

The Book of Joshua



The Sun Stands Still at Gibeon

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Bible Study – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Collinsville, Illinois

Chapter Ten

1. Five Kings Advance on Gibeon 10.1-5

Cultural Corroboration: Two of the names of the kings, Hoham and Piram are Hurrian. The Hurrians were a non-semitic people from the north. They disappeared by the 10th century BC. This corroborates with and early date for the book of Joshua.

How does this situation test Israel's "covenant" faithfulness?

In what ways do we seek the weak in the church being attacked? How are we obligated to help?

The Unborn
The Oppressed & Persecuted – Christians in Sudan
The Poor (Especially Children)

2. The LORD Strikes at Gibeon 10.6-11

Look closely at verse 10. Who is the subject of the verbs "struck... chased... struck"?

The actual subject of each of these verbs is **The LORD** as it is with the first verb "threw them into a panic." God is the main subject and the cause of this victory.

Who gets the credit? This little difference in translation illustrates one of the biggest problems in the Christian church: human beings time and again fail to give full credit to God. C.F.W. Walther once said that the best test of true theology is to ask, "which gives the greatest glory to God?"



Two great dangers: 1. Complacency – “God will do it all for us, why should I try?” 2. Cooperation – “Victory depends both on what God does and I do?”

Solution: Christ at the Center.



3. The Unique Day – The Sun Stands Still 10.12-14

What do we do with Joshua's long day?

We believe it! There have been all kinds of attempts to explain this: The earth stopped rotating. The earth was tilted making Canaan the land of the "midnight sun." Others have suggested intense lightning or even a volcanic eruption.

Miracles: By definition they are unexplainable interventions of God in the natural course of events. The challenge us to believe or not believe in the existence of God or in God's desire to intervene in the affairs of men.

Jesus: His conception, life, teaching, deeds, resurrection, and ascension are the quintessential demonstration of God's power and desire to intervene in this world. *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.* John 3.16

How should we pray to the LORD?

John Newton's Hymn: "Come, My Soul, Thy Suit Prepare" (TLH 459)

Come, my soul, thy suit prepare,
Jesus loves to answer prayer;
He Himself has bid thee pray,
Therefore will not say thee nay.

Thou art coming to a King,
Large petitions with thee bring;
For His grace and power are such
None can ever ask too much.

With my burden I begin:
Lord, remove this load of sin;
Let thy blood, for sinners spilt,
Set my conscience free from guilt.

Show me what I have to do;
Every hour my strength renew.
Let me live a life of faith;
Let me die They people's death.



John Newton's Epitaph: "John Newton, clerk, once an Infidel and Libertine, a servant of slavers in Africa, was, by the rich Mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, perserved, restored, pardoned, and appointed to preach the Faith he had long labored to destroy."

Other Newton Hymns in our hymnal...

- 11. Safely Through Another Week
- 46. On What Has Now Been Sown
- 51. Now May He Who Form the Dead
- 113. While with Ceaseless Course the Sun
- 346. How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds
- 456. Approach, My Soul, the Mercy-Seat
- 469. Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

4. The Fate of the Five Kings 10.15-27

What spiritual significance lies behind the act of placing the feet on the neck of the enemy?

Matthew 22:44 Quoting Psalm 110:1 The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.

Romans 16:20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Do you have the confidence in God's total victory over evil?

5. Israel Sweeps to the South 10.28-43

