



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, gathered themselves together, and went up, they and all their hosts, and encamped before Gibeon, and made war against it.

Remember from the viewpoint of the land that was being conquered it was an all out invasion and desperate times. These five kings, because that Gibeon had made a treaty with Israel, declared war against Gibeon.

II- Plea for Help:

The Gibeonites, under siege, send an urgent plea for help. *Joshua 10:6 And the men of Gibeon sent unto Joshua to the camp to Gilgal, saying, Slack not thy hand from thy servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us: for all the kings of the Amorites that dwell in the mountains are gathered together against us.*

This is the request that will bring forth what is known as the southern campaign. Allow me to initially give us a chronology of the battle. This will help us to see the flow of events.

Joshua 10:5 - Five kings establish a confederation and attack Gibeon.

Day 1

Joshua 10:6- Word is sent to Joshua for help.

Joshua 10:9-10- Joshua marches all night and attacks the attackers.

Day 2

Joshua 10:11 - God fights for Israel with hailstorm.

Joshua 10:13- The sun stands still to allow complete victory.

Joshua 10:16- The five kings hide in a cave and are sealed in by Joshua as he pursues their armies.

Joshua 10:19-20 - The armies of the kings are destroyed as they flee with few reaching walled city.

Joshua 10:22-26 - The five kings are killed before the attack on their cities.

Joshua 10:28-39 - Southern cities are attacked and destroyed.

Joshua 10:43- Joshua and his tired army return to camp.

Now let us break this apart.

III- Promise of Deliverance:

Remember the error that Joshua made before going to Ai was that he did not ask of the Lord nor have the Lord's directions before going up and the defeat ensued because of the sin in the camp. Notice that this mistake was not repeated. Joshua heard from God before



Coordinates:
Joshua 10:1-11:23

Sights to See:

- 1- The accomplishment for eternity by a church often hinges on their single heart focus and unity.
- 2- We as God's people are part of a great alliance. When one part of the body hurts we all hurt.
- 3- God promise of deliverance to Israel should reinforce our faith in our deliverance.
- 4- God must be the one to give strength to accomplish things that are beyond anything we can do as humans.
- 5- We don't want to get in a rock throwing contest with God. He has better aim.
- 6- The Creator, Sustainer and Provider of all things certainly has the power to suspend any one of what we know as the laws of science.
- 7- How did the sun seem to stand still? We do not have to have all the details nor understand how it works to believe. After all, we are not believing in the sun but in a supernatural God.
- 8- Someday all the battles will be over and victory will be complete in our lives by the power of the Lord Jesus.



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embarking on any military maneuver.

Joshua 10:7 *So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he, and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valour. 8 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.* The promise was that God would give them victory by going before them into the battle and not allowing anyone to overcome them.

I am reminded, beloved that we have a very special promise from God of deliverance. This deliverance here, as John Gill said God, “had determined to do it, and which was as certain as if it had been actually done.” Beloved our deliverance of soul is as secure. I love the way Paul states it in **2 Timothy 1:12** *...I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.*

IV- 25 Miles long 4000 Feet High:

As we have notice on our outline of the battle, on the first of the two days of the campaign begins with a overnight march. **Joshua 10:9** *Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, and went up from Gilgal all night.* This was a distance of some 25 miles that they covered and to make matter worse they rose vertically about 4000 feet. This in itself was a superhuman feat. Now after this the army had to fight.

These men had to be physically at a weak point just from the sheer volume of energy that they had to expend to arrive overnight. This reminds me again of what Paul states in **2 Corinthians 12:10** *Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.*

Then again the words of Christ are stated in **John 15:5** *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

So this lesson is that when we feel we are strong in the flesh we are weak in the Spirit but when we are realize our fleshly weakness and rely on the Spirit to accomplish what needs accomplished then we are at our greatest strength.

V- God Fights for Israel:

The Children of Israel attacked and it tells us in **Joshua 10:10** *And the LORD discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Bethhoron, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Makkedah.*

The kings that had come to attack now were on the run. God sends great hailstones to destroy them as they flee. **Joshua 10:11** *And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.* It says that God killed more with these hailstones than Israel did by the sword. Some might asks could this not have been just a natural occurrence for some unlucky soldiers. Well, may I say in reply that whoever was casting the stones was a good shot?



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rest which remained of them entered into fenced cities. 21 And all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace: none moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel. 22 Then said Joshua, Open the mouth of the cave, and bring out those five kings unto me out of the cave. 23 And they did so, and brought forth those five kings unto him out of the cave, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon. 24 And it came to pass, when they brought out those kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him, Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings. And they came near, and put their feet upon the necks of them. 25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight. 26 And afterward Joshua smote them, and slew them, and hanged them on five trees: and they were hanging upon the trees until the evening. 27 And it came to pass at the time of the going down of the sun, that Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave's mouth, which remain until this very day.

God gave the victory over the enemy with a supernatural infusion of energy into the warriors, a supernatural hailstone storm pin pointed on the enemy, as well as making it possible for the sun to remain at a stand still so they could prevail.

The kings have been killed, the army has been killed and now the only thing left is the moping up operation, so to speak. The summary of the totality of the victory is found recorded for us in *Joshua 10:40-43 So Joshua smote all the country of the hills, and of the south, and of the vale, and of the springs, and all their kings: he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded. 41 And Joshua smote them from Kadeshbarnea even unto Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even unto Gibeon. 42 And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel. 43 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.*

Again, we are told the reason for the victory was because God fought for them.

VIII- Northern Campaign and Division of the Land:

We have the record of the northern part of the campaign recorded in *Joshua 11*. Look at a few select verses that will conclude the battle.

Joshua 11:18-19 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. 19 There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites the inhabitants of Gibeon: all other they took in battle.

I think of great significance is found in the verses that tell us about the Anakims destruction. Let us not miss these were the giants in the land that had sent such fear into the hearts of Israel years before.

Joshua 11:21-23 And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakims from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities. 22 There was none of the Anakims left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained. 23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war. Next Way Point we will conclude the division of the land.