



# On God's Side

The first week of this month will have a rather important football game. There will be people watching who are hoping that their favorite team wins. Fans will be in opposition with other fans because of who they favor to win. When you meet someone, you might ask “Whose side are you on?”

The same is asked in battle. In a war, when a soldier meets someone who they do not know that is not in any identifying uniform, they usually ask, “Whose side are you on?”

The nation of Israel was about to take the Promised Land. They had crossed the Jordan River, circumcised every person who had not been circumcised while in the wilderness and celebrated their first Passover in the new land of Canaan. The first city they were going to conquer was the city of Jericho.

As Joshua and his army were stepping into the land of Jericho, Joshua met someone. The book of Joshua records what happens.

<sup>13</sup> 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 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. (Joshua 5:13-15 ESV)

A member of God's army is an angel- a very powerful being. Joshua ran into this powerful being. Joshua asked the angel if he was for Joshua and the Israelites or against them. I think Joshua saw a very formidable ally to help them in their battle against Jericho. But the angel told Joshua that he was neither for him nor against him; he was for God.

**Who are you for? Are you for your favorite football team? Are you for your business? Are you for your family? All of these are good things to be for, but ultimately, who are you for? Who is most important in your life? With whom is your allegiance?**

Jesus once said this:

*Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. (Matthew 12:30 ESV)*

You may have a favorite team, or you may love your job, and your family should be very important to you. But on the top of the list of who has your affections should be God. Are you for Him or against Him?

In Him and for His glory,



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