

Timeline of Truth – Joshua Makes a Treaty with the Gibeonites (Joshua 9)

<p>Joshua 9:1 And it came to pass when all the kings who <i>were</i> on this side of the Jordan, in the hills and in the lowland and in all the coasts of the Great Sea toward Lebanon -- the Hittite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite -- heard <i>about it</i>, ² that they gathered together to fight with Joshua and Israel with one accord.</p>	<p>1. The Kings of the Land Make an _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The kings heard what Israel did to Jericho and Ai b. They got together to fight Israel <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. With one accord – lit. <i>with one mouth</i>
<p>³ But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, ⁴ they worked craftily, and went and pretended to be ambassadors. And they took old sacks on their donkeys, old wineskins torn and mended, ⁵ old and patched sandals on their feet, and old garments on themselves; and all the bread of their provision was dry <i>and</i> moldy. ⁶ And they went to Joshua, to the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of Israel, "We have come from a far country; now therefore, make a covenant with us."</p>	<p>2. The Gibeonites Plan a _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They also heard about Jericho and Ai b. They disguised themselves <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Craftily - עֲרִמָה - <i>ardah</i> - craftiness, prudence Ex. 21:14; Prov 1:4; 8:5, 12 ii. Ambassadors - messengers iii. They took old supplies and clothing c. They came to Joshua <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. They claimed to come from far way ii. They asked for a covenant - agreement
<p>⁷ Then the men of Israel said to the Hivites, "Perhaps you dwell among us; so how can we make a covenant with you?" ⁸ But they said to Joshua, "We <i>are</i> your servants." And Joshua said to them, "Who <i>are</i> you, and where do you come from?"</p>	<p>3. Israel _____ the Gibeonites' Story</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They think maybe they are local. b. The Gibeonites subject themselves to Israel c. Joshua questions their origins.
<p>⁹ So they said to him: "From a very far country your servants have come, because of the name of the LORD your God; for we have heard of His fame, and all that He did in Egypt, ¹⁰ "and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites who <i>were</i> beyond the Jordan -- to Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who was at Ashtaroth. ¹¹ "Therefore our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spoke to us, saying, 'Take provisions with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say to them, "We <i>are</i> your servants; now therefore, make a covenant with us." ' ¹² "This bread of ours we took hot <i>for</i> our provision from our houses on the day we departed to come to you. But now look, it is dry and moldy. ¹³ "And these wineskins which we filled <i>were</i> new, and see, they are torn; and these our garments and our sandals have become old because of the very long journey."</p>	<p>4. The Gibeonites _____ Their Story</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They claim to have heard what God has done <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. What was done in Egypt ii. What they did to the two kings in the east iii. This is true. b. They pretend to be messengers of their elders <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. They reference their provisions ii. They claim to have come to make a covenant c. They give "proof" of their long journey <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bread – dry and moldy ii. Wineskins – torn iii. Garments and sandals – worn out
<p>¹⁴ Then the men of Israel took some of their provisions; but they did not ask counsel of the LORD. ¹⁵ So Joshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them to let them live; and the rulers of the congregation swore to them.</p>	<p>5. Israel _____ the Gibeonites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They examined the Gibeonites' provisions b. They did not ask the Lord Lit. "The Lord they did not ask" c. Joshua makes a treaty <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. He made peace with them (shalom) ii. He made a covenant with them To let them live iii. The ruler of Israel swore to keep the covenant

<p>¹⁶ And it happened at the end of three days, after they had made a covenant with them, that they heard that they <i>were</i> their neighbors who dwelt near them. ¹⁷ Then the children of Israel journeyed and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities <i>were</i> Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kirjath Jearim. ¹⁸ But the children of Israel did not attack them, because the rulers of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD God of Israel. And all the congregation complained against the rulers.</p>	<p>6. Israel Learns the _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They learned that the Gibeonites were neighbors After three days b. They came to the Gibeonites – this seems to have happened as they sent their scouts out and they came to the city of the Gibeonites. c. They did not attack them – because of the covenant d. The congregation complained against the rulers – they seemed to want to disregard the covenant.
<p>¹⁹ Then all the rulers said to all the congregation, "We have sworn to them by the LORD God of Israel; now therefore, we may not touch them. ²⁰ "This we will do to them: We will let them live, lest wrath be upon us because of the oath which we swore to them." ²¹ And the rulers said to them, "Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers for all the congregation, as the rulers had promised them."</p>	<p>7. The Rulers _____ the Congregation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They have made a promise <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. They swore by the Lord God of Israel ii. They cannot break this oath 2 Samuel 21:1-7 b. They work within the terms of the treaty <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. They will let the Gibeonites live ii. They will be given the worst jobs iii. The rulers are able to keep their promise
<p>²² Then Joshua called for them, and he spoke to them, saying, "Why have you deceived us, saying, 'We <i>are</i> very far from you,' when you dwell near us? ²³ "Now therefore, you <i>are</i> cursed, and none of you shall be freed from being slaves -- woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God."</p>	<p>8. Joshua _____ the Gibeonites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. He ask why they deceived Israel b. Joshua puts a curse on the Gibeonites <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. They are to be enslaved to Israel ii. They are to be woodcutters and water carriers
<p>²⁴ So they answered Joshua and said, "Because your servants were clearly told that the LORD your God commanded His servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you; therefore we were very much afraid for our lives because of you, and have done this thing. ²⁵ "And now, here we are, in your hands; do with us as it seems good and right to do to us." ²⁶ So he did to them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, so that they did not kill them. ²⁷ And that day Joshua made them woodcutters and water carriers for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, in the place which He would choose, even to this day.</p>	<p>9. The Gibeonites Share Their _____ with Joshua</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. They knew what God commanded to Moses <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. God would give them all of the land ii. God would destroy all the inhabitants of the land iii. That included the Gibeonites b. They submit to Joshua’s authority <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. They accept whatever decision Joshua makes c. The results <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. They did not die ii. They became slaves to Israel iii. They have continued to be slaves. Nehemiah 3:7 ⁷ And next to them Melatiah the Gibeonite, Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and Mizpah, repaired the residence of the governor <i>of the region</i> beyond the River.

Takeaways:

1. Israel Failed to _____ of the Lord and It Resulted in Them Making the _____ Decision

We do not speak directly with God as Joshua did, But we should approach life’s decisions by first seeking to obey what is taught in the word of God.

Philippians 4:8-9

2. God Expects Us to _____ Our Word and to Do What We Have _____

Psalm 15:1; James 5:12