

## Trinity Home Teams

Sermon Notes / Feb. 15, 2026

The Book of Joshua

**Joshua 10:5-14** / The Warrior of Israel

1. What's the *ammunition* that Yahweh uses in v11? What are we to learn from that? How to apply?
2. This passage says God answered Joshua's prayer. Why is interpreting this event vitally important doctrinally? Have you seen this misinterpreted by others? How?
3. No one wants to admit they see Jesus as soft and meek (*interpreting as weak*). But honestly, do you? How does this passage make you feel about God, prayer, boldness?
4. Read **James 5:16-18**. Explain this to yourself, others.

We've examined Israel's undiscerning alliance with Gibeon. Israel was deceived and entered into a treaty with Gibeon, who was not a far-off nation but a next-door neighbor. Rather than rout the Gibeonites because of their deception, Joshua and the leaders of Israel wisely chose to honor the covenant sworn to the God of Israel.

### **Yahweh honors Israel's fidelity** *(read v1-9)*

The enemies of Yahweh make war with those who make peace with him. Israel's covenant with Gibeon did not involve only a passive allowance but an active commitment. As Israel's servants, the Gibeonites were afforded protection.

Joshua's fidelity to his promise glorified Yahweh, who reaffirms his promise to Joshua given in 1:5: "*No man shall be able to stand before you all the days ...*"

COMMENTARY: "Such is the usual way God has of reassuring his children: not by unveiling to them some new truth... That is what God's people usually need—not new truth but old truth freshly applied to current need."

As Joshua honors his word to Gibeon, so Yahweh honors him and all Israel. The outcome of the battle is not in question: "*I have given them into your hands. Not a man of them shall stand before you.*"

**Acts 7:55** -- Jesus stands for the one who stood for him; he stands with him and in defense of him. Here, Yahweh not only stands with Joshua/Israel, he fights *for* them.

### **Yahweh harasses and hunts down Amorites** *(v9-11)*

Yahweh meets Joshua's faithful actions with sovereign power. He does not need Joshua and the Israelites; he is fully capable of taking the Amorites. Yet, Yahweh chooses to join with all Israel in the battle.

Let us not wait for the Lord to show himself in a work before we engage. Jesus said, "*If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.*" Our obedience is met with the favor and power of the Lord; not that he is powerless unless we first move, for he is the sovereign

Lord of the universe. Rather, he has chosen to meet our faith with his might for our good and for his glory.

The traditional Hebrew text assumes *Yahweh* is the subject of all four verbs:

- Yahweh throws them into a panic before Israel.
- Yahweh strikes them with a great blow at Gibeon.
- Yahweh chases them ... to ascent of Beth-horon.
- Yahweh strikes them as far as Azekah ...

Israel was fully engaged with the Amorites, but Yahweh is the **Warrior of Israel**. Joshua makes it abundantly clear who is responsible for this victory: read *v11*.

**Job 38:22-23** "*Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for ... battle, war?"*

**Psalms 44:3** "*for not by their own sword did they win the land, nor did their own arm save them, but your right hand and your arm, and the light of your face, for you delighted in them.*"

COMMENTARY: "It is too bad much of the church has lost this vision of God or Christ as the warrior who fights for his people... The popular image of Jesus is that he is not only kind and tender but also soft and prissy ... It is only as we know the warrior of Israel who fights for us that we have hope of triumphing in the muck of life."

**Psalms 24:8, 10** "*Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is ...King of glory!"*

This is the same King of glory who conquered sin and death and will vanquish every foe ... who judges and makes war in righteousness ... who enjoins us to take up the full armor of God in the battle 'against the cosmic powers over this present darkness.' ... who enjoins his people to battle the sin in their hearts thru the gospel.

### **Yahweh heeds Joshua's prayer** *(read v12-14)*

This section likely takes place before the battle begins, or near its beginning. Intriguing! Joshua prays, commands the sun and the moon to stand still – and it happens!

The question of what really happened is the subject of much debate. Some believe the sun and moon really stood still; the day did not end until the Amorites were defeated. Translation issue? Figurative? Miracle? Myth?

Joshua is learning. He neglected to seek the Lord before the battle at Ai. He failed to seek the counsel of the Lord concerning the Gibeonites. Now, before the battle with the Amorites, he prays, and Yahweh responds.

That Yahweh heeded Joshua's prayer is the main - and miraculous - point of this account: "*There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD heeded the voice of a man, for the LORD fought for Israel.*"