

Joshua—Joshua 10:1-27

Battle with Five Amorite Kings

I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

1. Verse 1... Gen 14:18; Heb 7:1... “**Adoni-zedec** - i. e. “Lord of righteousness” (compare Melchizedek, “King of righteousness”); probably an official title of the Jebusite kings.” [*Barnes Notes*].
2. Verse 10... DISCOMFITED in KJV—“**DISCOMFITED**, pp. Routed; defeated; overthrown.” [Webster’s 1828 Dictionary]. “To move noisily, confuse, make a noise, discomfit, break, consume, crush, destroy, trouble, vex” [*Brown-Driver-Briggs*].
3. Verse 12... “This is best accepted as an outright, monumental miracle. Joshua, moved by the Lord’s will, commanded the sun to delay (Heb., ‘be still, silent, leave off’). The earth actually stopped revolving or, more likely, the sun moved in the same way to keep perfect pace with the battlefield. The moon also ceased its orbiting. This permitted Joshua’s troops time to finish the battle with complete victory (v. 11)” [*The MacArthur Study Bible*, p. 316]. // Cf., Isaiah 38:7-8 turning back of the sundial for Hezekiah.
4. Verse 13... “**Ja’sher, The Book of.** (*upright*). (“*the book of the upright*”). The Book of Jasher is alluded to in two passages only, of the Old Testament. [Jos 10:13](#) and [2Sa 1:18](#). It was probably written in verse; and it has been conjectured that it was a collection of ancient records, of honored men or noble deeds. It is wholly lost.” [*Smith’s Bible Dictionary*].
5. Verse 24... “**Put your feet upon the necks of these kings** - This act was done symbolically, as a token, not only of the present complete victory, but of their approaching triumph over all their adversaries, which is the interpretation given of it by Joshua in the succeeding verse” [*Clarke’s Commentary*]. // “**Put your feet upon the necks of these kings** - A symbol of complete subjugation (compare the marginal references and [1Cor 15:25](#))” [*Barnes’ Notes*].

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **The Period of the Conquest.**

III. Summary.

This chapter records one of the most amazing events the world has ever known. The chapter begins with an assembling of a battle force by King of Jerusalem, Adonizedek. Their purpose would be to attack Gibeon because they had aligned themselves with Israel. Of course, the men of Gibeon sent word to Joshua with a desperate appeal for Israel to come and protect them according to the treaty they had with Israel. Joshua is told by the Lord that He has delivered the Amorites into Joshua’s hand. Joshua and the fighting men of Israel marched all night and were able to surprise the combined Amorite forces at Gibeon. The Lord sent down large hailstones and more of the enemy died from the hailstones than the children of Israel killed. As the battle was proceeding, Joshua spoke to the Lord and asked that the sun would stand still, thus giving his forces more time to complete the destruction of this enemy. The Lord listened to Joshua and granted the request. The Bible points out that there has not been a day like this one before or after it. The Amorite kings fled and hid in a cave, but were found and confined for a time in the cave by blocking its exit with rocks. After the great slaughter of the enemy, Joshua brought forth the five kings and Joshua’s captains put their feet on the necks of the kings as Joshua slew them. They were then hanged on a tree till night time.

IV. Outline.

1. A joining of Amorite forces is arranged to attack Gibeon (Josh 10:1-5).
2. Gibeon appeals to Israel to protect them (Josh 10:6).
3. Joshua and his men march all night to get to Gibeon and surprise the Amorites (Josh 10:7-9).
4. There is a great slaughter--Lord also slays many Amorites with hailstones (Josh 10:10-11).
5. Joshua asks the Lord to extend the day and the Lord hearkened to his voice (Josh 10:12-15).
6. The five kings are confined to a cave and then executed (Josh 10:16-27).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ The five kings of the Amorites were buried in a cave.
02. _____ The five kings fled and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah.
03. _____ More Amorites died from hailstones falling on them than the children of Israel killed.
04. _____ Joshua 10 tells about the Lord hearkening to the voice of a man.
05. _____ The Gibeonites asked Joshua and the Israelites to save them.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ It is said in this chapter that Gibeon was greater than: (a) them all; (b) Ai; (c) Jerusalem.
07. _____ Which of the following was not a part of the alliance of the Amorites: (a) Jerusalem; (b) Eglon; (c) Bethel.
08. _____ At what period of time did the Israelites travel to Gibeon: (a) early in the morning; (b) at noon; (c) all night.
09. _____ Was a guard set at the cave at Makkedah: (a) YES; (b) NO.
10. _____ The five kings were hanged on five trees until: (a) their bodies were eaten; (b) the going down of the sun; (c) no record is given of this.

Fill in the Blanks

11. _____ said, "Come up unto me, and help me, that we may smite Gibeon..."
12. "So Joshua _____ from Gilgal, he, and all the people of war with him, and all the _____ men of _____."
13. After the battle of this chapter, Joshua and Israel returned to _____.
14. "And there was no _____ like that before it or after it, that the Lord _____ unto the voice of a man: for the Lord fought for Israel."
15. "... for thus shall the Lord do to all your _____ against whom ye _____."

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week's handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-76 ... [01—True, Josh 8:34; 02—False, Josh 8:2; 03—False, Josh 8:12; 04—True, Josh 8:3-8; 05—True, Josh 8:29; 06—c, Josh 8:26; 07—a, Josh 8:31; 08—b, Josh 8:18; 09—b, Josh 8:8; 10—b, Josh 8:32; 11—burnt, heap, desolation, Josh 8:28; 12—Ai, Jericho, Josh 8:2; 13—21, possess, fear, discouraged; 14—king, alive, Joshua, Josh 8:23; 15—smoke, city, Josh 8:20.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **...That they feared greatly ... and all the men thereof were mighty** (Josh 10:2). The men of Gibeon are mentioned by those who knew them as being mighty men. The fact that the Gibeonites were mighty men and yet had found it wise to make a peace treaty with Israel was something that caused great fear in the hearts of the other Amorites, especially Adonizedec. Perhaps this king was attempting to stamp out that fear by attempting to punish the Gibeonites. Rather than humbling submitting to the powerful God of the Israelites, these proud people would fight even in the face of what had taken place at Jericho and Ai.
2. **...come up to us quickly and save us...** (Josh 10:6). This humble appeal from the Gibeonites showed that they recognized their hopelessness without the aid of the Israelites. I cannot help in reading this phrase to think about the millions of lost souls who would be crying out these very words to those of us who have the truth if they only understood their lost condition. We've been given the great commission to go into all the world and preach the gospel. We would be wise to spend some time meditating about lost souls and the need that they have to cry out the words of the Gibeonites.
3. **Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon ... And there was no day like that before it or after it...** (Josh 10:12-14). This was a miraculous happening. It is one of the sections of Scripture about which much has been written. It is quite clear here that Joshua had asked for a lengthening of the day and that he understood that his request of the Lord had been granted. There has been circulating for several years a story about the discovery made by NASA scientists, using powerful computers, that there is a day missing. This story is a fabrication and ought not to be used as a defense of this miraculous event. Bert Thompson has written an answer to this story and you may read that article by going to my website...
<http://www.hcis.net/users/dlemmons/longday.htm>
4. **...put your feet upon the necks of these kings...** (Josh 10:24). As we read about these battles and the cruelties of war, we must keep in mind the character of the people who are being destroyed. The children of Israel are obeying the instructions of the Lord as they destroy these wicked and dangerous people inhabiting the land. It would be necessary for Joshua and his captains and his men to be courageous and to have confidence that the Lord would be with them in battle to carry out the plans for the conquest of the land.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

T G B M O O N V F R E D C X S W Q A Z X
 S W E D C V R S F V B G T Y H N M J U I
 K L O P I U Y T T G B V F R E D C X S W
 Q A Z X S W E D C A V F R T A Y H N M J
 U I K M J U L N H Y Y R F V C J D E W S
 X Z A Q W L S X C D E E R F V B A G T Y
 H N M J I U I K L O P U D N B G T L R F
 V C D T E W S X Z A Q W S X C D E R O F
 V B S G T Y G I B E O N Y H N M J U I N
 M J N U Y H N B G T R F V C D E W S X Z
 A Q W U S X C D E R F V B G T Y H N M J
 U I K L S H A S T E D N O T P L O U E S
 Y H N M J U I K L O P Y H N V V F C R E
 W S X I C D E R F V B G T Y H N I Y U T
 N H Y S R F D E N E K R A R H O F V C I
 W S X R Z A Q W S X C D E R V F V B G R
 T G B A B G T Y H N M J U I K L O P Y O
 H N B E G T R F V C D E W S X Z A Q W M
 W S X L A V E N G E D X C V B N M K U A
 T G B F O U G H T F O R E D C W S D R L

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

Joshua 10:12-14--¹²Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the **Amorites** before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, **Sun**, stand thou **still** upon **Gibeon**; and thou, **Moon**, in the valley of **Ajalon**.¹³ And the sun stood still, and the moon **stayed**, until the people had **avenged** themselves upon their enemies. *Is not this written in the book of Jasher?* So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and **hasted not** to go down about a whole day.¹⁴ And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD **hearkened** unto the **voice** of a man: for the LORD **fought for Israel**.