

**Duped!**

## Joshua 9:1-27

As soon as all the kings who were beyond the Jordan in the hill country and in the lowland all along the coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, heard of this, they gathered together as one to fight against Joshua and Israel. But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai,

they on their part acted with cunning and went and made ready provisions and took worn-out sacks for their donkeys, and wineskins, worn-out and torn and mended, with worn-out, patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes. And all their provisions were dry and crumbly. And they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, “We have come from a distant country, so now make a covenant with us.”

But the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “Perhaps you live among us; then how can we make a covenant with you?” They said to Joshua, “We are your servants.” And Joshua said to them, “Who are you? And where do you come from?” They said to him, “From a very distant country your servants have come, because of the name of the LORD your God. For we have heard a report of him, and all that he did in Egypt,

and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon the king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth. So our elders and all the inhabitants of our country said to us, ‘Take provisions in your hand for the journey and go to meet them and say to them, “We are your servants. Come now, make a covenant with us.”’ Here is our bread. It was still warm when we took it from our houses as our food for the journey

on the day we set out to come to you, but now, behold, it is dry and crumbly. These wineskins were new when we filled them, and behold, they have burst. And these garments and sandals of ours are worn out from the very long journey.” So the men took some of their provisions, but did not ask counsel from the LORD. And Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live, and the leaders of the congregation swore to them.

At the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, they heard that they were their neighbors and that they lived among them. And the people of Israel set out and reached their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim. But the people of Israel did not attack them, because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel. Then all the congregation murmured against the leaders.

But all the leaders said to all the congregation, “We have sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, and now we may not touch them. This we will do to them: let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath that we swore to them.” And the leaders said to them, “Let them live.” So they became cutters of wood and drawers of water for all the congregation, just as the leaders had said of them.

Joshua summoned them, and he said to them, “Why did you deceive us, saying, ‘We are very far from you,’ when you dwell among us? Now therefore you are cursed, and some of you shall never be anything but servants, cutters of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.” They answered Joshua, “Because it was told to your servants for a certainty that the LORD your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land and

to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you—so we feared greatly for our lives because of you and did this thing. And now, behold, we are in your hand. Whatever seems good and right in your sight to do to us, do it.” So he did this to them and delivered them out of the hand of the people of Israel, and they did not kill them. But Joshua made them that day cutters of wood and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, to this day, in the place that he should choose.

As soon as all the kings who were beyond the Jordan in the hill country and in the lowland all along the coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, heard of this, **they gathered together as one to fight against Joshua and Israel.**

**But when the inhabitants of Gibeon  
heard what Joshua had done to  
Jericho and to Ai, they on their part  
acted with cunning**

# Gibeon



Daily Bible Study

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The Devil is depicted in the Scriptures both as the roaring lion and the subtle serpent. As the lion, he uses force and seeks to terrorize; as the serpent, he employs cunning and endeavors to poison and corrupt. In stirring up the kings of Canaan to fight with Joshua, Satan was relying upon the use of arms; but in moving the Gibeonites to cloak their character and pose to be what they were not, we behold his craftiness, purposing to introduce his leaven into the meal.

– A. W. Pink



## Exodus 23:31-33

And I will set your border from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the Euphrates, for I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you. You shall **make no covenant** with them and their gods. They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”

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## Deuteronomy 20:10-18

“When you draw near to a city to fight against it, offer terms of peace to it. And if it responds to you peaceably and it opens to you, then all the people who are found in it shall do forced labor for you and shall serve you. But if it makes no peace with you, but makes war against you, then you shall besiege it. And when the LORD your God gives it into your  
into your

hand, you shall put all its males to the sword, but the women and the little ones, the livestock, and everything else in the city, all its spoil, you shall take as plunder for yourselves. And you shall enjoy the spoil of your enemies, which the LORD your God has given you. Thus you shall do to all the cities that are very far from you, which are not cities of the nations here. But in the cities of these peoples that the LORD.

your God is giving you for an inheritance,  
you shall save alive nothing that  
breathes, but you shall devote them to  
complete destruction, the Hittites and the  
Amorites, the Canaanites and the  
Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites,  
as the LORD your God has commanded,  
that they may not teach you to do  
according to all their abominable  
practices that they have done for their  
gods, and so you sin against the LORD  
your God.

they on their part acted with cunning and went and made ready provisions and took **worn-out** sacks for their donkeys, and wineskins, **worn-out** and **torn and mended**, with **worn-out, patched** sandals on their feet, and **worn-out** clothes. And all their provisions were **dry and crumbly**. And they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, “We have **come from a distant country**, so now make a covenant with us.”

But the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “**Perhaps you live among us**; then how can we make a covenant with you?”

And Joshua said to them, “**Who are you? And where do you come from?**”

They said to him, “From a very distant country your servants have come, **because of the name of the LORD your God. For we have heard a report of him, and all that he did in Egypt, and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites** who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon the king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth.

## 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness.

So the men took some of their provisions, **but did not ask counsel from the LORD**. And Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live, and the leaders of the congregation swore to them.

Now it wasn't that Joshua and the elders didn't ask the right questions; they were suspicious at just the right points. It was not that they were sloppy in their investigation but that they were alone in their decision. It wasn't that they didn't think but that they didn't pray. They did not have because they did not ask (James 4:2).

– Dale Ralph Davis



## Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and **do not lean on your own  
understanding**. In all your ways  
acknowledge him, and he will make  
straight your paths.

At the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, they heard that they were their neighbors and that they lived among them...But the people of Israel did not attack them, because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel. **Then all the congregation murmured against the leaders.**

But all the leaders said to all the congregation, **“We have sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, and now we may not touch them.** This we will do to them: let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath that we swore to them.” And the leaders said to them, **“Let them live.”** So they became cutters of wood and drawers of water for all the congregation, just as the leaders had said of them.

## Malachi 3:5

Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against **those who swear falsely**, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

## 2 Samuel 21:1

Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year. And David sought the face of the LORD. And the LORD said, “There is bloodguilt on Saul and on his house, because he put the Gibeonites to death.”

# Nehemiah 7:21-26

(men who rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem)

The sons of Ater, namely of Hezekiah, 98. The sons of Hashum, 328. The sons of Bezai, 324. The sons of Hariph, 112. **The sons of Gibeon, 95.** The men of Bethlehem and Netophah, 188.

They appear to have been fully assimilated among the Jews, as much believers in Israel's God as was Rahab and other foreign 'converts' and as much recipients of God's grace.

– David M. Howard



## Genesis 50:20

As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

This is the glory of Yahweh. He cannot be outmaneuvered by human cunning or hindered by human fallibility. That glory is shown in the grace that can turn a curse into a blessing, that can use our mistakes and foolishness to bind us more closely than ever to him, that can reveal where we went wrong and make it become the means by which we can begin to go right.

– David Jackman

