

The Battle is the Lord's



Joshua 10:1-28

The Kings React (1-5)

“Fear”

Question: Why is it that every person who is not in Christ lives in this constant state of instability?

Answer: Man has a depraved mind

- 1) Futility of their mind
- 2) Darkened in their understanding
- 3) Ignorance in them

Reason: “hardness of their heart”

Ephesians 5:17

The Kings React (1-5)

“Hate”

John 15:20 (NASB95) — 20 “Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

The Covenant Upheld (6-8)

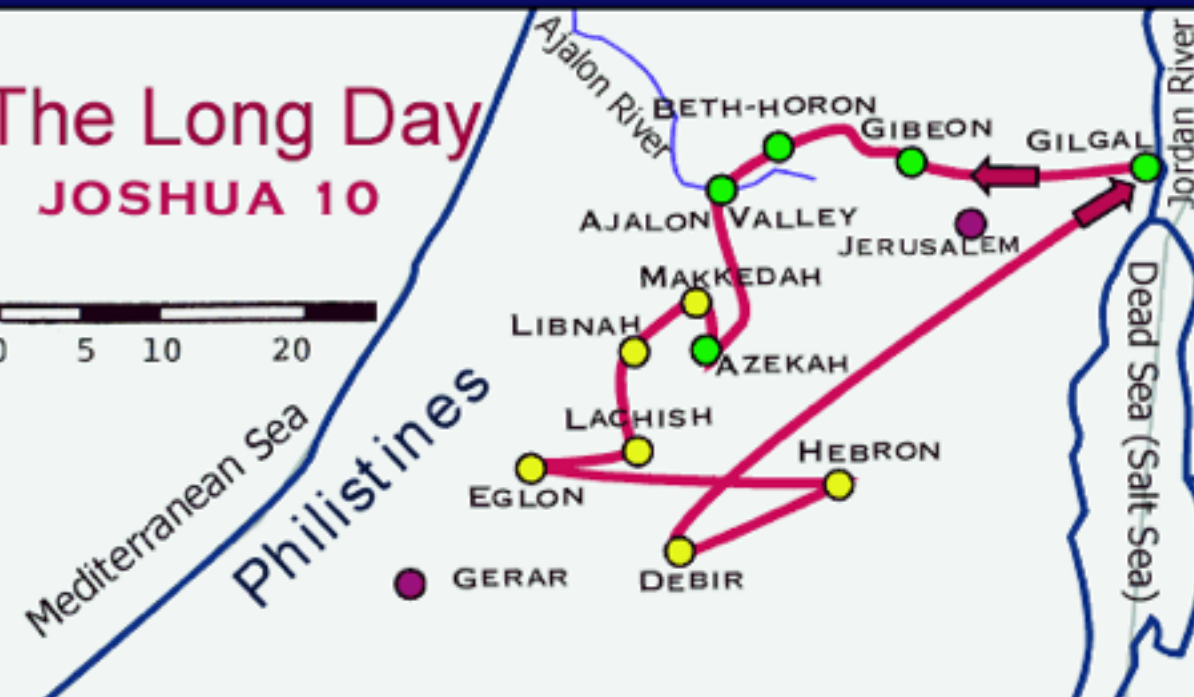
Observation #1: What type of help did he bring?

Observation #2: What does the Lord communicate to Joshua?

THE SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN

The Long Day JOSHUA 10

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Looking N.

The Arab village of Beth 'Ur e-Fawka, site of the Biblical "Upper Beth Horon," sits on the narrowest part of the ridge. At the narrowest part, wrote Josephus, the rebelling Jews in 66 AD pressed a retreating Roman legion, and many Romans slid down the slopes in their armor. Imagining away the modern road beneath the village (for the ancient road went straight over the top, as shown by steps cut into the rock), we can see how dangerous this point was.

Note the sedimentary layers of limestone, which formed agricultural terraces from antiquity until modernity. Elsewhere, in quarries, the height of the natural layers determined the height of the great building stones.

Photo by BiblePlaces.com



The Beth Horon Ridge, viewed from W
At Upper Beth Horon it is narrowest

Adapted from a photograph by BiblePlaces.com

The Battle of Gibeon: Overview (9-II)

7 reasons why these stones were not merely a hailstorm but rather a miraculous act of the Lord (*From MacArthur Study Bible*)

1)Source- “The Lord threw”

2)Size- “Large stones”... (Large: refers to actual size but carries the idea of astonishment at the size)

3)Slaughter- “more who died from the hailstones than those whom the sons of Israel killed with the sword”

4)Selectivity- only on the enemy

5)Swath (Scope)- as far as Azekah

6)Situation-during the Amorites descent down

7)Similarity- similar to ones the Lord will use in His future wrath (Rev 16:21)

The Battle of Gibeon: The Long Day (12-14)

Out a firm conviction of what God promised to do, with the knowledge who God is, and assessing the reality of the situation, Joshua makes this audacious request

Question is: How did the Lord prolong the day?

Possible Explanations:

- 1) Eclipse-hid the sun, shielding Joshua's men from its heat in order to fight
- 2) Refraction of the sun's rays- made it seem like the sun and moon were out of their regular places
- 3) Poetic description only

Biblical Explanation: The Lord did as Joshua said He did

Option 1- the earth stopped revolving

Such an event required the direct intervention of the Creator Himself. He who had started the earth rotating in the first place, when He separated day and night (Genesis 1:3-5), now slowed it down again until it stopped, and the daylight continued until Joshua could rout the Amorites. (Henry Morris, ICR, Joshua's Long Day)

Option 2- The Lord moved Sun and stopped the Moon's orbit

MacArthur states a more miraculous explanation:

"The sun moved in the same way to keep perfect pace with the battlefield. The moon also temporarily ceased its orbiting"

The Battle of Gibeon: The Final Blow (15-27)

- 5 Amorite kings hid themselves in a cave in Makkedah
- Joshua has them shut them up in the cave while Israel destroys the rest of the kings' armies and the people huddled up in the cities
- Israel at peace
- Joshua's object lesson:

“Do not fear or be dismayed, Be strong and Courageous, for thus the Lord will do to all your enemies with whom you fight!”

Summary of the events (28)

28 Now Joshua captured Makkedah on that day, and struck it and its king with the edge of the sword; he utterly destroyed it and every person who was in it. He left no survivor. Thus he did to the king of Makkedah just as he had done to the king of Jericho.

The Lord's work against His enemies at Gibeon is but a shadow of His coming wrath

Nahum 1:2–6 (NASB95) — 2 A jealous and avenging God is the Lord; The Lord is avenging and wrathful. The Lord takes vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies. 3 The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, And the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished. In whirlwind and storm is His way, And clouds are the dust beneath His feet. 4 He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; He dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither; The blossoms of Lebanon wither. 5 Mountains quake because of Him And the hills dissolve; Indeed the earth is upheaved by His presence, The world and all the inhabitants in it. 6 Who can stand before His indignation? Who can endure the burning of His anger? His wrath is poured out like fire And the rocks are broken up by Him.

God fights the battle for His peoples

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