the covenant (5:2-9)

## Joshua 5:2, 4-5 esv

At that time the LORD said to Joshua, “Make flint knives and circumcise the sons of Israel a second time.”

And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way after they had come out of Egypt.

Though all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people who were born on the way in the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised.

# Prelude to Victory

Event #1: Circumcision of a new generation

Sign of the covenant (5:2-9)

Wasn't Dad's faith enough?

Personal reminder that I am God's possession

Remember whose you are

# Prelude to Victory

Event #2: Passover

followed by the end of daily manna

Joshua 5:10-12

## Joshua 5:10-12 esv

While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

# Prelude to Victory

Event #2: Passover

followed by the end of daily manna

Joshua 5:10-12

God's protection and God's provision

Remember what He has done

# Prelude to Victory

Event #3: Confronting the Commander

Joshua 5:13-15

## Joshua 5:13-15 esv

When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us, or for our adversaries?”<sup>14</sup> And he said, “No; but I am the commander of the army of the LORD. Now I have come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped<sup>3</sup> and said to him, “What does my lord say to his servant?”<sup>15</sup> And the commander of the LORD’s army said to Joshua, “Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.



# Prelude to Victory

Event #3: Confronting the Commander

Joshua 5:13-15

Focus shifts to the leader Joshua

God's presence and God's purpose

If He is with me, I am on holy ground

Remember who He is

# Speed Bump or Prelude to Victory?

Speed bumps?

Slow down long enough to

**remember whose you are** *I belong to Jesus...*

**remember what He has done** *The list begins with salvation, but it doesn't end there...*

**remember who He is** *holy...with me...leading me on holy ground...*