

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE DESTINY OF HUMANITY

RLJ-1677

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NOVEMBER 11, 2018

PART 12: DECEPTION LEADS TO WAR

WORSHIPING THE LORD

After the battle of Ai, it was time to worship as soon as Joshua fulfilled all of the Lord's commandments and the victory had been won. **Joshua 8:30-31**

Joshua knew the importance of instructing the people in the Word of God and he wrote the Ten Commandments on the altar stones in front of all the people. **verse 32**

Then he read the words of the law to the Israelites, including strangers from other nations who had joined themselves to the people of Israel. **verses 33-35**

DECEPTION

The different nations in the land of Canaan were shocked as Joshua and the people of Israel wiped out two kingdoms and no one was left alive except for Rahab and her family. They quickly realized that they had to unite if they were going to survive. **Joshua 9:1-2**

There was a people group from Gibeon who knew that they were the next conquest for the Israelites. Instead of fighting, they devised a scheme to deceive Joshua into believing they were from a country far away and wanted to align themselves with Israel. **verses 3-5**

They used flattery to deceive Joshua and his leadership. Instead of asking the Lord who these people were, Joshua took them at face value and he and the princes of Israel (tribal leaders) made an agreement with Gibeon. **verses 6-14**

Joshua and the princes swore an oath before the Lord. **verses 15-16**

Joshua found out three days later he had been deceived, but since he had taken an oath before the Lord, he was bound to the Gibeonites. **verses 16-17**

The people were unhappy with the princes, and in order to pacify them, the leadership made the Gibeonites to be their slaves. The people from Gibeon were happy with the arrangement and thought themselves blessed to live and not die. **verses 18-21**

Joshua was unhappy as his reputation had taken a big hit and the people realized that Joshua was not perfect. Joshua was angry, he cursed the Gibeonites and reaffirmed that they were to be permanent slaves. **verses 22-27**

DO NOT BE DECEIVED

The Israelites moved into the Promised Land with some apprehension, but after two spectacular victories, they became lax since there was no immediate danger and they did not feel the need to consult the Lord when emissaries of the Gibeonites arrived.



As Christians we need to be alert all the time and never let our guard down since the enemy of our souls is just looking for a chance to strike. **Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-9**

BOUND BY A COVENANT

Joshua and the princes of Israel did not foresee their covenant with the Gibeonites would obligate them to defend the city of Gibeon if the other Canaanites attacked their ally. **Joshua 10:1-6**

Since the covenant was sealed with an oath that involved God, Joshua had no choice but to come to the aid of the Gibeonites. **verse 7; Numbers 30:2**

The Lord informed Joshua that the forces of the five kings would be defeated. **verse 8**

ATTACKING THE ENEMY

Once Joshua got the word from the Lord, he immediately moved his troops during the night and surprised the enemy in the morning. The Israelites routed the forces of the five kings. **verses 9-10**

God supernaturally intervened and ordered holy angels to kill the fleeing soldiers with large hail stones. **verse 11**

HALTING THE SUN

Have the sun or earth stop their respective orbits is an impossibility according to God's physical laws. No professor at a seminary will dare to risk his credentials by proclaiming the sun standing still really took place. But if you believe that the Word of God is true and without errors, the only thing to do is to proclaim that what God stated is true. God said it and that settles it because with God all things are possible. **verses 12-14; Matthew 19:26**

MOPPING UP THE ENEMY

God passed judgment on the people of Canaan and did not want the people of Israel to be contaminated with their pagan worship. The only way to avoid this corruption was the extermination of all the men, women and children in Canaan. Joshua was not to show any pity on these heathens or make any deals with their kings. **Joshua 10:15-28**

SUMMARY

The enemy of Christians today is sin. It cannot be tolerated and must be eradicated! This is only possible through repentance. **1 John 1:4-10**

The Holy Spirit makes it possible to have victory. **Mark 16:17-18**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?