

7. Joshua placed a prophetic curse of Jericho.

1) The curse - Joshua 6:26

2) The fulfillment - I Kings 16:34

8. The defeat at Ai:

1) Joshua did not consult the Lord first.

2) The sin of one person (Achan in this case) can interrupt the flow of God's power and blessing to a whole congregation.

3) The remedy: I John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1. How do we deal with the severity of God and the Israelites in dealing with their enemies?

Acknowledging that our thoughts and feelings don't like the severity we see here and knowing that we must "bring every thought into captivity to the Word of God (2 Corinthians 10:5):

- 1) We need to understand that God and the religion He has revealed are not comfortable to our image... "Truth is what it is, not what we wish it to be."

- 2) We need to see that God's wrath is a real thing.
 - a) He does give time to repent.

 - b) His wrath will eventually fall.

 - c) See Ecclesiastes 8:11 and Romans 2:4, 5

 - d) The only way to escape His wrath is through the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

- 3) The struggle between God and evil, God and Satan, God's people and God's enemies, is a struggle to the death, though the outcome of the struggle is not in jeopardy.

- 4) Since we do not generally like to fight, we are often tempted to compromise.

2. Gibeon's deception:

1) Things are not always what they seem to be.

2) Joshua 14:9: “They sampled the provisions but they did not inquire of the Lord.”

3) Israel’s promise to Gibeon, though given under false pretenses, was inviolable. (See Psalm 15:4)

3. Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim, which will be looked at more closely when we study Deuteronomy, show us the importance of worship. In the midst of a military campaign, Joshua took time out to worship God.

1. Chapter 10 is an awesome passage of Scripture:

1) God's omnipotence

2) Joshua's audacity and faith

2. Two things to notice before we talk about the above:

4) Adoni-Zedek, the leader of the forces that came against Israel, was King of Jerusalem.

a) He is the second King of Jerusalem that we have seen.

b) The contrasts between Melchizedek, the first King of Jerusalem, and Adoni-Zedek, the second one.

i. Melchizedek means King of Righteousness; Adoni-Zedek means Lord of Righteousness

ii. Melchizedek was the friend of God's chosen leader, Abraham; Adoni-Zedek was the enemy of God's chosen leader, Joshua

iii. Melchizedek was honored by Abraham; Adoni-Zedek was hanged by Joshua.

iv. Melchizedek was a "type" of Christ; Adoni-Zedek is not identified in Scripture as a "type" of God's enemies

5) Joshua and his army rushed to the defense of Gibeon.

a) The importance of keeping their oath to the deceptive Gibeonites

b) Joshua talked to God about it first - "Pray first and then decide what you are going to do."

3. The omnipotence of God: "God can do anything at all, anytime He pleases because all-power (omni-potence) resides in Him."

4. Joshua, knowing that he had not yet finished the task, asks God to "make the sun stand still..." - an astonishing request!

5. God answers and accomplishes that miracle.

6. Joshua's faith was audacious, bold and risky.

7. This, the greatest miracle that God ever performed for the nation of Israel, has little to do with winning the battle; it had to do with finishing everything He had told Joshua to do.

1. Joshua 11-13 concludes the brief history of Israel's military campaigns.
2. Chapter 11 records the northern campaign.
 - 6) Northern kingdoms mentioned are Hazor, Madon, Shimron, Acshaph, the Canaanites, Perizzites, Jebusites and Hivites.
 - 7) Their armies consisted of 300,000 foot soldiers, 100,000 horses (Israel had none) and 20,000 chariots (Israel had none).
 - 8) Israel marched 5 days from Gilgal and their victory in the south to Merom in the north.
 - 9) God's promise: "Do not be afraid of them...I will hand all of them over to Israel - slain." (Joshua 11:6)
3. "Do not be afraid."
4. The Northern Confederacy fell to Joshua and his army (this may have taken 1-5 years to accomplish). Even the giants so feared in Moses' day, the Anakites, were conquered.
5. Joshua 11:23 and Joshua 13:1 - What do we make of the contrasting statements of these two verses?
 - 1) The major campaigns were concluded.
 - 2) There will, however, still some pockets of Canaanites remaining, scattered among the tribes of Israel.
6. Our own spiritual reality is paralleled here:
 - 1) Jesus won the war against Satan on the cross and by the resurrection.

2) We are still securing yet unliberated territory for Christ.

3) Meditation question: What unsubdued areas remain in my own life? How will I address these areas?

7. Of the 31 kings and cities listed at the end of Chapter 12, only Gibeon tried to make peace with Israel. Their hearts were hardened. This is an example of the Doctrine of Reprobation.

1. Joshua 14-16 deals with the division of the land among the tribes of Israel.

2. Caleb:

10) Son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite - not an Israelite by choice!

11) Caleb stood with Joshua and Moses against the nation (after the spy incident) and exhorted the nation to follow the Lord.

12) At the age of 85, 45 years after being commended for wholeheartedly following the Lord His God, his testimony is still the same "...because he followed the Lord God of Israel wholeheartedly."

13) Caleb gets to choose his inheritance.

a) He shows great faith in choosing the yet unconquered land of the giants.

b) He shows us that there is no retirement age in the Kingdom of Christ.

14) Caleb drove out ALL the enemy.

15) Caleb's strength had not abated in those 45 long years.

16) The keys to his remarkable life:

a) Faith

b) Obedience (I John 5:3,4)

3. Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites in Jerusalem, nor Ephraim the Canaanites in Gezer.

4. The land is divided by the drawing of lots. There are other examples of this in Scripture:

3) The choosing of Matthias to replace Judas Iscariot in Acts 1

4) The choosing of which priest would offer the sacrifices in the Temple (Luke 2)

3) Proverbs 16:33 says: "The lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposing thereof is from the Lord."