

If Memory Serves...  
Joshua 4:4-7

This is Memorial Day weekend. In the years following the Civil War, Memorial Day started and it finally became an official observance as a Federal holiday in 1971 to honor those who served and died in this Country's wars.

Memorials have been erected throughout the history of the Bible to commemorate significant events that God wanted His people to remember and to share with their children. (Deuteronomy 6:20-22.)

What are some of the events that God wanted to be remembered by His people? What do the memories help us keep in our minds?

I. What Are Some Of The Events That God Wanted To Be Remembered By His People?

- A. One such event was God providing manna for His people Israel during the Wilderness Wandering! (Joshua 5:12; Psalms 78:24; Hebrews 9:4.)
- B. Israel was to remember that the men of war died in the Wilderness because they did not listen to the voice of the Lord! (Joshua 5:4, 6.)
- C. Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel when he wrestled with the angel, commemorated this event! (Genesis 32:24-32.)
- D. On another occasion, the memory of Joshua's announcement against Jericho being rebuilt should have been remembered by Hiel! (Joshua 6:26; I Kings 16:34.)

II. What Do Memories Help Us To Keep In Our Minds?

- A. During this time of Memorial Day there are numerous special programs on television that remind us of the various wars that the men and women fought in and paid the price for in giving their lives in defense of this Country!
- B. All of the memorials that God had His people remember drove home both His provision and His requirement for His people to obey His will! (Deuteronomy 7:6-11.)
- C. Our remembrance each week of the death and sacrifice of Jesus focuses our minds on the true price that He paid to purchase us from the bondage of the devil! (I Corinthians 11:26; II Corinthians 5:21; John 1:29.)
- D. In His letter to the church in Ephesus, Jesus told them, "Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first." (Revelation 2:5.) Here the memory of where they were must move them to return to Him!