

Much Ado About

“Something”

Mr. Jeremy Johnston

Bethel Church



Much Ado About “Something”

- Joshua: what enabled him to overcome incredible obstacles while fulfilling God’s call for his life?
- How can we overcome incredible obstacles while fulfilling God’s call for our lives?

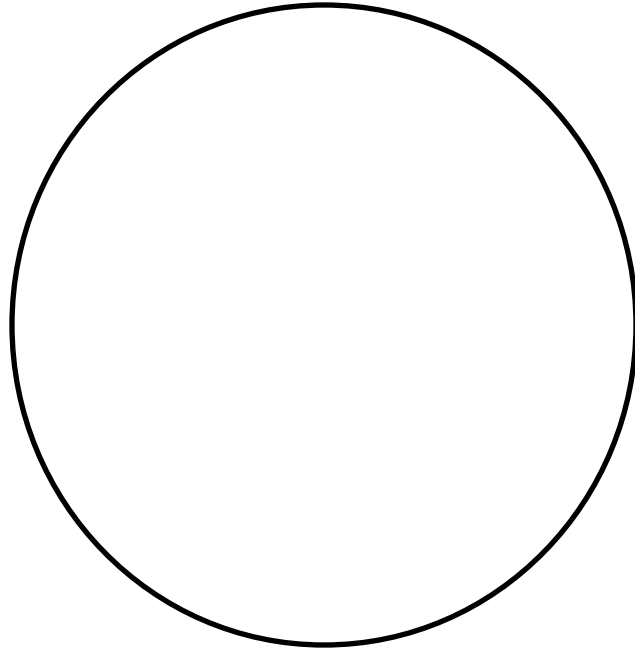
Much Ado About “Something”

A Brief Lesson in Shakespeare



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Sept. 22, 1975

Kingston

REALITY

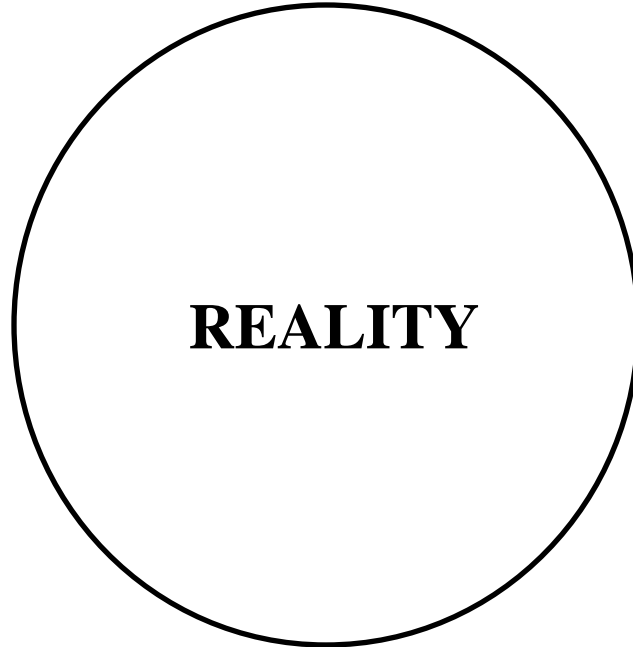
Passed exam

WWII

death & taxes

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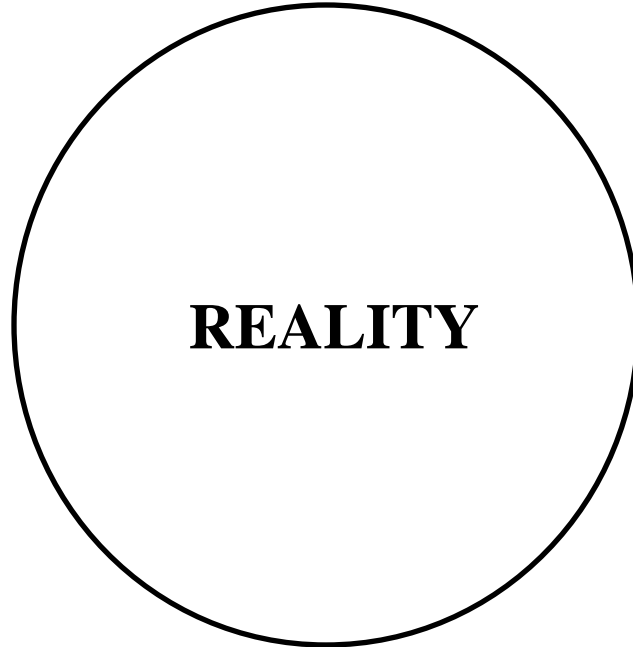
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**Stuff that could
happen, but
doesn't**



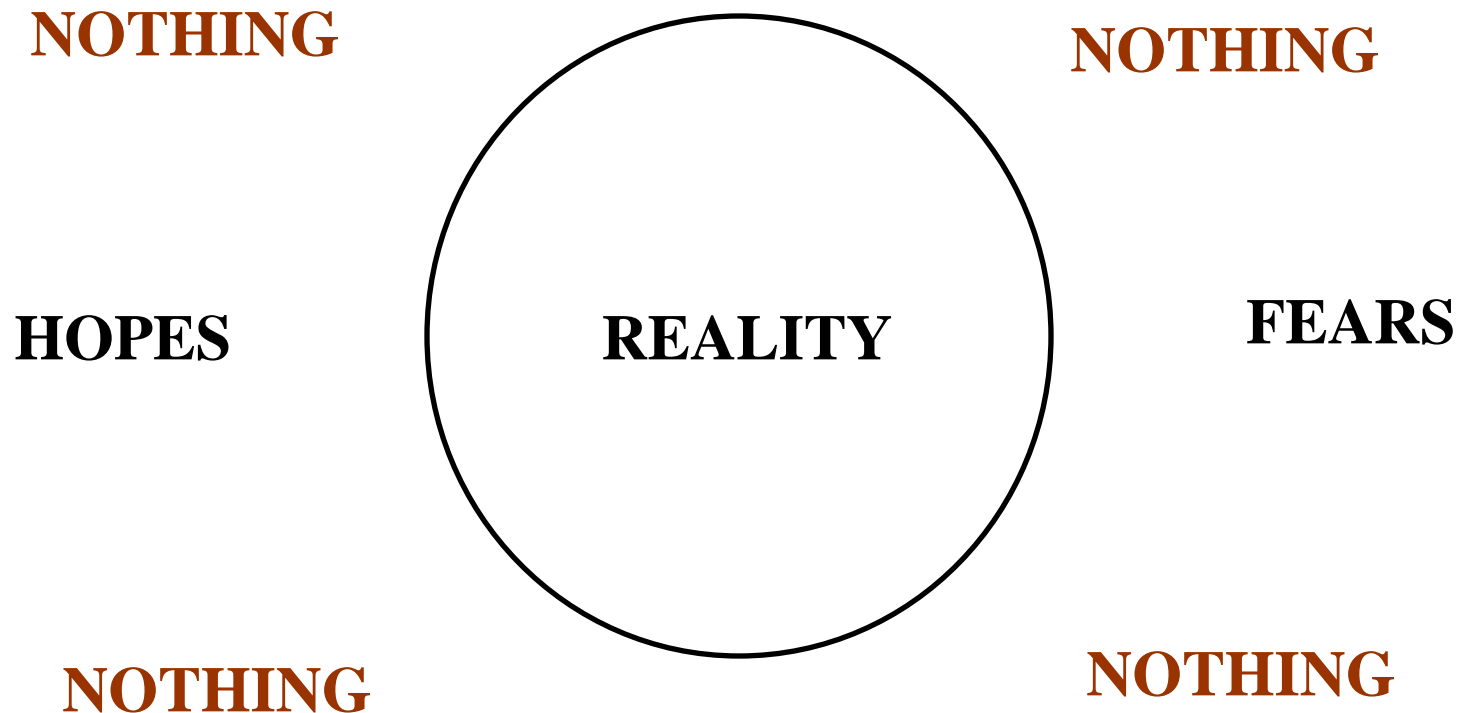
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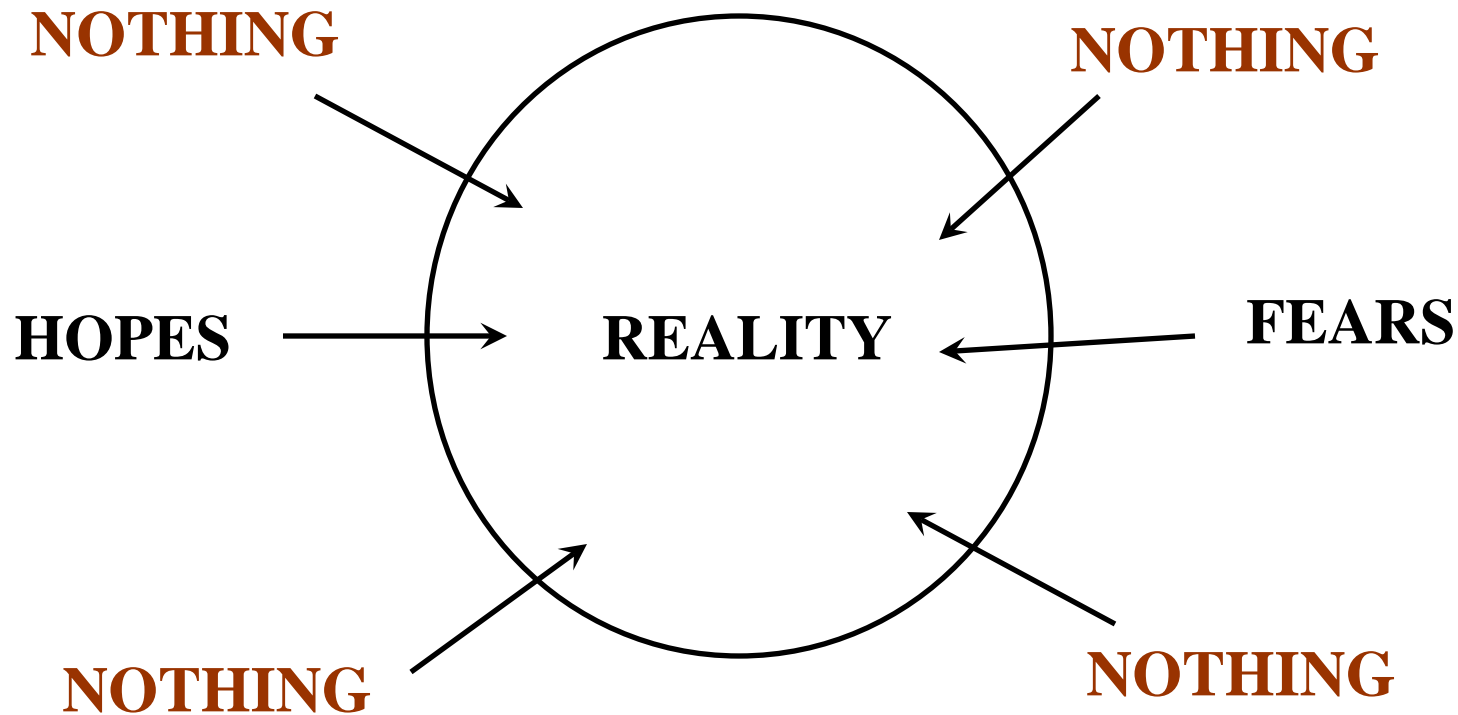
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Much Ado About “Something”

- The choices we make are constantly molded by possibilities, by hopes, by fears that never become “actual”
- We hope for things, and act in accordance, even if our hopes or fears never come to pass
- The problem arises when we make “much ado” about “nothing”

Much Ado About “Something”

- cp. 12 spies: Numbers 13:27-28; 31-33
 - “...the people who live in the land are strong...”
 - “...the cities are fortified and very large...”
 - “...we are not able to go up against the people, for they are too strong for us.”
 - “...men of great size...”

Much Ado About “Something”

- cp. 12 spies: Numbers 13:27-28; 31-33
 - “...we are not able to go up against the people, for they are too strong for us.”

- Israel was making much ado about what might happen... i.e., NOTHING

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□ cp. Joshua & Caleb: Numbers 14:6-9

“The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. If the LORD is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us—a land which flows with milk and honey. Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them.” Num 14:7-9 (NASB)

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□ cp. Joshua & Caleb: Numbers 14:6-9

“The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. If the LORD is pleased with us, then *He will bring us into this land and give it to us*—a land which flows with milk and honey. Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they *will be our prey*. Their protection has been removed from them, and *the LORD is with us*; do not fear them.” vv.7-9 (NASB)



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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Joshua 1:1-9

- “Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel.” v.2 (NASB)

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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Joshua 1:1-9

- “No man will be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you.” v.5 (NASB)

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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Joshua 1:1-9

- “Be strong and courageous...” v.6 (NASB)
- “Only be strong and courageous...” v.7 (NASB)
- “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”
v.9 (NASB)

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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

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- “Only be strong and courageous...” v.7 (NASB)
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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Joshua 5:13-15

- “Are you for us or for our adversaries?”
- “**NO**, rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the Lord.”

Much Ado About “Something”

Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Joshua 5:13-15

- “Are you for us or for our adversaries?”
- “**NO**, rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the Lord.”

The battle belongs to the LORD!



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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

I. The battle belongs to the LORD!

Much Ado About “Something”

Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Joshua 1:10-11

- “...to possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you...” v.11 (NASB)

□ Joshua 6:1-2

- “I have given Jericho into your hand...” v.2 (NASB)



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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Proverbs 21:31

- “The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory belongs to the Lord.”



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□ Proverbs 21:31

- “The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory belongs to the Lord.”

The victory belongs to the LORD!



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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Isaiah 46:9-10

- **“My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure.” v.10 (NASB)**



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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

- I. The battle belongs to the LORD!
- II. *The victory belongs to the LORD!*

Much Ado About “Something”

Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

- I. The battle belongs to the LORD!
- II. The victory belongs to the LORD!
- III. *For His Glory, God often orchestrates
EXTREME OPPOSITION to Himself and
His plans.*



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EXTREME OPPOSITION



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EXTREME OPPOSITION

- Moses is dead (Joshua 1:2)

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EXTREME OPPOSITION

- Moses is dead (Joshua 1:2)
- Jordan River (Joshua 3:15)
 - “...for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of the harvest...”

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EXTREME OPPOSITION

- Moses is dead (Joshua 1:2)
- Jordan River (Joshua 3:15)
 - “...for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of the harvest...”
- Circumcise the army (Joshua 5:8)

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EXTREME OPPOSITION

- Moses is dead (Joshua 1:2)
- Jordan River (Joshua 3:15)
 - “...for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of the harvest...”
- Circumcise the army (Joshua 5:8)
- Jericho: Impregnable City (Joshua 2:15, 6:1)

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EXTREME OPPOSITION

- cp. Exodus 14:1-4
 - “Thus I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will chase after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord” v.4 (NASB)



Much Ado About “Something”

Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

- I. The battle belongs to the LORD!
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- III. For His Glory, God often orchestrates
EXTREME OPPOSITION to Himself and
His plans.

Much Ado About “Something”

Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

- I. The battle belongs to the LORD!
- II. The victory belongs to the LORD!
- III. For His Glory, God often orchestrates
EXTREME OPPOSITION to Himself
and His plans.
- IV. *God uses improbable and unlikely means
to accomplish His purposes.*

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IMPROBABLE MEANS

- Joshua 6:1-5
 - God’s way: “unorthodox” but God glorifying
- cp. Judges 7:2*ff*—Gideon’s army



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Joshua Made Much Ado About “Something”

□ Joshua 6:16; 20

God is always faithful to His promises.



Much Ado About “Something”

- I. The battle belongs to the LORD!
- II. The victory belongs to the LORD!
- III. For His Glory, God often orchestrates extreme opposition to Himself and His plans.
- IV. God uses improbable and unlikely means to accomplish His purposes.
- V. God is always faithful to His promises.

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Sunday, February 3rd, 2008

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