

# Joshua 9

v2

***"That they gathered themselves together, to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord."***

- The world was in a panic and some planned to come against God's people with great force, power and numbers.
- The world had heard of the works of God in and through His people. There was a mighty and powerful testimony of God.

V3-6

***"And when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done unto Jericho and to Ai"***

***"now therefore make ye a league with us."***

- Some of the world would come against God's people in aggressive opposition but we see here how some would come deceitfully.
- Something to note is how the inhabitants of Gibeon knew that once the league had been made it would be binding and no revelation after that would change it. Words spoken meant much more in past days.

v14-15

***"And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD."***

***"And Joshua made peace with them"***

- They did not seek counsel/wisdom from The Lord. They handled the matter according to their own understanding.
- *Proverbs 3:5-7 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not on your own understanding. [6] In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths. [7] Be not wise in your own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.*
- It is conceivable that if they had come to truly surrender to The Lord in honesty that their lives may have been spared. However...
- It would seem the Gibeonites understood the intention/purpose of The Lord just as did the Israelites! They were to be destroyed and wiped out. There was to be no league made with the flesh/world. The land was to be sanctified and occupied by The Lord's people. The Canaanite was to be destroyed and cast out of the land.
- *Deuteronomy 7:2 And when the Lord your God gives them over to you and you smite them, then you must utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them, or show mercy to them.*

v16

***"after they had made a league with them, that they heard that they were their neighbours, and that they dwelt among them."***

- Oh how careful we need to be.
- *John 8:44 "... When he speaks a lie, he speaks what is natural to him, for he is a liar and the father of lies and of all that is false."*
- The enemy will seek to infiltrate the land/heart in such subtle ways. He will appeal to our senses, our logic, our feelings... We must be so wary to walk in the Spirit and in abandonment/dependence on The Lord. Let His will be done! We cannot know His will without first seeking it out!
- May we learn to commit all of our ways unto The Lord. May we be careful to seek His guidance and fulfil His leading.
- *Ephesians 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*
- *2 Corinthians 2:11 To keep Satan from getting the advantage over us; for we are not ignorant of his wiles and intentions.*

v20

***"we will even let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we swore unto them."***

- They continue to walk according to their own logic. They did not come to The Lord in confession and repentance.
- There was opportunity here to seek The Lord for His counsel. Perhaps He would have freed them from the Gibeonites deception.

v24

***"Because it was certainly told thy servants, how that the LORD thy God commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you"***

- What a shameful and damning situation.
- The world knew the word of God better than the Israelites. The world feared and revered God's word more than the Israelites.
- It is appalling that the world and the enemy might show more reverence of The Lord than His people.
- *James 2:19 You believe that there is one God; you do well: the devils also believe, and tremble.*
- The enemy trembles and fears before Almighty God but we, His people, are so proud and ungrateful that we get comfortable and brazen.
- May we learn to fear and reverence The Lord our God and Saviour! The more that we truly fear Him the more we will truly praise Him and rejoice that the Living Almighty God would incline His ear to hear the cries of sinful, failing man. Hallelujah! What a Saviour!! Thank You Jesus!!
- *Deuteronomy 7:2-9 And when the Lord your God gives them over to you and you smite them, then you must utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them, or show mercy to them. [3] You shall not make marriages with them; your daughter you shall not give to his son nor shall you take his daughter for your son, [4] For they will turn away your sons from following Me, that they may serve other gods; so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you and He will destroy you quickly. [5] But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and hew down their Asherim [symbols of the goddess Asherah] and burn their graven images with fire. [6] For you are a holy and set-apart people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a special people to Himself out of all the peoples on the face of the earth. [7] The Lord did not set His love upon you and choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the fewest of all people. [8] But because the Lord loves you and because He would keep the oath which He had sworn to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. [9] Know, recognize, and understand therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, Who keeps covenant and steadfast love and mercy with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations,*