

Heads You Win, Tails You Lose III

What's Your Story?

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MAIN IDEA: Living up to my spiritual status in 2022 as “the head” and not “the tail,” will require me to think and talk differently, which will result in taking charge of my life and choices.

Deuteronomy 28:13a (NKJV)

“And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath...”

Joshua 9:3–9 (NLT)

3 But when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, 4 they resorted to deception to save themselves. They sent ambassadors to Joshua, loading their donkeys with weathered saddlebags and old, patched wineskins. 5 They put on worn-out, patched sandals and ragged clothes. And the bread they took with them was dry and moldy. 6 When they arrived at the camp of Israel at Gilgal, they told Joshua and the men of Israel, “We have come from a distant land to ask you to make a peace treaty with us.” 7 The Israelites replied to these Hivites, “How do we know you don’t live nearby? For if you do, we cannot make a treaty with you.” 8 They replied, “We are your servants.” “But who are you?” Joshua demanded. “Where do you come from?” 9 They answered, “Your servants have come from a very distant country. We have heard of the might of the LORD your God and of all he did in Egypt.

Joshua 9:15–16 (NLT)

15 Then Joshua made a peace treaty with them and guaranteed their safety, and the leaders of the community ratified their agreement with a binding oath. 16 Three days after making the treaty, they learned that these people actually lived nearby!

What's Your Story?

Joshua believed a story to be true that wasn't true!

2 Corinthians 11:14 (NIV)

14 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

Jonah 2:8 (KJV)

8 They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

How often do we believe things to be true about God, the world, and ourselves that is pure fiction?

Joshua failed to (1) pray, (2) wait, and (3) investigate their assertions for himself.

THREE TAKEAWAYS

1. Don't Allow _____ to Rewrite Your Theology.

Theology in 12 Words:

God is Good!

God is Love!

God Will Sort It All Out!

2. It's Not the _____ You Play, But What You Are Part of That Matters.

3. Your Life Is Not a _____. Make It a Retake.

“You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backward. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something—your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. This approach has never let me down.”

—Steve Jobs

ANSWERS:

1. TRAGEDY

2. PART

3. MISTAKE