

Our King Will Fight Josh 10:1-28

Recap:

- The Gibeonites tricked the Israelites into a Covenant of Peace
- The Israelites wisely upheld the word they had given Gibeon, not compounding failure upon failure, but conquering failure with obedience
- This became a generational blessing to the Gibeonites and the Israelites throughout the OT

Covenant Consequences (Josh 10:1-7)

- The Peace was seemingly short lived
 - The Amorite Kings get worried about this new peace
 - They fear the strong Gibeonites uniting against them
 - The five kings of the Amorites unite against Gibeon
- The Five Kings: Adoni-Zedek, King of Jerusalem; Hoham, King of Hebron; Piram, King of Jarmuth; Japhia, King of Lachish; Debir, King of Eglon
- Gibeon seeing this amassing force sends for aid from their Master's Israel
- Joshua leads his men of war and valiant warriors to the aid of Gibeon

Our King will Fight (Josh 10:8-15)

- Joshua refocuses the men onto the One who gives victory, God has delivered the enemy over to defeat
- Joshua marches all night, covering nearly 20 miles to take the Kings armies by surprise (suddenly)
- Our King Will Fight
 - God works miraculously in three ways in this battle
 - He 'confounded' the 5 Kings armies
 - He threw large hailstones at them
 - He heard Joshua's prayer and elongated the still dim wee hours of the morning so that there would be no aid for the fleeing army
 - "The sun ceased shining in the midst of the sky, and did not hasten to come, [so that it was] as when day is done." (Josh 10:13) (Hugh J. Blair, The New Bible Commentary)

God Is Fully Sovereign

- Man criticizes the impossibility of this event, 'It is not possible for the sun and moon to stop without catastrophic consequence'
 - Possible ways this event transpired:
 - the earth stopped rotating, the sun's light lingered, the sun's light was blocked, a special sign was involved, the passage is figurative, a solar eclipse on September 30, 1131 b.c., the passage of the planet Mars within about 70,000 miles of earth around 1404 b.c.
 - The attempts to naturally ascertain the happenings of this event are fascinating, but we run into the finitude of man's understanding
 - Consider what God has done up to this point in Human history:
 - Ultimately God's Words rings out to us 'Who are you Oh Man!' (Job 38:1-3)

- We should never trivialize 'because the Bible tells me so' and we should never minimize 'because the Bible tells me so'
- We know God works in concert with His creation for His purpose and His glory, He sits on His throne and does what He pleases (John 1:3, Col 1:16-17, Ps 115:1-3)

Pray Like Joshua

- Joshua petitions the Lord to allow his men the advantage of the cooler dim heavenly strom ridden wee hours of pre/early dawn
- Joshua does not pray for his own will, he prays in accordance with God's Will (v.8)
- God is pleased to work His Will in accordance to the petitions of His people, His people do well to align their hearts, minds, and thereby, their petitions with the Will of the Father (Ps 37:3-4, Matt 7:7-11)

Mans Kings Will Hide (Josh 10:16-28)

- This section recounts how the kings were found during the advance of the Israelite and Gibeonite armies
- The Kings were protected from battle, they fled and hid themselves in a cave
- Joshua seals the cave until they have dealt with the fleeing armies
- He symbolizes their utter defeat by making his enemies into footstools
- He puts them to death and hangs them careful to obey God's commands all the while (Deut 21:22-23)

Respond:

- Our King Will Fight, what a tremendous encouragement (Rev 19:11-21)
- Petition the Throne of God so you can do the Will of God
- No one stands against God's people when their King Fights, and Our King Fights