

## ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE AND MOVE ON LESSON 9A

**Series Subject: Accept the Challenge and Move On!**

**Lessons 5-10: Conquest of Canaan Josh. 5:1-12:24**

**Lesson 9: The Federation of Southern Canaan Josh. 10:1-43**

**Lesson 9A: Coalition Attacks Gibeon/Israel's Response Josh. 10:1-14**

**Today's Study:** Josh. 10:1-14

1. Conspiracy of Five Kings Vv. 1-5
2. Call for Help/Complied with Vv. 6-14

**Time is available only for a brief discussion of review questions from previous lesson**

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1. Highlights from Lesson 8

- (a) The power and presence of the true and living God among His people continues to produce fear among the inhabitants of Canaan (Josh. 9:1-5).
  - (1) The west Jordan kings formed an alliance with the intention to destroy Israel (Josh. 9:1-2).
  - (2) The Gibeonites, also fearing for their lives, used deception to form an alliance of peace with Israel (Josh. 9:3-15, NB Vv. 3-6).
- (b) The alliance of the west Jordan kings came about after Israel resoundingly defeated Jericho and Ai; it also came about most likely during the period when Israel was having their rededication service at Shechem.
  - (1) This alliance is an attestation that Satan attacks us at our moments of spiritual victories.
  - (2) The west Jordan kings' alliance primary purpose was to destroy!
    - **1 Peter 5:8 ESV**  
"Be sober minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."
    - It is at those times of spiritual victories, times of refreshing, times of being in the very presence of God, when the alliance of evil comes against us.
    - **It is Satan's objective to destroy those who are victorious, who continue to pursue a life of holiness and sincere dedication to God; such persons are a threat to him (Satan) and he will seek to destroy. The devil and the forces of evil do not worry about weak believers."**
- (c) While the alliance of the west Jordan kings was a serious threat to Israel, the alliance with the Gibeonites was a more serious one.
  - (1) The Gibeonites threat was a scheme of deception and lies under the guise of a peace treaty.

- (2) Comparing the two alliances (west Jordan kings and the Gibeonites with Israel) we observe some similarities the world makes in response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- For example, we noted that while wise men sought the Promised One, King Herod sought to destroy Him (Matt. 2 and Luke 6; etc.).
  - To some, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the fragrance of eternal life while to others it is the smell of death (2 Cor. 2:15, 16)
  - **1 Cor. 1:18 ESV**  
 “For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing’ but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”  
*(Read Vv. 18-25)*
- (d) The method decided on by the Gibeonites to achieve their objective was through deception.
- (1) They wanted to be at peace with the people of God (Josh. 9:4-6, 8, 11).
  - (2) Rahab had similar objective (Josh. 2:8-14) but the Gibeonites differ from Rahab because they used trickery to gain their objective (Josh. 9:4-5, 12-13).
    - They lied about their livelihood (Josh. 9:4).
    - They lied about where they lived (Josh. 9:8-9).
    - They continue to lie by not directly answering the question about their identity (Josh. 9:8-9).
    - They lied about their loyalty directed to God (Josh. 9:8-10).
    - They lied about their willingness to serve (Josh. 9:11).
    - They lied about their food and clothing (Josh. 9:11-13).
- (e) The evidences produced by the Gibeonites, even when tested by the leaders of Israel (Josh. 9:14a), were impressive and convincing which seemed to authenticate that they were indeed from a faraway country.
- (1) Unfortunately, Israel’s leadership did not consult God and went ahead and made a peace pact with the Gibeonites (Vv. 14-15).
  - (2) Three days after the alliance was made it was discovered that the Gibeonites were neighbors.
    - Israel was not supposed to make an alliance with the Canaanites but to utterly destroy them (Ex. 23:23-33; Num. 33:50-56; Deut. 7, NB v. 2).
    - Despite the deception with which the Gibeonites used to acquire the alliance, the leaders of Israel realized that they could not destroy them because the oath was taken in the LORD’S name (v.18).
- (f) In order to overcome the deception of the Gibeonites, Joshua and the leaders of Israel took three steps:
- (1) **First: Protecting and honoring God’s name.**  
*The essential factor in this transaction is God!! It is all about Him; His name must be protected!! (Vv. 18-19).*

(2) **Second: Avoiding God's wrath and judgment**

*This was done by honoring an agreement that was made in God's name! Keeping that promise was essential, otherwise they would face the judgment of God (Vv. 20-21).*

(3) **Third: Rebuke and guard against future deception.**

*Joshua and the leaders openly rebuked the Gibeonites for their deception. They then put in place what was necessary to avoid a repetition; the Gibeonites were confined perpetually to serve in the Tabernacle as hewers of wood and water carriers (Vv. 22-27).*

(g) We noted Joshua's composure in rebuking the Gibeonites (Josh. 9:22), which was also exemplified when he interrogated Achan (Josh. 7:19),

(1) *I am repeating a quote by Matthew Henry:*

*"Under the greatest provocation, it is our wisdom and duty to keep our temper, and to bridle our passion; a just cause needs not anger to defend it, and a bad one is never better by it."*

(2) **Prov. 15:1 Amplified Bible**

*"A soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger [Prov. 25:15]."*

2. **Introduction to Josh. 10:1-43**

*The following is a quote from The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible.*

*"Loyalty is an absolute essential in human relationships and in society. Without loyalty, no body of people can survive. If soldiers are not loyal to their commanders, what happens? Defeat. If rulers are not loyal to the citizens, what happens? Corrupt government. If people are not loyal to their government, what happens? Anarchy and the overthrow or replacement of the government. If a husband or wife is not loyal to the other, what happens? Strife, a broken relationship, divorce, and deep hurt and pain for the children. If employers are not loyal to their workers, what happens? Frustrated workers, resignation, replacement costs. If workers are not loyal to their employers, what happens? Low production, low profit margins, often bankruptcy and loss of jobs.*

Loyalty is an absolute essential in society and human relationships. Loyalty is the important subject of this great passage of Scripture. Remember that Joshua had just signed a peace treaty with the nation of Gibeon. The Gibeonites had used deception and lies to secure a peace treaty with the Israelites. But despite the deception and lies, Joshua had led the Israelites to honor their commitment to the peace treaty. He honored their commitment to the peace treaty. He honored the peace treaty because it had been sworn to, ratified in the 'name of the Lord.' God's name and honor were at stake; consequently, despite the lies and deception, the treaty had to be kept.

Now Joshua's loyalty was to be tested. The Gibeonites nation was attacked by other Canaanite forces. What would be Joshua's response? Would he be loyal to his word and promise made in the peace treaty, a peace treaty that had been secured by deception and lies? Chapter 10 is a passage of Scripture that teaches the great importance of loyalty. . . ."

#### A. Conspiracy of Five Kings Josh. 10:1-5

##### *Josh. 10:1-5 Life Application Study Bible*

"Adoni-zedek; king of Jerusalem, heard that Joshua had captured and completely destroyed Ai and killed its king, just as he had destroyed the town of Jericho and killed its king. He also learned that the Gibeonites had made peace with Israel and were now their allies. He and his people became very afraid when they heard all this because Gibeon was a large town—as large as the royal cities and larger than Ai. And the Gibeonite men were strong warriors.

So King Adoni-zedek sent messengers to several other kings: Hoham of Hebron, Piram of Jarmuth, Japhia of Lachish, and Debir of Eglon. 'Come and help me destroy Gibeon,' he urged them, 'for they have made peace with Joshua and the people of Israel.' So these five Amorite kings combined their armies for a united attack. They moved all their troops into place and attack Gibeon."

#### 1. Settling in Canaan

(a) The Israelite's occupation was making progress and strengthening themselves as they remained focused on their goal to conquer and occupy Canaan.

Let's briefly note some steps taken:

(1) **Reminder!** A memorial in remembrance of God's goodness.

*The memorial (Josh 4:19-24) served as a reminder of the power of God and the reverence due Him, applicable to all generations (Josh. 4:6-7, 20-23) and as a witness to all nations (Josh. 4:24).*

(2) **Renewal** by a generation (of Israelites) that demonstrated belief and obedience to God.

- They renewed the covenant of circumcision (Josh. 5:2-9)
- They celebrated the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread (Josh. 5:10-12)
- We have observed Israel spiritually preparing themselves to be used of God by these acts as well as other acts such as sanctifying themselves (Josh. 3:5; 7:13) and obediently adhering to the dictates of God.

(3) **Resounding Victories** were experienced:

- Crossing the overflowed Jordan River on dry ground (Josh. 3 and 4)
- Supernatural power at Jericho (Josh. 6)
- Strategic maneuver at Ai (Josh. 8)
- Surrender by the Gibeonites (Josh. 9)

(4) **Refreshing and Rededication at Shechem** (Josh. 8:30-35)

- Despite his demanding schedule, Joshua and Israel took time out to be in the presence of God. Joshua was not oblivious of the fact that he was at war but he had to prioritize; they thus demonstrated their zeal for the service of God and his honor.
- **We must not put off our agreement with God; we must not allow anything to distract us from minding and diligently pursuing that which is most needful!! God must always have the preeminence!!**

(b) Some argued that Joshua's pace in conquering Canaan was too slow!

(1) They claimed that there were too many delays, and that he should have been more consistent in attacking the enemy, not allowing them to form alliances and strengthening themselves.

(2) Matthey Henry, noting the possible response by some in regards to Joshua's pace as follows:

"Thus Joshua's prudence, perhaps, was censured as slothfulness, cowardice and want of spirit."

He went on to note three important facts:

- **First:** "Canaan was not to be conquered in a day."
  - God's assurance to Moses (Ex. 23:23-33)  
**Ex. 23:30 Amplified Bible**  
"Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and are numerous enough to have possession of the land."
  - They that believe will not make haste or conclude that the promise will never be fulfilled because it is not occurring as expected.
- **Second:** "Joshua waited for the Canaanites to be the aggressors."
  - As for any alliance formed against Israel or its ally, let them take whatever action they desire, it will be more justifiable for any response made by Israel.
  - Joshua had the authorization to strike as he desired yet he waited until the enemy attacked first.
- **Third:** "It was for the advantage of Joshua to sit still awhile, that the forces of these little kings might unite in one body, and so that they might the more be cut off with one blow."

## 2. Source of Fear (Josh. 10:1)

(a) Israel's military advance into the promise Land produced fear among the Canaanites.

(1) Adoni-zedek, king of Jerusalem was stricken with terrible fear.

- He heard about the conquest of Jericho and Ai.
  - The facts speaks loud and clear; the armies of Israel were advancing and all the cities of Canaan were endangered.
  - He knew that the destruction of Jerusalem and its people was imminent and some positive action was compulsory.

- Even more troubling was the report of Israel totally destroying Jericho and Ai.
    - He realized that these people (Israel) had pronounced the judgment of God against all Canaan.
    - These people fought not in their own strength but were enabled by God and this meant serious consequences for the Canaanites.
  - Adoni-zedek was also concerned because of the area already under Israel's control, Israel was now in a strategic position to effectively advance and as a result must be stopped.
- (2) Adoni-zedek was the leader of the insurrection.
- Adoni-zedek was a good name which signifies "*lord of righteousness.*"
  - It is believed that he may have been a descendant from Melchizedek, "*king of righteousness*" (Gen. 14:18-24). He had a good family background.
  - Despite having a good name, he was a bad and evil man.
    - The Israelites were descendants of Abraham to whom his predecessor Melchizedek, was a faithful friend.
    - Adoni-zedek called upon his neighbors to join and fight Israel.
- (b) Several factors contributed to the intense fear possessing their hearts: They heard about the conquest of Jericho and Ai **and of the treaty between Israel and Gibeon.**
- (1) It was the treaty with Gibeon and Israel that especially concerned the surrounding nations.
- The defection of the Gibeonites to Israel meant trouble for other inhabitants of Southern Canaan.
  - Gibeon was a large city and of strategic importance in protecting Canaan from invading armies (v. 2).
  - It had an excellent army of well-trained soldiers who were known throughout the land as good fighters, they were mighty warriors (v.2).
- (2) The loss of Gibeon was a major setback to the surrounding nations, they lost a great and notable ally.
- The peace treaty with Israel and the Gibeonites was done privately and resulted in a deep-seated hostility among the Canaanite nations.
  - While a deep-seated hostility was evident among the other Canaanite nations, there was a more intense, deeply troubling and crippling fear that arrested the hearts of surrounding nations because they had lost a strategic military fortress.
  - These nations were not going to ignore the alliance of Gibeon and Israel and the best alternative they saw was to take immediate military action against Gibeon and Israel.
- (c) Why declare war against the Gibeonites?

- (1) The coalition of these five kings was primarily focused on recapturing Gibeon because it was a strong city and would serve as an important safeguard against Israel.
- They were expecting Israel to attack their cities anytime and Gibeon would serve as an important means of counteracting such threat.
  - They realized that Gibeon being a great city (*as a reminder Gibeon had four cities...Josh. 9:17*) with mighty soldiers and now in alliance with the Israelites was extremely dangerous for all Canaanite cities.
- (2) The coalition of the five Canaanite kings was also focused on retribution; they intended to punish Gibeon for making peace with Israel.
- The peace treaty with Israel was regarded as a betrayal of their country and means of strengthening the enemy.
  - As we noted in our previous lesson, the Gibeonites did not submit to Israel because of a weak position, they were strong warriors (Josh. 10:2). Israel was dreaded because of the true and living God (Deut. 2:25).
    - Despite the Gibeonites background and deception, they humbled themselves and submitted to their fate under Joshua's leadership.
    - They had also acknowledged the reality of the awesomeness of the true and living God, the God of Israel. They expressed their love and honor for the God of Israel and were willing to serve perpetually as hewers of wood and drawers of water.
    - It has always been Satan's objective to make war upon those who make peace with God.
      - **1 John 3:13 Amplified Bible**  
"Do not be surprised and wonder, brethren, that the world detests and pursues you with hatred."
      - See also John **15:18-27, NB v. 19**; Matt. 24:9; Luke 6:22; 21:17; John 17:14.
  - The coalition moved in their forces and laid a siege on Gibeon but were unable to take the city.
    - The enemies of Israel "feared greatly" (v. 2), but like our spiritual enemies, they did not retreat, instead they launched a bold attack as a wild animal who in of his life fights furiously and viciously.
    - Beloved, keep in mind that the Church (Universal) is a "called out community in a hostile world!"  
**John 15:19 NKJV**  
"If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."

### 3. Southern Coalition -- The Five Kings (Josh. 10:3, 5)

We will be briefly noting a few highlights in regards to (a) the five cities forming the alliance (b) some references in regards to "Evil Alliances" and brief comment on one

(c) a few pointers in regards to Rev. 16:16. Time wouldn't allow for details and you are encouraged to explore these subjects.

(a) **The cities of the Southern Coalition (Josh. 10:3)**

(1) **Jerusalem**, its king was Adoni-zedek (Josh. 10: 1, 3, 5)

- The name Jerusalem came from two sources:
  - **First**, the Egyptian records where it is referred to as “*Urusalim*,” or “*Ursalim*” which means “City of peace.”
  - **Second**, the Jewish use of the word ... derived from two words used in relation to Abraham and applicable to the city:
    - “*Jireh*” (Gen. 22:14)
    - “*Salem*” (Gen. 14:18)
    - Both words were combined to form the word “*Jerusalem*”
- “Jerusalem” carries the meaning of “City of Peace” or “Abode of Peace”
  - It is also referred to as (a) “City of Jebus” (Judges 19:10) (b) City of David” (2 Sam. 5:7; etc.)
  - In your research you will find a wealth of information in regards to the usage of “Jerusalem,” as well as other important information.
- A few highlights in regards to the city.
  - While not classified as the most important, Jerusalem is one of the most important ancient cities in the world.
  - The reference here in Josh. 10, is the first time it is referred to as Jerusalem (Gen. 14:18).
  - Jerusalem is also known as “the holy city’ which have three world religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.
- “Supernaturally and spiritually, it is the only capital city where God’s earthly temple was constructed and which is to experience the permanent glory of God in the future, during the millennial reign of Christ.” (the Preacher’s Outline & Sermon Bible).  
 (*“Millennium: the word is not found in the Bible. It is referring to the 1,000-year period of Christ’s reign on earth... Rev. 20).*)

(2) **Hebron**, its king Hoham (Josh. 10:3, 5)

- The city lies between Jerusalem and Beersheba and believed to be one of Abraham’s favorite location (Gen. 13:18; 23, NB Vv. 1-4; 35:27).
- It was there he purchased Machpelah as a burying ground (Gen. 23).
- Sarah was buried there (Gen. 23:19)
- Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were buried there.

(3) **Jarmuth**, its king Piram (Josh. 10:3, 5).

- This was a city allotted to Issachar with its suburbs (Josh. 21:29).
- The city is identified with modern day Yarmuk.

(4) **Lachish**, its king Japhia (Josh. 10:3, 5)

- Lachish means: “Who walks or exists of himself.”



- There was an abundance of water sources and the fertile valleys of the area favored the existence of a prosperous city for a considerable time.
- It was one of the royal cities of Canaan and regarded as being impregnable. Its location was south of Jerusalem.

(5) **Eglon**, its king Debir (Josh. 10:3, 5)

Another royal Canaanite city and was found near Lachish.

**NOTE**

Each of these cities, Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon were important cities either for their location or for the trade route associated with them.

(b) **Evil Alliance** (Josh. 10:3-5)

(1) Motivated by his fear of extinction and the desire to punish Gibeon for making alliance with Israel, Adoni-zedek took the initiative to mobilize four kings to join him in taking immediate action against Gibeon.

- As noted, before they intended to retake Gibeon because of its strategic importance in halting the military progress of the Israelites.
- However, their ultimate goal was to be free from the impending threat posed by the Israelites with whom Gibeon had made alliance,
- Some people willingly surrender to God's control and yet so many uselessly oppose and rebel against Him only to their own doom!!

(2) In Psalm 2 we observe: "Man's Sinful Rebellion Against the LORD."

*Time wouldn't allow but I will quote verses 1-3 and make a brief comment on verse 3 both quotes are taken from Life Application Study Bible (LASB)*

• **Psa. 2:1-3 LASB**

"Why are the nations so angry? Why do they waste their time with futile plans? The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the Lord and against his anointed one; 'Let us break their chains,' they cry, 'and free ourselves from slavery to God.'" (*Read the Psalm*)

• Comment on verse 3

"People often think they will be free if they can get away from God. Yet inevitably, everyone serves somebody or something, whether a human king, an organization, or even one's own selfish desires. Just as a fish is not free when it leaves the water and a tree when it leaves the soil, we are not free when we leave the Lord. We can find the one secure route to freedom by whole heartedly serving God the Creator. God can set you free to be the person He created you to be." (LASB)

(c) **The Great and Final Battle** (*BRIEFLY NOTED*)

When Christ returns for the 1,000-year reign on earth (millennium reign) (Rev. 20:1-6) Satan and his forces of evil will mobilize many nations to war against God and His people (Rev. 16:14-16; 17, **NB v. 14**; 19:11-21; **20:1-15**; 21:1-2).

At this time we are focusing on the alliance of evil and we do emphasize that irrespective of who, when or where, all evil will be destroyed by God!! We will be noting **Rev. 16:16** with a brief emphasis on “Armageddon.” In regards to this subject there are a wide variety of presentations by religious sources, movie producers, song writers, etc. that have been made popular over the years.

*The following is a rather brief presentation quoted from the Life in the Spirit Study Bible. May you be blessed!!*

“Armageddon (Gk. ‘harmagedon’), located in north central Palestine, means ‘the mountain of Megiddo’; it will be the center of ‘the battle of that great day of God Almighty (Rev. 16:14).

This war will occur toward the end of the tribulation and conclude when Christ returns to destroy the wicked (Rev. 14:19), to deliver His people and inaugurate His Messianic kingdom.

Note the following concerning this event.

- (1) The prophets of the Old Testament prophesied the event (Deut. 32:43; Jer. 25:31; Joel 3:2, 9-17; Zeph. 3:8; Zech. 14:2-5).
  - (2) Satan and demons will gather together many nations under the direction of the antichrist in order to make war against God, His armies and His people to destroy Jerusalem (Rev. 16:13-14, 16; 17:14; see also Ezek. 38 -39; Zech. 14:2). Although the focal point will be the land of Israel, the event of Armageddon will involve the whole world (Jer. 25:29-38).
  - (3) Christ will return and supernaturally intervene to destroy the antichrist and his armies (19:19-21; Zech. 14:1-5) and all who disobey the gospel (Psa. 110:5; Isa. 66:15-16; 2 Thess. 1:7-10). God will also send destruction and earthquakes upon the whole world at this time (Rev. 16:18-19; Jer. 25:29-33).” (Life in the Spirit Study Bible)
- (d) The alliances of evil will continue to oppose God’s people but we have the assurance of victory by God just as He assured Joshua (Josh. 10:8; etc.)
- (1) In Josh. 11 we will see another alliance in the north forming to fight Israel.
  - (2) Satan and his evil host will continue to oppose God, His work and His people until he is bound eternally (Rev. 20, NB Vv. 7-10)
  - (3) As we saw above (Rev. 16, etc.) sinful people will continue opposing God’s people,
    - This fact is not a concealed matter as we have seen in the past and continue to this day!! The forces of evil indeed assemble and meditate on schemes how to distract, divide, discourage, demoralize and destroy the people of God and God’s work.
    - As with the coalition in Joshua they were willing to put aside their differences and unite against those who stand for truth, peace, justice and morality... seeking to get rid of those who stand for righteousness and true holiness.

(4) As we saw in previous lesson, Satan and his evil forces are not worried about weak believers but will put out all effort to destroy those who are determined to serve God.

- None of us are exempted from Satan’s attacks. This is our assurance that God will never leave us nor forsake us and our victory is found in Him!
- The song by CeCe Winans has a powerful testimony: **“He’s Never Failed Me yet”** is worthwhile noting, unfortunately I can present only a partial quote:

When clouds and valleys come  
 Set your eyes on the Risen Son  
 Pray the eyes of your heart be filled with light  
 And watch the blessed day break the night  
 Like the three Hebrew boys that day  
 Ooh, forced to take their fate to flames  
 I, too, have had the choice to break  
 And serve the world instead  
 But I stood on the Word and did not bow  
 Endured the steps the Lord allowed  
 I came out stronger shouting “WOW...  
 God never failed me yet!”

(5) The Southern Coalition was large and ready to destroy Gibeon and we continue to see great evil in our days but the battle is the Lord’s and evil will be defeated!! See Rev. 20:7-10.

## B. Call for Help/Complied With Josh. 10:6-14

### Josh. 10:6-14 ESV

“And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua in Gilgal, saying, ‘Do not relax your hand from your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the hill country are gathered against us.’ So Joshua went from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valor. And the LORD said to Joshua, ‘Do not fear them, for I have given them into your hands. Not a man of them shall stand before you.’ So Joshua came upon them suddenly, having marched all night from Gilgal. And the LORD threw them into panic before Israel, who struck them with a great blow at Gibeon and chased them by the way of the ascent of Beth-horon and struck them as far as Azekah and Makkedah. And as they fled before Israel, while they were going down the ascent of Beth-horon, the LORD threw down large stones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and they died. There were more who died because of hail stones than the sons of Israel killed with the sword.

At that time Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD gave the Amorites over to the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of all Israel. ‘Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon.’

And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until the nation took vengeance on their enemies.

Is it not written in the **Book of Jashar**? The sun stopped in the midst of heaven and did not hurry to set for about a whole day. There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD heeded the voice of a man, for the LORD fought for Israel.”

*(Jashar ...ESV; Jasher ...KJV)*

1. **Desperate Plea** (Josh. 10:6)

(a) Why such an urgency to war with Gibeon?

- (1) As we discussed before, the major goals were that the Southern Alliances intended to punish Gibeon for their alliance with Israel and to retake Gibeon because of its strategic military importance to the Canaanites cities.
  - We also saw that it was a large city (at least larger than Ai) with well trained and renowned soldiers.
  - Gibeon’s alliance with Israel was a disappointment because the Canaanites nation had lost an important and notable ally. It was a loss that brought remorse, frustration and great concern among all the other cities.
    - The loss obviously contributed to weaken the coalition while strengthening the enemy.
    - It also meant that in time of war the coalition would have one column less; and those missing were mighty men of valor.
- (2) Adoni-zedek not only sought and obtained the help he desired but the alliance went into action. While Gibeon had no king, it was still regarded “as one of the royal cities” (v. 2). Gibeon was just as strong and influential as any of the other cities and the alliance was determined to retake the city!

(b) **S.O.S. Sent Out!!**

- (1) The decision was made by the coalition forces and action was taken; the attack on Gibeon was now in process!!
  - Gibeon was able to put up a fight against the Southern Alliance but such resistance wouldn’t continue for long!!
    - They had valiant men but the invading forces by far outnumbered them and defeat was imminent unless situations changed!!
    - Much was at stake as they came face to face with death and destruction!!
  - David’s experience was different but nevertheless it was a cry for help because of his persecutors.
    - In this situation David’s experience was slander, falsely accused, wrongly charged and was facing continued threat from King Saul. *At this time we will not be discussing the unruly tongue but think on this thought: “The blow of a word can be more dangerous than the blow of a sword.”*
    - Felt surrounded and caved in as the source of opposition was moving in and the threat became more and more apparent.

**Psa. 57:4 NKJV**

“My souls is among lions; I lie among the sons of men Who are set on fire, Whose teeth are spears and arrows, And their tongue a sharp sword.”

*Two things in this psalm: Vv. 1-6 Presence of Trouble; and Vv. 7-11 Praises to God for Deliverance!!*

- See also Psa. 7:1; 31:15; 119:86; 143:3; Jer. 15:15; Lam. 5:5
- (2) The Gibeonite’s only alternative was to get help from Israel.
- We do not know how they managed to get a messenger through the enemy lines but such was realized (v. 6)).
  - **“Slack not thy hand from your servants ...” (v. 6 KJV)**  
**NKJV:** “Do not forsake your servants ...”  
**Amplified Bible:** :Do not relax your hand from your servants ...”
    - **Do not delay ...** this is not imminent, it is immediate!!”
      - Come and help us lest we all perish!!
      - We have more on our hands than we can manage!! Destruction and death are now knocking on our doors ready to break in!!
    - Beloved!! The call for help continues throughout history in so many ways, especially in regards to the need to rescue souls from eternal damnation!! Note ONLY a few pointers (*Such has been done throughout these lessons and we will continue to do so*):
      - We sometimes refer to this most essential need as **“The Macedonia Call”**, and it is rightly so because the call is from lost souls and even if not being said verbally the reality of eternity is saying to us: “Come over . . . and help us ...” (See Acts 16:6-10, NB v. 10)
      - Jesus reminds us that the “Fields are Ripe and Ready for Harvest” (John 4:31-38, NB v. 35).
      - The unfortunate reality for so many can be avoided . . . and yet one day “The Harvest” will be over (Jer. 8:18-22, NB v. 20)
      - Beloved! We have an awesome and most essential responsibility (Luke 14:15-24, NB v. 23)
      - Etc.
    - **The S.O.S. call continues today universally!!** The challenge to every believer is: “Rescue the Perishing” *Partial Quote:*  
 Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,  
 Jesus is merciful, Jesus will save
    - **Oh beloved, let us: “Send the Light”**  
Verse 2  
 We have heard the Macedonian call today,  
 “send the light! Send the light!”  
 And a golden offering at the cross we lay,  
 Send the light! Send the light!

- **Josh. 10:6 KJV “. . . from thy servants; come up to us quickly, ...”**
  - Do not withhold your help from thy servants.
  - Suretyship and Servants
    - In essence Israel had become somewhat a guarantor and the Gibeonites now looked to them for help. By agreement they were Israel’s servants and were expecting their help.
    - The Gibeonites did not seek a plea bargain with the Southern Coalition and did the right thing by looking to Israel as their helpers and protector.
  - The protection they sought was based on their covenant with Israel, who was their master. Beloved, all believers are belonging to the New Covenant (Matt. 26:28; Heb. 8:10; 12:24) and as His servants we are under His care!!
    - **Isa. 41:13 Amplified Bible**  
“For I the Lord your God hold your right hand; I am the Lord, Who says to you, Fear not; I will help you!”
    - See Isa. 41:10; 43:1-2; John 14:1, 27; Rom. 15:13; etc.
  - The Songs of Ascent (Psa. 120-137) one of my favorites; while we do not have time for a discussion is Psa. 123 . . . I am noting a few pointers.
    - The writers lifted his eyes to God, waiting and watching for God to send His mercy. The more he waited, the more he cried to God because he knew that the evil and proud offered no help—they had only contempt for God and His people.
    - **Note v. 2:** The mood is complete dependence. The **servants** of God depend on Him and respond to Him as faithful servants do to their earthly **masters** or **mistresses**.

## 2. Dutiful Response (Josh. 10:7-8)

### (a) Human Response

- (1) Unfortunately, even among some Christians we respond incorrectly to those who hurt us, although this attitude is inconsistent with God and His will for us. This matter was briefly discussed in a previous lesson.
  - Note for example Matt. 5
    - Vv. 21-26 Teach on Murder and Anger
    - Vv. 38-42 Teach on Forgiveness
    - Vv. 43-48 Teach on Loving One’s Enemies.
  - Peter addressed believers who were persecuted and dispersed because they were being persecuted ... Note 1 Peter for example Chapter 1
    - V. 1 ... note they were dispersed
    - V. 7 ... Peter speaks of their affliction
    - Etc.

- Difficulties sometimes lead to conflicts, etc. but note the call for genuine brotherly love (1 Peter 1:22) We will naturally love one another fervently irrespective of the circumstances because we have been purified by the blood of Jesus Christ and so we will be there for each other. This is applicable to those who revile and persecute and say all manner of evil against us (Matt. 5:11).
  - We could expand on these thoughts but the facts are well known and we know what must be done. I will close this though by noting Matt. 5:43-48  
**Matt. 5:44 NKJV**  
 “But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.”
- (2) The Gibeonites would have been destroyed had they not deceptively got Israel to make a peace pact with them.
- (3) Here they were facing imminent destruction unless Israel delivered them from the invading forces.
- (4) Joshua now has available to him the opportunity to get rid of the Gibeonites.
- Why shouldn't he ignore the very people who deceived him?
  - Why not allow the coalition forces to destroy them and rid him of the embarrassment resulted from their peace pact with Israel.
  - There were at least two reasons why Joshua did not take that alternative:
    - **First**, Joshua was a man of integrity. He fully demonstrated his loyalty by keeping his word, his promise and his commitment.
    - **Second**, the formation of the Southern Coalition provided a unique military opportunity (briefly noted before). Instead of conducting individual campaigns against each city, he was now able to defeat and destroy five armies in one operation.
- (b) Joshua's Resolve
- (1) He marched to face the enemy and to honor the treaty Israel had made with Gibeon.
- (2) “So Joshua ascended from Gilgal . . .” (Josh. 10:7a KJV)
- He “ascended from Gilgal ...” this means he planned, purposed (determined) and prepared for this undertaking of responding to the Gibeonites need.
  - It was a generous and honorable act of Joshua to help his new ally.
    - It is a possibility Adoni-zedek believed Joshua would not respond to help the Gibeonites, mainly because they obtained the league with Israel by fraud.
    - Joshua's loyalty was made evident in his response. He knew the commitment was not to slay the Gibeonites (Josh. 9:15, 18-19); neither would he stand by and see them slain when he had the power to rescue them.

- Joshua knew that when the Gibeonites embraced the faith and worshipped of the God of Israel they came to trust under the protection of God (see also Ruth 2:12). The Gibeonites were now God’s servants and were under Joshua’s care.

(3) **God energized Joshua (Josh. 10:8)**

- Undoubtedly, Joshua sought God in advance of preparing and moving on into battle.

**Josh. 10:8 KJV**

“And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.”

- Divine approval: “Have no doubt about the virtue of this undertaking and pureness of the call into action against the southern coalition.”
  - Forming the alliance with Gibeon was not God’s perfect will but He can use our failures as occasions to demonstrate His faithfulness and love to us.
  - It’s like God was saying to Joshua: “Though this undertaking is to assist the Gibeonites, you are in the way of duty and I am with thee.” Oh! What a wonderful thing to have such assurance!!
- Once more the emphasis was to be courageous (Josh. 1:6, 9; etc.). “Dread not the multitude nor the display of power by the enemy ... **“FEAR THEM NOT!!”**
  - This large alliance is resolved to destroy the Gibeonites and they will fight desperately and determinedly, yet do not be discouraged!! . . . **“I have delivered them into your hand!!”**
  - Beloved, our spiritual enemies may be many, vicious and determined to destroy (1 Peter 5:9; etc.)
    - But in Jesus Christ we are more than conquerors (Rom. 8:28-39, NB v. 37; etc.)
    - “... Do not fear for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” (2 Kings 6:16 NKJV, read Vv. 8-28).
- As in other military assaults, God once more gave the assurance of victory ... “I have delivered them into your hand ...” (Josh. 1:5; 6:2; 8:1; 10:8).
  - Those who God marked for destruction can neither resist nor escape.
  - From the very beginning Joshua knew that Israel was going to be victorious!! (v. 8).
    - **Those who fight the war between truth and error, light and darkness are assured of God’s help. He is the God of truth with infinite resources and abundant supplies.**
    - No matter the challenges, we have the victory because “Greater is He that is in us!!” (1 John 4:4).



- Based on the assurance given to Joshua (Josh. 10:8), the important thing to note here is the reliability of God!
  - We usually sing the chorus: “He Never Fail Me Yet” and beloved that is a fact and He will never let His people down.
  - Let us face the facts, sometimes the challenges seem devastating especially when they seem to prolong and no victory seems to be in sight or new challenges just keep coming!! Even then, He is with us!! He will ALWAYS come to our defense!! He is there when the enemy attacks ... time wouldn't allow see Psa. 27, 91, etc.
  - God will keep ALL His promises to us, He will be with us, He always delivers and saves His people

**1 Kings 8:56 NKJV**

“Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. There has not failed one word of all His good promises, which He promised His servant Moses.

(4) The character of Joshua continues to radiantly glow in so many ways! In this account (Josh. 10), we have seen that he was not only loyal to the commitment made to the Gibeonites but he kept it with great energy, diligence and dedication.

- As we observe in verse 7, he sent his very best warriors into battle to defend the Gibeonites.
- Oh! If only we can see the beauty of sincerely giving our best to the Master, not as a showpiece but out of sincere commitment and loyalty.
- Partial Quote: “Give of Your Best to the Master”

Verse 2

Give of your best to the Master;  
 Give Him first place in your heart,  
 Give Him first place in your service;  
 Consecrate every part.  
 Give, and to you will be given;  
 God His beloved Son gave;  
 Gratefully seeking to serve Him,  
 Give Him the best that you have.

(c) Gibeon's response

*They confronted their critical situation wisely . . . Briefly note three things:*

(1) They unashamedly confessed their need for help.

- Because of their alliance with Israel all their friends had turned against them.
- God's love and care are even deeper than that of parents. His is a love that will never forsake us (Psa. 27:10; etc.)
- He is ready, willing and able to help! Come to Him! Come freely to Him (Matt. 11:28-30; Heb. 4:14-16; etc.)

(2) They exemplified faith in God, who is above all!!

- He is greater in power than all these Amorite Kings who are united to destroy Gibeon.
- The faith the Gibeonites had was built on the reports they heard about the power of the true and living God, the God of Israel.
- The Gibeonites displayed no desire to be re-established with the old way of life. They came this far by faith in the true God and will continue.
- Likewise we must continue serving God in faith (Heb. 11:6). No turning back!! No turning back!!

(3) They were appreciative of Israel's ready response to meet their needs.

- It meant much to them that Joshua and his armies left Gilgal to be with them in war.
- The Gibeonites discovered that identification with God's people was much better than they had anticipated.
- **1 Thess. 5:16-18 ESV**  
"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

(d) **Practical Lessons . . . "Loyalty"**

Joshua had been exemplary in so many ways, at this time I am making a brief reference to "loyalty" not only as demonstrated by Joshua but a necessity for all believers.

(1) Definition of loyalty

- To be loyal means: "Giving or showing firm and constant support or allegiance to a person or institution."
- Loyalty means: "The state of being loyal."
- Some synonyms are: **Loyalty, Fidelity, Allegiance**, faithfulness, adherence, dependability, trustworthiness, etc.

(2) Closer look ... highlighting three words used above.

- **"Loyalty"** implies personal steadfastness and adherence in the face of pressure to desert or betray.
- **"Fidelity"** implies strict unbroken faithfulness to an obligation, trust or duty (for example as to a marriage partner).
- **"Allegiance"** implies adherence to formal obligation (for example as to one's country).

To summarize, a loyal person is unswerving and faithful in his allegiance to whatsoever or whatever his fidelity is due.

You may be surprised to know that the word "loyal" is not found in the KJV of the Bible; however frequent usage of faithful, faithfulness or words of similar nature have been used.

Joshua's experience with the Gibeonites was not a pleasant one because of their deception; however he had already made a commitment and decided to abide by it and spared their lives (Josh. 9). Once more he was challenged whether or not to faithfully abide by that commitment (Josh. 10).

- (3) The following is a quote from The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible  
 "Joshua's loyalty in his word, in doing exactly what he had promised, is a dynamic example for us. We must keep our word, do exactly what we say. Our word should be our bond. A person should be able to depend upon exactly what we say. Our 'yes' should be 'yes', and our 'no' should be 'no'. We should say exactly what we mean and mean exactly what we say. When we make a promise, we must keep it. A person must be able to depend upon our commitment and our promise.  
 When we speak, we should not lie nor speak deceitfully, attempting to deceive a person. . . . ."
- (4) Failing to keep our words result in great hardships and disastrous experiences such as divorces, broken families, ruined lives, etc. It is critically important to keep our words which can have far reaching effects and this was strongly exemplified in the situation with Joshua honoring his commitment to the Gibeonites.
- (5) NOTE a few pointers without discussion ... with limited references:
- God is loyal to us Deut. 7:9; Lam. 3:22-24; 2 Tim. 2:13.
  - We are to be loyal to Christ Mark. 8:34-35; Matt. 16:24; Luke 14:26-35.
  - We all want loyal friends; as Christians we are to be loyal to the people that God has put in our lives Prov. 18:24; John 13:34-35.
  - Loyalty remains even in adversity Prov. 17:17; 1 Cor. 13:7.
- (6) I will close with a few quotes:
- "There's something wrong with our character if opportunity controls our loyalty."
  - "Loyalty is more than words. True loyalty results in action."
  - "Loyalty isn't grey. It's black and white. You're either loyal completely, or not loyal at all."
  - "Actions prove who someone is, word just prove who they want to be."

### 3. Divine Intervention (Josh. 10:9-11)

#### NOTE

God has always been there for His people; this assurance was given to Joshua from the start of his leadership (Josh. 1:5) and realized in all his undertakings (Josh. 3:7; 5:2; 6:2; etc.). Below I am simply presenting a listing of God's involvement in this Southern Campaign (Josh. 10).

- (1) The assurance of victory (v. 8)
- (2) Created panic among the enemy (v. 10)
- (3) Slew the enemy with hailstones (v. 11)

- (4) At Joshua's request He extended the day in order for Israel to complete victory over the coalition forces (Vv. 12-14)
- (5) Complete victory over all the southern cities (Vv. 22-43)

(a) **Diligent Leadership** (v. 9)

- (1) God's assurance to Joshua (Josh. 10:8) of victory over the enemy was not meant to be a depressant.

- His attitude was not to sit back passively and watch God works without his participation.

**ILLUSTRATION**

A farmer was complimented on the quality farm he constantly maintained. In response he said: "While I am thankful to God, you should have seen what it was like when He (God) had it (the farm) all by Himself."

- Joshua, once more displayed diligence and effort to participate in the work and fully yield to the will of God.

- (2) The request by the Gibeonites was a matter of urgency and Joshua responded accordingly.

- He took the enemy by surprise! (v. 7)

- The march from Gilgal to Gibeon was approximately 20 miles and up a steep ascent all the way.
- It was a surprise attack because of the extreme need involved in the request; Joshua saw no room for delay!!

- The care and zeal displayed by Joshua in this situation was as if he were responding to the need of one of the tribes of Israel.
- Joshua did not put off for another day what had to be addressed immediately.

**Benjamin Franklin said:** *"Do not put off until tomorrow, what you can do today."*

- (3) Beloved, nothing good comes easy!

- Joshua knew that he would not reach Gibeon in a day by routine standard and in order to avoid losing the advantages against the enemy they travelled **"all night."** (v. 9)
  - There was no time to sleep but he had with him mighty men of valor ... special forces! These were men of spirit and determination, etc. men who would endure fatigue without murmuring.
  - Joshua paid a price in responding in such a manner but he had learned that some of God's assignments demand extra effort.
- The following are two quotes I want you to consider:
  - **"God does His work, but He draws us into working with Him! Often God waits to see our initiative, our willingness to be a partner with Him before He does what only He can do."** (David Guzik)

➤ **“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overall and looks like work.” (Thomas Edison)**

- Absolutely! God’s promises are reliable, but not intended to slacken and replace, instead to quicken and encourage our endeavors.

(b) Divine Help (Vv. 10-11)

(1) The effectiveness of teamwork has been demonstrated by Joshua and his soldiers!

- Joshua and his forces vigorously attacked the enemy, knowing they were not fighting in their own strength.
- God was also involved in doing only what He can do!! What an awesome experience to have God fighting for us!!
- Joshua’s army was large and powerful, those facts alone were sufficient to dishearten the enemy; nevertheless, the “God of Battles” would appear in this great and decisive battle because He is always there for His people!!
- God’s intervention also demonstrated to Israel that they got the Promise Land NOT by their own sword but by the Almighty God!!

**Psa. 44:3 Amplified Bible**

“For they got not the Land [of Canaan] in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them; but Your right hand and Your arm and the light of Your countenance [did it], because You were favorable toward and did delight in them.”

(2) The uprising of the Southern Coalition was addressed by God.

- As a reminder, the Southern Coalition (Josh. 5:1-5) was formed to destroy the Gibeonites because of their alliance with the people of God and the city Gibeon was strategically important for military purposes.
  - Frequently, when people identify themselves with God, opposition arises quickly!
  - Paul was a persecutor of the believers but when he was converted, he was severely persecuted by his former Jewish comrades to the time of his death.
  - **2 Tim. 3:12 Amplified Bible**  
 “Indeed all who delight in piety and are determined to live a devoted godly life in Christ Jesus will meet persecution [will be made to suffer because of their religious stand].”  
*See also Matt. 24:9; John 15:18-27; 16:2.*
- God’s response to the coalition’s attack clearly demonstrated that He would never desert His people when threatened by champions of depraved religion and immoral morals whosoever they may be!!
  - God favors those who contend for truth, righteousness and liberty.
  - He just as definitely opposes those who rebel against Him

**Read again Psalm 2**

(3) By the power of God the enemy was overtaken by great terror and confusion (Josh. 10:10)

- The panic among the enemy forces enabled the Israelites to gain the upper hand in the battle.
- Throughout the battle, the Israelite soldiers fought on and on while God performed His wonders.
- The enemy was routed and in retreat. The Israelite army chased them to Azekah (11) and Makkedah (Vv.16, 17), a distance of approximately twenty-two miles!!
- No matter how impressive they are, the wicked will be confounded!!
  - Those who were determined to build the “Tower of Babel” thought they had everything in place to accomplish their goal!!
    - See Gen. 11:1-9) Notice the people’s objective in verses 1-4; until God intervened Vv. 5-9
    - “Babel” means “Gate of God” but the project only became “a **confusion**” and such happens when man elevates himself and seek to rebel against the true and living God.
  - The wicked may flourish like a “Green Bay Tree” (means “to prosper greatly” Psa. 37:35) but they will be confounded (Psa. 37:36). See also Isa. 37:27; 41:11; 44:25; 45:16; Jer. 20:11

(4) The enemy was also destroyed by hail stones as they fled (v. 11)

*Great debates and a variety of interpretations in regards to the miraculous performances of God in verses 10-14. At this time we will avoid the debates and briefly present the facts as noted in the Word.*

- The Canaanites affronted the true and living God by worshipping the host of heaven; they were giving worship to the created things instead of worshipping the Creator.
  - Now the host of heaven fights against them and they must have been perplexed, wondering that their gods were helping the Israelites.
  - The Canaanites were wrongly focused on their worship and were now learning they had no reliable help especially at this critical hour.
- Due to the intensity of the battle the enemy fled but as they fled, they were bombarded with hailstones (v.11).
  - The hailstones were so large and came down with such force that more of the enemy were killed with hailstones than by the sword.
  - For the Canaanites this was a disastrous experience, it was a shattering defeat! They were being routed and smashed!!
- Josephus (Roman Jewish historian) confirms that the hailstones were accompanied with thunder and lightning.
  - The thunder is significant because one of the gods worshipped by the Canaanites was Baal.
  - The Canaanites regarded Baal as the god of thunder; ironically, with the thunder, lightning and hail it seemed the gods of Canaan were

definitely fighting for the Israelites ... but it was the power and might of the true and living God!!

- As a point of interest: Baal was also considered the god of fertility ... and believed to have been the supreme Canaanite and Phoenician god and was worship in various ways.
  - Unfortunately, Israel also strayed and worshipped Baal (*For example see 1 Kings 18 ... details not possible*)
  - In 1 Kings 18 we also saw the futility of worshipping man made gods. Note for example verses 21-40, highlight Vv. 27-39.
- Baal could not help the Canaanites (Josh. 10) and no false god has the power to deliver!! NONE!!!
  - “The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; They have ears, but they do not hear; Nor is there any breath in their mouths, Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trust in them.” (**Psa. 135:15-21 NKJV**)
  - The Canaanites could not conquer Israel because their gods were nothing.
  - Note the thought in Psa. 135:21, those who make these gods are like them. If the true God is your God you will become more like Him as you worship Him!! Oh Beloved!! Let it be our goal to be like Him!! In Him we are more than conquerors!!!

O to be Like Thee! O to be like Thee!  
 Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art;  
 Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fulness;  
 Stamp Thine own image deep in my heart.

- The conditions of the battle against the Southern Alliance was in Israel’s favor because of the true and living God who was with them!!
- Irrespective of any scientific or any other explanations (and there are many), this outpouring of hailstones (Josh. 10:11) was the miraculous act of God as He once more works on behalf of His people. Nothing is impossible for Him!! Only the LORD is truly God!!

**Deut. 33:26 Amplified Bible**

“There is none like God, O Jeshurun [Israel], who rides through the heavens to your help and in His majestic glory through the skies.”

Read verses 27-29 Glory to God!!

- In this account (Josh. 10:11) we have seen how miserable those are who have God as their enemy and without doubt they are sure to perish.
- **God causes nature to oppose those who resist Him!!**
  - Deborah in her victory song, Judges 5, noted

**Judges 5:20 Amplified Bible**

“From the heavens the stars fought, from their courses they fought against Sisera.”

- The Canaanites of the Southern Coalition realized the awful position they were in and having no way of escaping destruction.
- This may be a grim reminder but a factual one and not mentioned lightly ... man needs to stop and think when he continues to rebel against God!!!

**Heb. 10:31 Amplified Bible**

It is a fearful (formidable and terrible) thing to incur the divine penalties and be cast into the hands of the living God.”

(5) God is not limited!!

*As noted above there are many interpretations in regards to the outpouring of hailstones (v. 11) and the lengthening of the day of battle (Vv. 12-14). However, we should remember that God is the Creator and is able to control all of His creation as He desires (Psa. 95:4-5; John 1:3; Rom. 1:20; etc.).*

Please note a few pointers, without comments, in regards to the **“Wonders of God”** . . . at this time we are focusing mainly on His power over nature which is relevant to our text (Josh. 10:11-14). Please feel free to expand this listing if you so desire.

- The plagues in Egypt (Ex. 7:20-12:36) among these plagues was hail mingled with fire (Ex. 9:13-26, NB Vv. 22-26).
- Parting of the Red Sea (Ex. 14)
  - Israel crossed on dry ground (Vv. 21-25)
  - The pursuing Egyptian army attempted to pursue but only to their destruction by the returning waters (Vv. 26-31)
- Crossing the overflowed Jordan River on dry ground (Josh. 3-4).
- God used weather on Israel’s behalf:
 

***Out of the heavens came torrential rains causing flashfloods that swept Sisera away*** (Judges 5:20-21 . . . noted earlier)
- The great tempest (**thunderstorm**) that fell on the Philistines at Ebenezer (1 Sam. 7:10).
- Drought as a punishment for their apostasy during the reign of King Ahab (1 King 17:1-7). Rain was later sent as prophesied by Elijah (1 Kings 18, NB Vv. 41-46; James 5:17-18).
- Here we have another coalition force against Israel but God intervened and gave victory to Israel (2 Chron, 20, NB v. 22 . . . *read the chapter*)
- God has power over nature (Psa. 77:13-20)
- Jesus walked on water, raised the dead, etc. (Matt; 14:22-25; John 11; etc.)



- Mention was made earlier about the final defeat of the Antichrist and his followers (Rev. 16, NB Vv. 14-16; 17-21). In 16:17-21 note thunders, lighting and hailstones will be poured out on the unrepentant.

He is god, above Him there is no other!!

**Ex. 15:11 Amplified Bible**

“Who is like You, O Lord, among the god’s? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, **doing wonders?**”

**What A Mighty God We Serve**

Angels bow before Him  
Heaven and earth adore Him

What a mighty God we serve

He holds the winds in His hand  
And He is the great I am  
He is the bright and morning star  
And without Him I would fall

Angels bow before Him  
Heaven and earth adore Him

He holds the winds in His hand  
And He is the great I am  
He is the bright and morning star  
And without Him I would fall

Angels bow before Him  
Heaven and earth adore Him

What a mighty God we serve

Jehovah Jireh, my provider  
Jehovah Shalom, my peace  
Jehovah Tsidkenu, my righteousness

What a mighty God we serve

**Josh. 10:12-14 ESV**

“At that time Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD gave the Amorites over to the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel

'Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and moon, in the valley of Aijalon.'

And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until the nations took vengeance on their enemies.

Is this not written in the Book of Jashar? The sun stopped in the midst of heaven and did not hurry to set for about a whole day."

**DUE TO TIME WE WILL COMPLETE VERSES 12-14 IN OUR NEXT LESSON (Lesson 9B)**

**2 Tim. 2:15**

**KJV**

"Study to shewn thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

**Amplified Bible**

"Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth."

## LESSON 9A REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Complete the following:  
 "It is Satan's objective to (a) \_\_\_\_\_ those who are (b) \_\_\_\_\_, who continue to (c) \_\_\_\_\_ a life of holiness and (d) \_\_\_\_\_ dedication to God; such persons are a (e) \_\_\_\_\_ to him (Satan) and he will seek to (f) \_\_\_\_\_."

2. In order to overcome the deception of the Gibeonites what three steps were taken by Joshua and the leaders of Israel? )Give references).

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3. Complete the following:  
 Under the greatest (a) \_\_\_\_\_, it is our (b) \_\_\_\_\_ and (c) \_\_\_\_\_ to keep our (d) \_\_\_\_\_ and to (e) \_\_\_\_\_ our passion; a just cause needs not (f) \_\_\_\_\_ to defend it, and a bad one is never (g) \_\_\_\_\_ by it."

4. Complete by choosing the correct answer:  
 "A soft answer \_\_\_\_\_, but grievous words stir up anger [Prov. 25:15]." \_\_\_\_\_ Amplified Bible  
 (reference)

- (a) makes you weak
- (b) is not necessary
- (c) turns away wrath
- (d) creates more anger

5. Briefly explain why loyalty is essential in human relationship and in society.

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6. As seen in Joshua chapters 3 to 9, what were some outstanding victories realized by Israel?

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7. In regards to the “Rededication” at Shechem (Josh. 8:30-35): what significant lessons are taught?

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8. In response to those who have been critical of Joshua’s pace in conquering Canaan, what three important facts were noted by Matthew Henry in defense of Joshua? (Noted in our lesson).

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9. What were some possible reasons Adonizedek became fearful of the advancing Israelite army?

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10. What do the following names signify (1) Adonizedek (2) Melchizedek? (b) Was there any relationship between these men . . . explain? (c) Despite his good name, why Adonizedek was regarded as an evil man?

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11. What were some reasons why the treaty with Gibeon and Israel was such great concern to the other Canaanites?

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12. What were the major goals set by the Southern Coalition to be realized by conquering Gibeon?

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13. List the names of the cities and their kings that formed the Southern Coalition (Josh. 10:1-5).

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14. In regards to "Jerusalem" (a) how was the name derived? (b) What is the meaning of Jerusalem? (c) Which three world religion had their origin in Jerusalem?

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15. (a) Which of the five cities mentioned in Josh. 10:3, was believed to have been one of Abrahams favorite places? (b) Give some related facts to support this information (with references).

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16. While so many persons vainly seek freedom; what is the only secure route of freedom?

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17. (a) Define “Armageddon” (b) briefly note two pointers to support the fact.

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18. Match the statements on the left with the correct references on the right.

STATEMENTS	CORRECT REFERENCE	JUMBLED REFERENCES
Armageddon, the place of the battle of that great day of God Almighty.		Rev. 20:10
Armageddon—prophesied by the Old Testament prophets		Rev. 19, NB Vv. 11-21
Christ accompanied by His followers will judge the antichrist and his followers,		Rev. 20:1-7
Millennium: The 100—year reign of Christ on earth.		Rev. 16: 14-16
Satan eternally bound and tormented		Zeph. 3:8 Zech. 14:2-5

19. “Slack not thy hands from your servants” (Josh. 10:6). What was communicated in this request by the Gibeonites?

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20. Under what condition were the Gibeonites requesting help from Israel . . . upon what they based their request?

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21. If the Gibeonites were destroyed by the Southern Coalition, it would rid Joshua of the treaty with them. Give at least two reasons why Joshua did not ignore the request for help by the Gibeonites.

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22. Note carefully Josh. 10:8: ... The assurance here was that the enemy was sure to be defeated by Israel because of God's presence and help.

Complete the following by choosing the correct answer (*Taken from our lesson*):

"Those who God marked for destruction can \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_."

- (a) surely find an escape
- (b) neither resist nor escape
- (c) surely repent after death
- (d) possible reduce the judgment

23. Complete the following:

"Those who (a) \_\_\_\_\_ the war between (b) \_\_\_\_\_, and (c) \_\_\_\_\_, light and darkness are (d) \_\_\_\_\_ of God's help. He is the God of (e) \_\_\_\_\_ with (f) \_\_\_\_\_ resources and (g) \_\_\_\_\_ supplies."



24. What three things noted in our lesson as to how Gibeon confronted their critical situation?

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25. *The following is one sentence from a paragraph on loyalty in our lesson.*

Complete by choosing the correct answer:

“A person must be able to depend upon our \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.”

- (a) excuses, bad-habits and irregularities
- (b) composure and our smiles
- (c) our craftiness and deceit
- (d) commitment and our promise