

Getting started: Have you experienced united opposition to the Lord or to biblical values? What action should Christians take?

Read vv. 1-9 the Enemy unites against Israel

1. Name the significant events that Adoni-Zedek considered before taking action against the Israelites (v. 1) Why was the Gibeonite surrender particularly disturbing? (v. 2)
2. What did Adoni-Zedek invite the area kings to do? (vv. 3-4). What did these kings do? (v. 5) Why might these armies have attacked Gibeon rather than the Israelite camp itself?
3. How did the Gibeonites respond to the attack? What did Joshua and all the mighty men do? (vv. 6-7) What assurance did God give to Joshua? (vv. 8-9)

Read vv. 10-28 the battle against the Amorites

4. How did Israel fare against the confederated armies? (vv. 10-11) What favor did Joshua ask from the Lord? (vv. 12-13) What might mention of the moon in his prayer indicate about the day? How long did this day last?
5. Describe the faith that leads to asking something God for something unprecedented. (v. 16) Can you name an occasion when we might be this audacious with God?

6. Why happened at the cave of Makkedah? What did Joshua tell the army to do in order to keep up its pursuit of the enemy? (vv. 15-19)
7. Where did Israel's army return at the end of the day? (vv. 20-21) What did Joshua have the commanders of the army do? What happened to the kings after the ceremony was over? (vv. 22-25)

Read vv. 29-43 the victory spreads to other Cities

8. After the victory at Makkedah, where did Joshua attack next? What does the Bible say that Joshua did to each of the cities Israel attacked: Libnah, Gezer, Eglon, Hebron, Debir, etc.? (vv. 32-39) What Bible phrase(s) keeps repeating following each of these defeats? (vv. 28, 25, 39, 40).
9. Take a Bible map and see if you can locate some of the cities mentioned in this chapter (see previous question). What part of Israel (formerly Canaan) had Joshua been fighting against? (vv. 41-43) Who is credited for the victories at the end of the chapter?

Going Deeper

How can Christians understand and defend a directive from God to "utterly destroy" people, especially against the evils of genocide and racial hatred in our day? (review Ps. 9:17; Lamentations 2:5; Leviticus 18:24-25; Rom. 11:25, 13:10)