

**Yahweh-
The Promise
Keeper**

Joshua 10:29-11:23

Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Makkedah to Libnah and fought against Libnah. And the LORD gave it also and its king into the hand of Israel. And he struck it with the edge of the sword, and every person in it; he left none remaining in it. And he did to its king as he had done to the king of Jericho. Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Libnah to Lachish and laid siege to it

and fought against it. And the LORD gave Lachish into the hand of Israel, and he captured it on the second day and struck it with the edge of the sword, and every person in it, as he had done to Libnah.

Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish. And Joshua struck him and his people, until he left none remaining.

Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Lachish to Eglon. And they laid siege to it and fought against it.

And they captured it on that day, and struck it with the edge of the sword. And he devoted every person in it to destruction that day, as he had done to Lachish. Then Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron. And they fought against it and captured it and struck it with the edge of the sword, and its king and its towns, and every person in it. He left none remaining, as he had done to Eglon, and devoted it to destruction and every person in it.

Then Joshua and all Israel with him turned back to Debir and fought against it and he captured it with its king and all its towns. And they struck them with the edge of the sword and devoted to destruction every person in it; he left none remaining. Just as he had done to Hebron and to Libnah and its king, so he did to Debir and to its king. So Joshua struck the whole land, the hill country and the Negeb and the lowland and the slopes, and all their kings. He left

none remaining, but devoted to destruction all that breathed, just as the LORD God of Israel commanded. And Joshua struck them from Kadesh-barnea as far as Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, as far as Gibeon. And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel. Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.

As for **Makkedah**, Joshua captured it on that day and struck it, and its king, with the edge of the sword.

fought against **Libnah**. And the LORD gave it also and its king into the hand of Israel.

And the LORD gave **Lachish** into the hand of Israel

Gezer came up to help Lachish. And Joshua struck him and his people, until he left none remaining.

And they captured **Eglon** on that day, and struck it with the edge of the sword.

to **Hebron**. And they fought against it and captured it and struck it with the edge of the sword

to **Debir** and fought against it and he captured it with its king and all its towns.

So Joshua struck the whole land, the hill country and the Negeb and the lowland and the slopes, and all their kings. He left none remaining, but devoted to destruction all that breathed, just as the LORD God of Israel commanded. And Joshua struck them from Kadesh-barnea as far as Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, as far as Gibeon. And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.

Joshua 12:13-15

the king of Debir, one; the king of
Geder, one; the king of **Hormah**,
one; the king of **Arad**, one; the king
of Libnah, one; the king of
Adullam, one;

(4 southern cities not named earlier)

The fact that there are seven cities speaks of the completeness of the campaign but also suggests that this may be a summarizing account, showing the destructions of representative cities and not intended to be comprehensive.

– David M. Howard



When Jabin, king of Hazor, heard of this, he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph, and to the kings who were in the northern hill country, and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, and in the lowland, and in Naphoth-dor on the west, to the Canaanites in the east and the west, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, and the Jebusites in the hill country, and the Hivites under Hermon in the land of

Mizpah. And they came out with all their troops, a great horde, in number like the sand that is on the seashore, with **very many horses and chariots**. And all these kings joined their forces and came and encamped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel.

Deuteronomy 20:1

When you go out to war against your enemies, and **see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own**, you **shall not be afraid** of them, for the LORD your God is with you, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

And the LORD said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid of them, for tomorrow at this time I will give over all of them, slain, to Israel. **You shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire.**” So Joshua and all his warriors came suddenly against them by the waters of Merom and fell upon them. And the LORD gave them into the hand of Israel, who struck them

and chased them as far as Great Sidon and Misrephoth-maim, and eastward as far as the Valley of Mizpeh. And they struck them until he left none remaining. And Joshua did to them just as the LORD said to him: **he hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.**

And Joshua turned back at that time and **captured Hazor** and struck its king with the sword, for **Hazor formerly was the head of all those kingdoms**. And they struck with the sword all who were in it, devoting them to destruction; there was none left that breathed. And he burned Hazor with fire. And all the cities of those kings, and all their kings, Joshua captured, and struck them with the edge of the sword, devoting them to destruction, just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded. But

none of the cities that stood on mounds did Israel burn, except Hazor alone; that Joshua burned. And all the spoil of these cities and the livestock, the people of Israel took for their plunder. But every person they struck with the edge of the sword until they had destroyed them, and they did not leave any who breathed. Just as the LORD had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses.

Deuteronomy 6:10-12

And when the LORD your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers...to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

So Joshua took all that land, the hill country and all the Negeb and all the land of Goshen and the lowland and the Arabah and the hill country of Israel and its lowland from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, as far as Baal-gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. And he captured all their kings and struck them and put them to death. **Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.**

Deuteronomy 7:2-5

and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must **devote them to complete destruction**. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them.

You shall **not intermarry** with them... for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods... But thus shall you deal with them: you shall **break down their altars** and dash in pieces their pillars and **chop down their Asherim** and **burn their carved images** with fire.

Exodus 23:29-30

I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land.

It is easy to read this account and to assume that it all happened at great speed and with consummate ease, but of course it was not like that. The outcome was never in doubt, because of God's commitment to his word of promise, but there was much blood, toil, sweat, and tears along the way. When we read the conclusion, it is easy to underestimate or even forget the process.

– David Jackman



There was not a city that made peace with the people of Israel except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon. They took them all in battle. For it was the **LORD's doing to harden their hearts** that they should come against Israel in battle, in order that they should be devoted to destruction and should receive no mercy but be destroyed, just as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exodus 7:3-4

But I will harden Pharaoh's heart,
and though I multiply my signs and
wonders in the land of Egypt,
Pharaoh will not listen to you.

Exodus 8:32

But Pharaoh hardened his heart this
time also, and did not let the people go.

When the Bible says that God hardened the heart of Pharaoh, God did not create fresh evil in the heart of an innocent man. God does not harden people by putting evil in their hearts. All that God must do to harden anyone's heart is to withhold His own grace; that is, He gives a person over to himself.

– R. C. Sproul



And Joshua came at that time and cut off the **Anakim** from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel.

Joshua devoted them to destruction with their cities. There was none of the **Anakim** left in the land of the people of Israel. Only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod did some remain.

So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, “The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height. And there we saw the Nephilim (**the sons of Anak**, who come from the Nephilim), and **we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers**, and so we seemed to them.”

So Joshua took the whole land,
according to all that the LORD had
spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it
for an inheritance to Israel according
to their tribal allotments. And the land
had rest from war.

He was speaking the language that everyone in his day would have understood. Rather than trying to deceive, Joshua was just saying he had fairly well trounced the enemy.

– Paul Copan



Moreover, it is a charming thought that our good God designedly gives us promises of good things that we may enjoy them twice; first by faith, and then by fruition.

- Charles Spurgeon

