

"Joshua & The Gibeonites"

Joshua 9

Open: Story

- The **Directive** by God for His people.
 - **Deu. 7:1-5** *"When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou; [2] And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them: [3] Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. [4] For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly. [5] But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire."*
 - **Judges 2:1-2** *"And an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I sware unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you. [2] And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice..."*
- The **Deceptions** used by the enemies of God's people. **vs. 1-13**
 - They used political tactics to disguise their appearance. **vs. 4a**
 - They used psychological warfare and preyed upon their emotions. **vs. 4b-5**
 - They avoided the truth. **vs. 6-8**
 - They professed a respect for God. **vs. 9-10**
 - They made an appearance of submission. **11-13**
- The **Decision** of the people to disobey God. **vs. 14-15**
 - The first mistake that was made was not seeking the counsel of the Lord. **vs. 14**
 - Their second mistake was making a league with these "far distant travelers" **vs. 15**
- The **Disappointment** experienced by God's people because of their disobedience. **vs. 16-27**
 - Unfulfillment of satisfaction that total victory brings as a result of complete obedience to God. **vs. 16-21**
 - Conflict that happens between people who are living contrary to the will and the word of God. **vs. 22-27**

I. Do not trust the peace offerings of the world.

- A. The peace offerings of the world are empty. **Ps. 52:2-6** *"Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully. [3] Thou lovest evil more than good; and lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah. [4] Thou lovest all devouring words, O thou deceitful tongue. [5] God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of thy dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah. [6] The righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him: [7] Lo, this is the man that made not God his strength; but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his wickedness."*
- B. The peace offerings of the world are unsatisfactory. *"Satisfaction in life is only possible by having the proper appetites and fulfilling those appetites through the obedience to God's Word."*
- Prov. 10:2** *"Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death."*
 - Prov. 10:17** *"The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it."*
 - James 1:17** *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights..."*
 - "The world can only dream of offering what God has already promised to give to the obedient."

C. The peace offerings of the world are unfulfillable. – *“Fulfilment in life is only possible by having the proper appetites and fulfilling those appetites through the obedience to God’s Word.”*

- i. **Is. 31:1** *“Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!”*
- ii. **Jer. 17:5-8** *“Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. [6] For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. [7] Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. [8] For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.”*

➤ What would the children of Israel have gained, that they had not already been promised by God, in making an alliance with a nation living a lifestyle that God had already condemned?

II. Do not allow emotions to keep you from doing what is right.

- While no doubt our emotions will affect us, we should not allow them to control us. We are to live by faith trusting that our obedience to God will bring a greater outcome than our ability to understand the current circumstance. **Deu. 20: 1-4** *“When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, and a people more than thou, be not afraid of them: for the LORD thy God is with thee, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. [2] And it shall be, when ye are come nigh unto the battle, that the priest shall approach and speak unto the people, [3] And shall say unto them, Hear, O Israel, ye approach this day unto battle against your enemies: let not your hearts faint, fear not, and do not tremble, neither be ye terrified because of them; [4] For the LORD your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.”*

A. Make decisions based on predetermined principles.

- i. **Job 31:1-5** *“I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid? [2] For what portion of God is there from above? and what inheritance of the Almighty from on high? [3] Is not destruction to the wicked? and a strange punishment to the workers of iniquity? [4] Doth not he see my ways, and count all my steps? [5] If I have walked with vanity, or if my foot hath hastened to deceit; [6] Let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know mine integrity.”*
- ii. **Ps. 17:3** *“Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited me in the night; thou hast tried me, and shalt find nothing; I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.”*
- iii. **Dan. 1:8a** *“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat, nor with the wine which he drank...”*
- iv. **Rom. 13:14** *“But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.”*

B. Trust that God knows what is best for you.

- i. **Ps. 23:1-3** *“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. [2] He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. [3] He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.”*
- ii. **Mt. 7:7-11** *“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: [8] For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. [9] Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? [10] Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? [11] If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”*

III. Do not make alliances with the world.

A. Christians should be leary any time the world seeks an alliance, because without the mind of Christ unity is not possible. **II Peter 2:17-19** *“These are wells without water; clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. [18] For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. [19] While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”*

B. We are warned in God’s word that to be a friend with world is to be at enmity {enemies} with God. General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson said it this way: *“Few friendships are lasting which are not founded on the evangelical virtue.”*

i. **Rom. 8:7** *“Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.”*

ii. **James 4:4** *“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”*

➤ Do not become entangled with things you think will help you; trust that God has not only promised, but provides the necessary tools to be successful in life. **II Tim 2:4** *“No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”*

IV. Before making any major decision, seek godly counsel.

○ **Prov. 21:30** *“There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.”*

- A. Prov. 1:5
- B. Prov 8:14
- C. Prov. 11:14
- D. Prov 12:15
- E. Prov. 15:22
- F. Prov. 19:20
- G. Prov. 20:18

Close:

- Don’t trust in the peace offerings of the world.
- Don’t allow your emotions to keep you from doing right, live by principles.
- Don’t make alliances with the world.
- Before any major decision, seek godly counsel.

II Timothy 2:4

“No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”