

Defining Moments: Joshua and the Commander

Joshua 5:13-15

“When Joshua was by Jericho...”

“Now when all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the coast heard how the LORD had dried up the Jordan before the Israelites until they had crossed over, their hearts melted in fear and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites.” Joshua 5:1

“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.” 2 Corinthians 10:4

Numbers 13-14

Fear is rebellion (Numbers 14:9)

“Are you for us, or for our enemies?”

“Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.”

Who exactly was this ‘commander of the Lord’s army’?

- His title
- What he does

“the Lord’s army”

- Israel’s army
- An angelic army

“See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him. If you listen carefully to what he says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you” Exodus 23:20-23

“Now go, lead the people to the place I spoke of, and my angel will go before you.” Exodus 32:34

“I will send an angel before you and drive out the Canaanites ... go up to the land flowing with milk and honey, but I will not go with you, because you are a stiff-necked people and I might destroy you on the way.” Exodus 33:2-3

“angel of the Lord” = “commander of the Lord’s army” = GOD = Pre-incarnate Christ

“Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped ... ”

“When I had heard and seen these things, I fell to worship at the feet of the angel who had shown me them. But he said to me, do not do it. For I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and with all who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”

“Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.”

“Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” (Exodus 3:5)

‘Lordship talk’.