

And above all these
put on love,

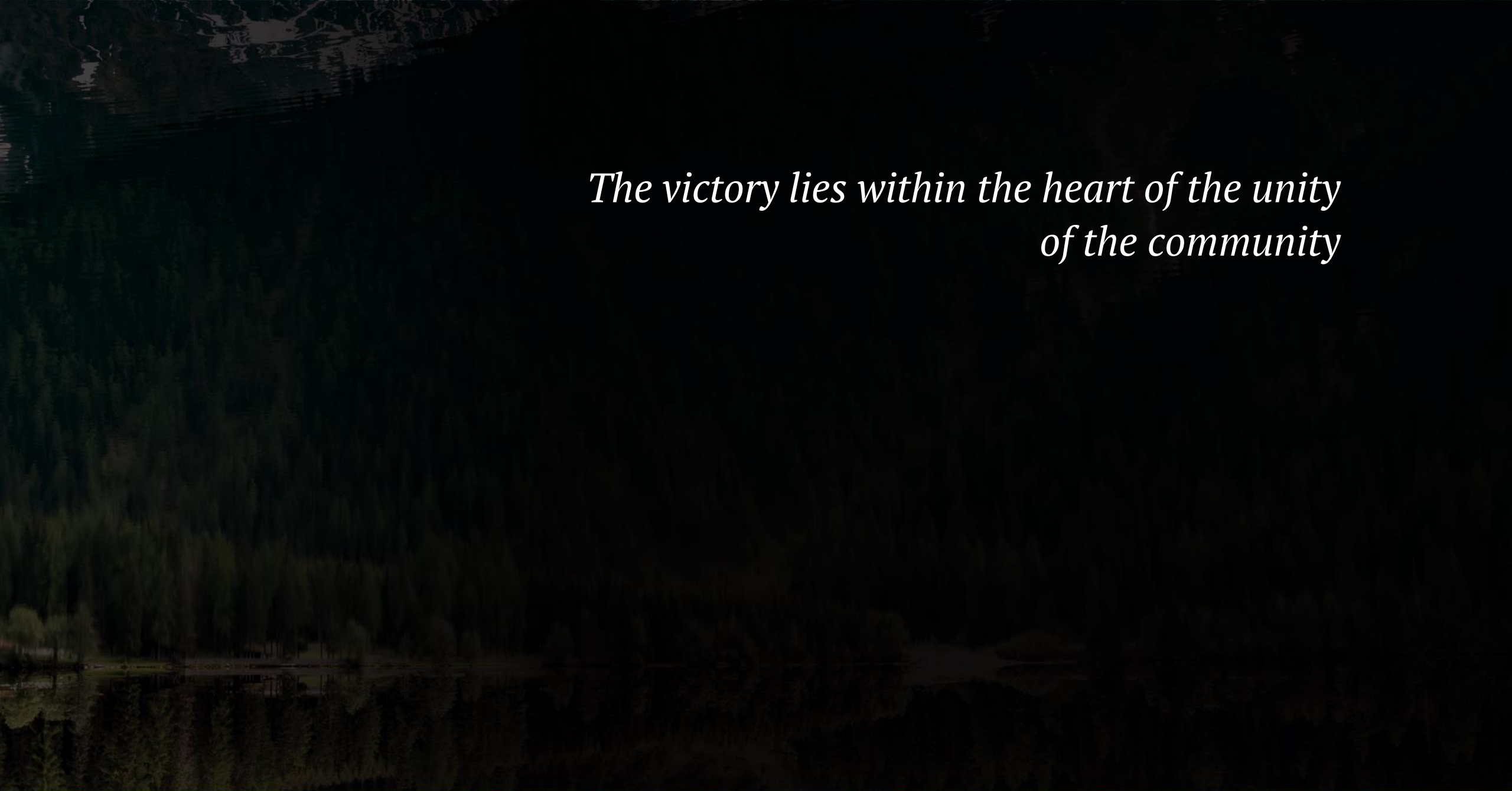
*which binds everything together in perfect unity.
Colossians 3:14*



Shofar Christian Church

OUR BATTLE CRY

JP Archer



*The victory lies within the heart of the unity
of the community*

Ancient Jericho

Towns became bigger as their populations increased. This made their architecture and urban planning more complex and they required more space to expand. The possibility of storing food surpluses meant that part of the population quit agricultural activities to devote their time to other things. Artisans, priests, traders... The wealth of flourishing cities attracted greed of the nomadic tribes and forced their inhabitants to build protective walls around their cities. This was the case of Jericho, in the West Bank, Palestine. With a history of more than 11,000 years, this was the first fortified city known ever and, up to the present day, it is considered the first city in history.

Jericho, the first one

Natufian hunter groups settled in this spot in 12,000 BC before it became the city of Jericho. Towards 9,400 BC, the settlement had more than 70 houses with around a thousand inhabitants and something unprecedented; a 3.5m high and almost 2m thick wall and a stone tower that reached a height of 8.5 m.

7000 BC

The round houses made with adobe, similar to igloos, were substituted by rectangular ones. Sanctuaries and ovens appeared.

Glory and collapse

The apparition of the Canaanites implied changes in house planning. This people absorbed the original culture and took Jericho to its most glorious times. According to archeological records, the city was destroyed by 1500 BC to be re-founded in the 9th century BC.

Houses

They had stone foundations, clay brick structure, 50 cm width walls and the roofs were covered with a mixture of reeds and clay.

Courtyards

The buildings usually had a 7 metre square courtyard used to cook and preventing smoke from entering inside the house.

Double fortification

Similar to medieval fortifications, these were 3 m wide and more than 4 m high by 1700 BC. They were reconstructed at least 15 times.

Resources

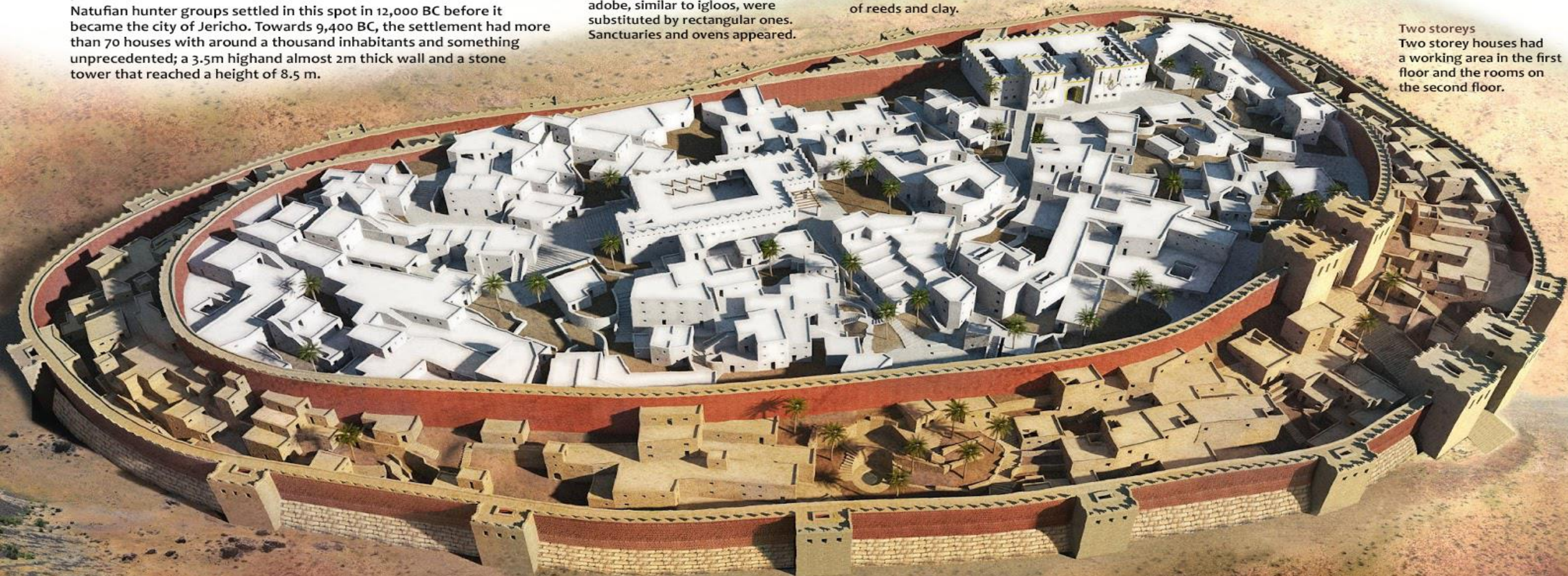
There is evidence of cultivated plants and possible sheep breeding since 7220 BC. There was a water canal system.

The Jordan River

Jericho was favored by the river and trade. Its walls became thicker and were surrounded by a moat.

Two storeys

Two storey houses had a working area in the first floor and the rooms on the second floor.



¹³ 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?” ¹⁴ And he said, “No; but I am the commander of the army of the LORD. Now I have come.”

Joshua 5:13 – 15 (ESV)

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped and said to him, “What does my lord say to his servant?” ¹⁵ 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.”

Joshua 5:13 – 15 (ESV)

² And the LORD said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor.

Joshua 6:2 (ESV)

¹⁶ And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the LORD has given you the city.”

Joshua 6:16 (ESV)

¹³Meanwhile all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. ⁽¹⁴⁾ And the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly.

2 Chronicles 20:13-19 (ESV)

(15) And he said, “Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you, ‘Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's. (16) Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel.

2 Chronicles 20:13-19 (ESV)

(17) You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.’
Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed.
Tomorrow go out against them, and the LORD
will be with you.”

2 Chronicles 20:13-19 (ESV)

” (18) Then Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshiping the LORD. (19) And the Levites, of the Kohathites and the Korahites, stood up to **praise the LORD**, the God of Israel, **with a very loud voice.**

2 Chronicles 20:13-19 (ESV)

- You can't control what comes into your mind, but you can control what you do with it.
- Fear is a response and not a way of life.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ⁽²⁾ He was in the beginning with God. ⁽³⁾ All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁽⁴⁾ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁽⁵⁾ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-5 (ESV)

(16)“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (17) For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (18) Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

John 3:16-21 (ESV)

(19) And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. (20) For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. (21) But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

John 3:16-21 (ESV)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Rom 8:1-4 (ESV)

¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ⁽¹⁶⁾ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ⁽¹⁷⁾ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Rom 8:15-17 (ESV)

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized
into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

Rom 6:3 (ESV)

What does your
statement of faith say
about your life to the rest
of the world?