



### The Divine Statement: The Battle Belongs to the Lord (5:13-15)

Shechem Mediterranean Sea CANAAN AMMON Joppa Bethel **Abel-Shittin** Jericho Gibeon • Jerusalem Mount Nebo Bethlehem Jahaz Joshua & Dead Jericho Sea Hebron

When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."

EXODUS 3:4

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." EXODUS 3:5

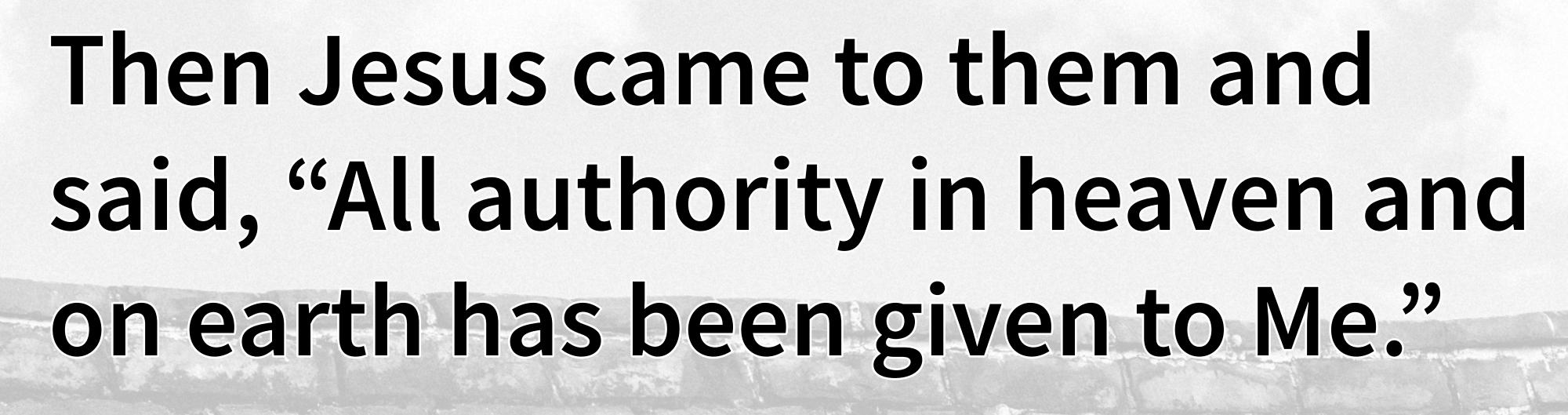
Then He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

EXODUS 3:6

"The main lesson of Joshua 5 is that we must be a spiritually prepared people if we are going to do the Lord's work successfully and glorify His name."

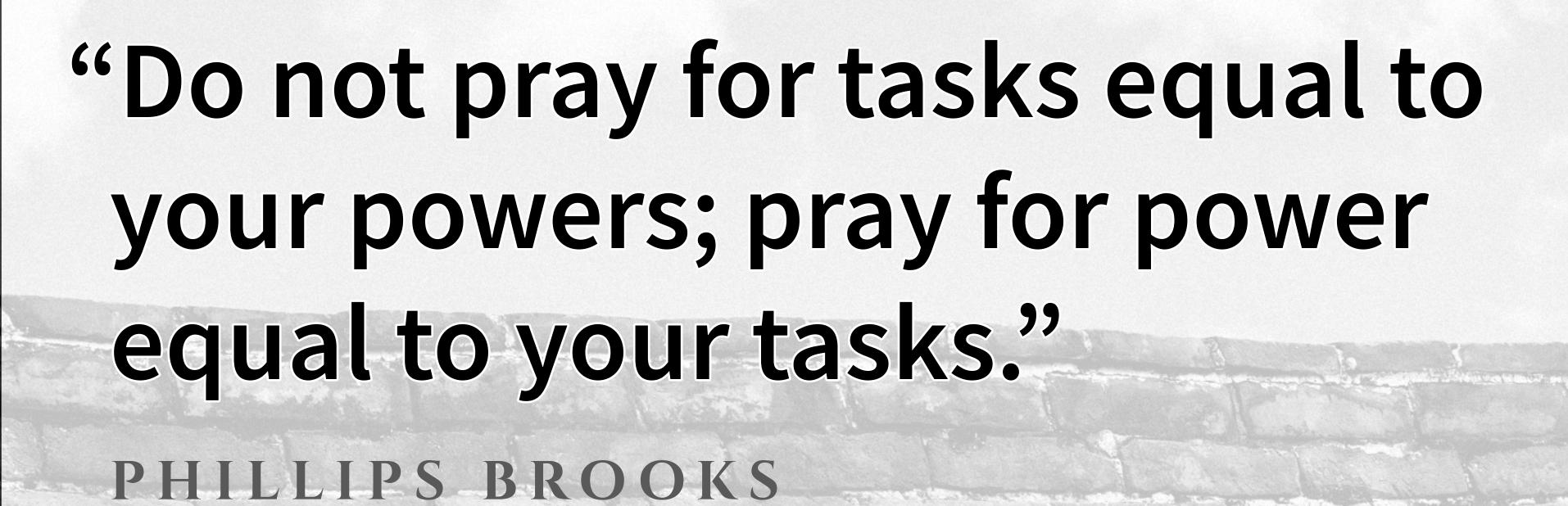
WARREN WIERSBE

# The Divine Instructions: Do the Unthinkable (6:1–7)



**MATTHEW 28:18** 

## God's program sometimes may appear silly when it is the perfect plan.



#### Three Different Ways to Serve the Lord:

To make the best plans we can and hope they succeed.

To make our own plans and ask God to bless them.

To ask God for His plans and then do what He tells us to do.

J. HUDSON TAYLOR

"God always knows what He will do. Our responsibility is to wait for Him to tell us all that we need to know and then obey it."

WARREN WIERSBE

### The Obedient Response: Warfare by Strange Means (6:8–20)

Just because we have obeyed in the past doesn't mean that it becomes easy to obey in the present. Obedience is a repeated choice and response.

But be assured today that the Lord your God is the one who goes across ahead of you like a devouring fire. He will destroy them; He will subdue them before you. And you will drive them out and annihilate them quickly, as the Lord has promised you.

DEUTERONOMY 9:3

After the Lord your God has driven them out before you, do not say to yourself, "The Lord has brought me here to take possession of this land because of my righteousness." No, it is on account of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord is going to drive them out before you.

DEUTERONOMY 9:4

It is not because of your righteousness or your integrity that you are going in to take possession of their land; but on account of the wickedness of these nations, the Lord your God will drive them out before you, to accomplish what He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

DEUTERONOMY 9:5

# The Stunning Result: <a href="Deliverance">Deliverance</a> & <a href="Destruction">Destruction</a> (6:21–27)</a>

"From God's perspective, all peoples have sinned and fallen short of his standards (Romans 3:23) and thus are deserving of the severest punishment (Romans 6:23). Thus the Canaanites only received what all peoples — then and now — deserve."

AGAIN & AGAIN

DAVID HOWARD

"This order to destroy every living thing was not a license to kill indiscriminately in other warfare, because cities outside the Land of Promise were to be treated differently. Rather, it was intended to punish the Canaanites and to protect the Israelites from falling into idolatry and apostasy...

"The extermination of the Canaanites was a special case of divine judgment intruding into a period otherwise characterized by common grace; as such, it provided no pattern for general warfare but anticipates the final judgment that will befall all who persist in rebellion against God's gracious overtures."

"God does not devote to destruction those who devote themselves freely to Him."

NIV ZONDERVAN STUDY BIBLE

By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.

HEBREWS 11:30

By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

HEBREWS 11:31

"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

JOHN 16:33

"God's people don't simply fight for victory but from victory, because the Lord has already won the battle."

WARREN WIERSBE

Whatever God commands is worth an obedient response. He knows what He's doing, because it's ultimately about Him.