

Joshua 10

v2

“they feared greatly”

- What do people think/feel about The Lord today? What opinion do they have of Jesus? Compare the reaction of the Canaanites with today's world.
- God has not changed. Do His people have such an effect/reaction upon the world today?
- Does my life cause others to look on and fear God?
- *Acts 13:26 Brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and all those others among you who reverence and fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation [the salvation obtained through Jesus Christ].*

v6

“Slack not thy hand from thy servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us”

- Similar to Rahab the Gibeonites did not put their trust in themselves or these other kings. Gibeon could have joined itself with all these other kings, they could have sought freedom from slavery.
- Gibeon sought help from the people of God. They put their hope in God. They feared God more than these kings and their armies.
- Despite their deception it would seem that Gibeon are glad with their agreement with Israel even though it is a service of hard labour.
- Considering future events it would seem there is sincerity in their hearts towards The Lord. An honest reverence.

v8

“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.”

- *Romans 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us.*
- The battle was already won! We are more than conquerors because Jesus has already conquered!!
- There was a responsibility to go out in faith and fight and claim the victory, but the battle was The Lord's and already won!
- We have a responsibility to go out into the world and claim victory. By faith we are to fight in prayer and deed and claim the given victory.
- There is a battle to be fought, there is an effort to be made! It is time, determination, commitment and resources... But when we go out and fight in faith... Then we can claim and enjoy the precious victory that The Lord has given!

v10-11

“And the LORD discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter”

“the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died”

- The battle was The Lord's! It is The Lord who brought the greater victory! He is the one who drove the enemy from before the Israelites.
- The battle was not won in their strength, numbers or skill!

v12-14

“Then spake Joshua to the LORD”

“he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand still upon Gibeon; and you, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon... And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed”

“the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.”

- We read that Joshua first “spoke to The Lord”. He sought The Lord in faith and then spoke in agreement to God's will. It is an important line which can be easily overlooked... Joshua spoke to The Lord first and brought his concern that they may not have time to fully claim the victory that The Lord had given to them. He prayed first!!
- Joshua's reason and concern was that they might not fully realise all that The Lord had given into their hands. Joshua was not satisfied with merely scaring the enemy away. His goal was not merely to win this one battle. Joshua recognised the scope of what The Lord had promised and was desperate that The people of God would accomplish all that The Lord had set before them. He was determined that they would utterly destroy the enemy as they had been commanded to do. Joshua was not merely saving Gibeon, he was claiming the land!!! Joshua saw beyond the threat and fear to the promise!! He was not defending but conquering! The enemy attack was not a setback but an opportunity to accomplish/take the promise!
- Man altered creation... by mere words! When man moves and acts in obedience/faith to God's word then The Lord will move on behalf of those who fear and trust Him. God heeded the cry of Joshua's heart that was longing to see the glory of God and accomplish all that he could for The Lord's name!
- The Lord fought for Israel. What a sight, what a testimony, what an incredible, powerful, significant victory! All praise and glory to our God!!

v19-20

“And stay ye not, but pursue after your enemies... for the LORD your God hath delivered them into your hand.”

“And it came to pass, when Joshua and the children of Israel had made an end of slaying them with a very great slaughter, till they were consumed”

- It wasn't enough to win this battle. It's so important to realise this point. This life in God is so much more than winning individual battles. The children of Israel theoretically could have stopped and claimed victory with these 5 kings but Joshua knew better than to stop!
- The enemy was to be completely and utterly destroyed! No remnant of sin will remain or be accepted/excused.
- *Deuteronomy 7:2 And when the LORD your God shall deliver them before you; you shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them...*
- The victory was to be thorough. They were to conquer and possess the land!! Not merely survive this battle and the next! These kings, these cities would trouble them no more!!! This is a picture of how the Spiritual life should be! Complete and utter victory over these areas in our life!
- Not merely surviving/defending but attacking, conquering, possessing! There is an effort required but the result/blessing of obedience is whole, complete and wonderful!

v24-25

“Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings.”

“Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.”

- *Hebrews 10:12-13 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; [13] From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.*
- *Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*
- There is no enemy that can stand against God's people walking in obedience and faith. NONE AND NOTHING!!!!
- ONLY when God's people allow pride, fear, lust etc... to come in are they weakened and vulnerable.

v28-43

"he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded."

- Oh may we be as thorough with the convictions/enemies that The Lord reveals to us.
- There was no room for excuses, empathy, psychology... There was no room for man's reasoning or logic!
- Oh may our hearts deal with sin as rigorously and conscientiously as Joshua.
- Consider too that there was chance of repercussions. A people utterly consumed could not rise up again to bring attack/aggravation. When we deal like this with sin then we can be assured of a conclusive victory with no further issues in the future.