

# Joshua 6:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

## Analysis

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Joshua's command 'Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice' imposes disciplined silence on the entire congregation except for the trumpet blasts. The Hebrew *taru'ah* (תָּרוּעָה) means a war cry or shout of triumph—which was to be withheld until the appointed time. This required extraordinary self-control and faith. Natural human instinct during military operations is to shout, to bolster courage, to intimidate enemies. Joshua prohibits this until God's appointed moment. The silence heightened tension and demonstrated that victory belonged to the Lord, not to human enthusiasm or effort. When the shout finally came on the seventh day, it would be a shout of faith responding to God's command, not of presumption. This teaches that spiritual victory requires waiting on God's timing, not presuming on His promises prematurely.

## Historical Context

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In ancient warfare, armies typically advanced with war cries intended to boost morale and terrify opponents. The Greek war cry (*alalagmos*), Roman battle cry (*barritus*), and various cultural shouts were standard military practice. By imposing silence, Joshua created an eerie, ominous atmosphere. Six days of silent circling—only trumpet blasts piercing the quiet—would have been psychologically devastating to Jericho's defenders. The silence also tested Israel's discipline and

unity. Maintaining absolute quiet among thousands of people for six days required remarkable self-control. This discipline prepared them for the climactic seventh day when coordinated obedience would be crucial. The lesson: God's battles require disciplined obedience, not impulsive action.

## **Related Passages**

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## **Study Questions**

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1. What does this imposed silence teach about the relationship between human effort and divine action in spiritual victory?
2. When are you tempted to 'shout' prematurely before God's appointed time?
3. How does learning to wait silently on God's timing develop spiritual maturity and discipline?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהִרְעַתֶּם: לֹא אֶמַר יְהוֹשֻׁעַ צוּה הָעָם וְאֵת  
H853 the people H5971 had commanded H6680 And Joshua H3091 I bid H559 H3808 Ye shall not shout H7321

מִפִּיךָ מִן הָאָרֶץ וְלֹא תֵצֵא יְעוֹ תִשְׁמַע יְעוֹ וְלֹא  
H3808 nor make any noise H8085 H853 with your voice H6963 H3808 proceed H3318 out of your mouth H6310

וְהִרְעַתֶּם: אֲלֵיכֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ יוֹם עַד יוֹם וְלֹא תֵצֵא יְעוֹ תִשְׁמַע יְעוֹ וְלֹא  
neither shall any word H1697 H5704 until the day H3117 I bid H559 H413 Ye shall not shout H7321

וְהִרְעַתֶּם:

Ye shall not shout  
H7321

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 42:2** (Parallel theme): He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.

**Matthew 12:19** (Parallel theme): He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets.

**Luke 24:49** (Parallel theme): And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

**Isaiah 28:16** (Parallel theme): Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

**Acts 1:7** (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.