



Now when all the kings west of the Jordan heard about these things — the kings in the hill country, in the western foothills, and along the entire coast of the Mediterranean Sea as far as Lebanon...



JOSHUA 9:1

they came together to wage war against Joshua and Israel.

JOSHUA 9:2

However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, JOSHUA 9:3

they resorted to a ruse: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with wornout sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended.

JOSHUA 9:4

They put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and moldy.

Then they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the Israelites, "We have come from a distant country; make a treaty with us."

The Israelites said to the Hivites, "But perhaps you live near us, so how can we make a treaty with you?" JOSHUA 9:7

"We are your servants," they said to Joshua. But Joshua asked, "Who are you and where do you come from?" JOSHUA 9:8

They answered: "Your servants have come from a very distant country because of the fame of the Lord your God. For we have heard reports of Him: all that He did in Egypt,

JOSHUA 9:9

"and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan — Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth.

"And our elders and all those living in our country said to us, 'Take provisions for your journey; go and meet them and say to them, "We are your servants; make a treaty with us."

"This bread of ours was warm when we packed it at home on the day we left to come to you. But now see how dry and moldy it is. JOSHUA 9:12

"And these wineskins that we filled were new, but see how cracked they are. And our clothes and sandals are worn out by the very long journey."



Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.

Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbors, living near them. JOSHUA 9:16

So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath Jearim.

But the Israelites did not attack them, because the leaders of the assembly had sworn an oath to them by the Lord, the God of Israel. The whole assembly grumbled against the leaders,

but all the leaders answered, "We have given them our oath by the Lord, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now. JOSHUA 9:19

"This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that God's wrath will not fall on us for breaking the oath we swore to them."

They continued, "Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers in the service of the whole assembly." So the leaders' promise to them was kept.

Then Joshua summoned the Gibeonites and said, "Why did you deceive us by saying, 'We live a long way from you,' while actually you live near us?

JOSHUA 9:22

"You are now under a curse: You will never be released from service as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God."

JOSHUA 9:23

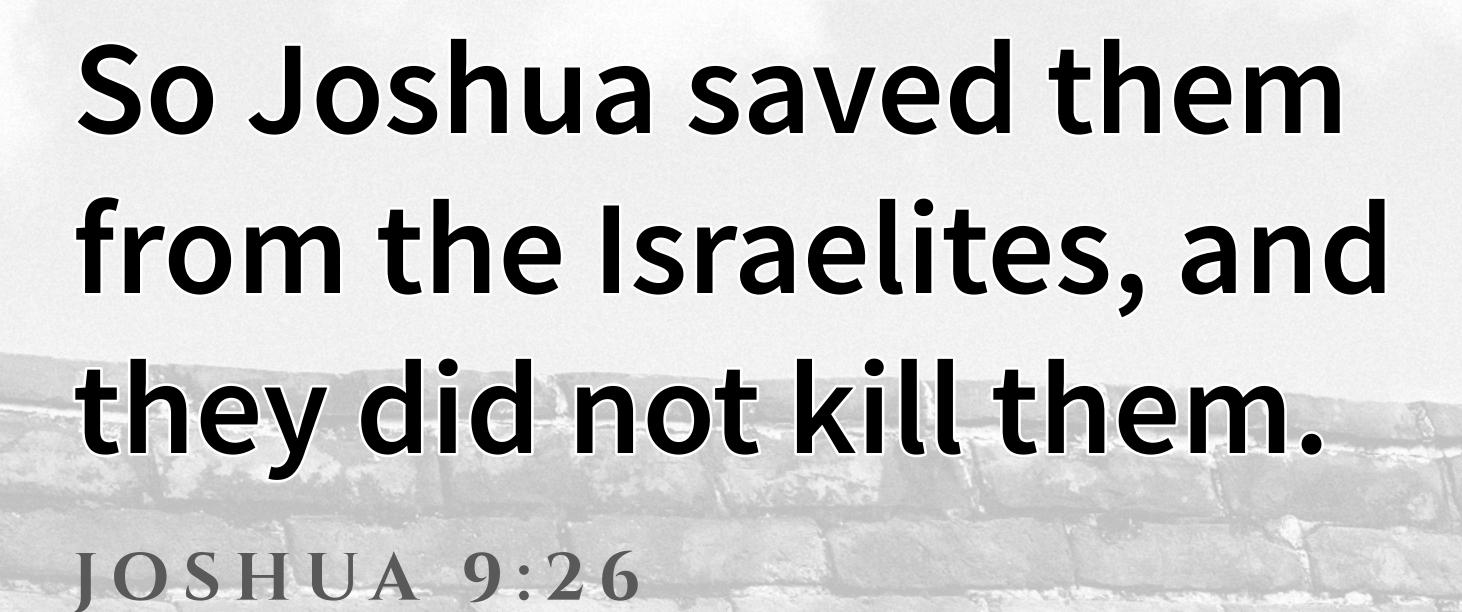
They answered Joshua, "Your servants were clearly told how the Lord your God had commanded His servant Moses to give you the whole land and to wipe out all its inhabitants from before you...



JOSHUA 9:24

"We are now in your hands. Do to us whatever seems good and right to you."

JOSHUA 9:25



That day he made the Gibeonites woodcutters and water carriers for the assembly, to provide for the needs of the altar of the Lord at the place the Lord would choose. And that is what they are to this day.

Now Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had taken Ai and totally destroyed it, doing to Ai and its king as he had done to Jericho and its king...

and that the people of Gibeon had made a treaty of peace with Israel and had become their allies.

JOSHUA 10:1

He and his people were very much alarmed at this, because Gibeon was an important city, like one of the royal cities; it was larger than Ai, and all its men were good fighters.

So Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem appealed to Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth, Japhia king of Lachish and Debir king of Eglon. JOSHUA 10:3

"Come up and help me attack Gibeon," he said, "because it has made peace with Joshua and the Israelites." JOSHUA 10:4

Then the five kings of the Amorites — the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon joined forces. They moved up with all their troops and took up positions against Gibeon and attacked it.

JOSHUA 10:5

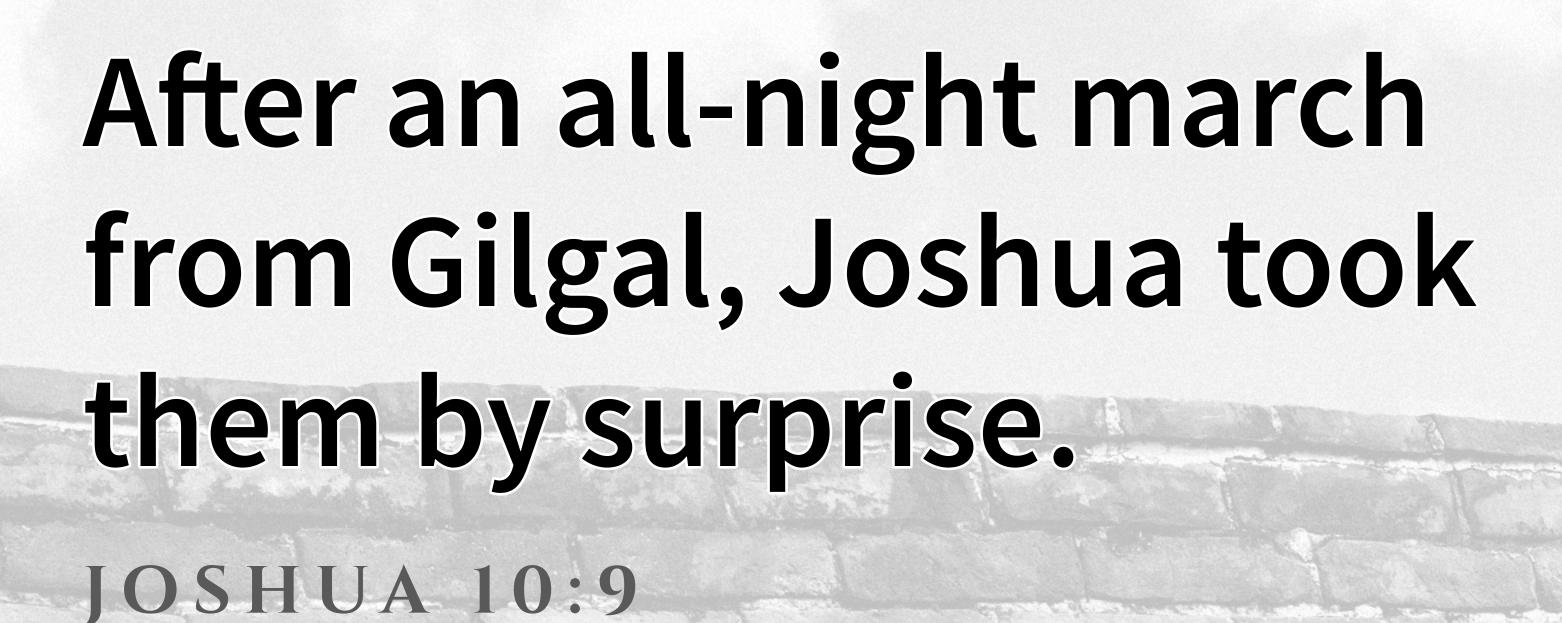
The Gibeonites then sent word to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal: "Do not abandon your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us! Help us, because all the Amorite kings from the hill country have joined forces against us."

JOSHUA 10:6

So Joshua marched up from Gilgal with his entire army, including all the best fighting men.

JOSHUA 10:7

The Lord said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you." JOSHUA 10:8



The Lord threw them into confusion before Israel, so Joshua and the Israelites defeated them completely at Gibeon...

Israel pursued them along the road going up to Beth Horon and cut them down all the way to Azekah and Makkedah.

JOSHUA 10:10

As they fled before Israel on the road down from Beth Horon to Azekah, the Lord hurled large hailstones down on them, and more of them died from the hail than were killed by the swords of the Israelites.

JOSHUA 10:11

On the day the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the Lord in the presence of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon."

JOSHUA 10:12

So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day.

JOSHUA 10:13

There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the Lord listened to a human being. Surely the Lord was fighting for Israel!

JOSHUA 10:14

Then Joshua returned with all Israel to the camp at Gilgal.

JOSHUA 10:15

The <u>Lingering</u> Effects of Sin

"their hearts melted and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites."

JOSHUA 5:1

"they came together to make war against Joshua and Israel."

JOSHUA 9:2

The <u>Danger</u> of Trusting Common Sense



DEUTERONOMY 20:10

If they accept and open their gates, all the people in it shall be subject to forced labor and shall work for you.

DEUTERONOMY 20:11

However, in the cities of the nations the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes.

DEUTERONOMY 20:16

Completely destroy them the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites — as the Lord your God has commanded you.

DEUTERONOMY 20:17

Otherwise, they will teach you to follow all the detestable things they do in worshiping their gods, and you will sin against the Lord your God.

DEUTERONOMY 20:18

Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

JOSHUA 1:8

The Failure to Inquire of the Lord

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1 JOHN 4:1

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

COLOSSIANS 2:8

The Grace of God When We Fail

God's plan is always best, so ask Him. When you fail, marvel at His mercy.