

**The Days of**

**JOSHUA**

**Sunday nights**



**The Days of**

**JOSHUA**

**Deception and  
Decisions**



# Joshua 9



1) The nations prepare to fight.

# Joshua 9:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Now it came about when all the kings who were beyond the Jordan, in the hill country and in the lowland and on all the coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon, the Hittite and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, heard of it, <sup>2</sup> that they gathered themselves together with one accord to fight with Joshua and with Israel.

*\*All verses from 1995 New American Standard*

# Joshua 9



2) Gibeon's plan.

# Joshua 9:3-5

<sup>3</sup> When the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai,

<sup>4</sup> they also acted craftily and set out as envoys, and took worn-out sacks on their donkeys, and wineskins worn-out and torn and mended,

# Joshua 9:3-5

<sup>5</sup> and worn-out and patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes on themselves; and all the bread of their provision was dry *and* had become crumbled.



# Joshua 9



3) Their conversation with Joshua.



# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>6</sup> They went to Joshua to the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, “We have come from a far country; now therefore, make a covenant with us.”

# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>7</sup> The men of Israel said to the Hivites,  
“Perhaps you are living within our  
land; how then shall we make a  
covenant with you?”



# Exodus 23:32

<sup>32</sup> You shall make no covenant with them or with their gods.

<sup>33</sup> They shall not live in your land, because they will make you sin against Me; for *if* you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”

# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>8</sup> But they said to Joshua, “We are your servants.” Then Joshua said to them, “Who are you and where do you come from?”



# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>9</sup> They said to him, “Your servants have come from a very far country because of the fame of the LORD your God; for we have heard the report of Him and all that He did in Egypt,

# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>10</sup> and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon and to Og king of Bashan who was at Ashtaroath.



# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>11</sup> So our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spoke to us, saying, ‘Take provisions in your hand for the journey, and go to meet them and say to them, “We are your servants; now then, make a covenant with us.”’

# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>12</sup> This our bread *was* warm *when* we took it for our provisions out of our houses on the day that we left to come to you; but now behold, it is dry and has become crumbled.

# Joshua 9:6-13

<sup>13</sup> These wineskins which we filled were new, and behold, they are torn; and these our clothes and our sandals are worn out because of the very long journey.”

# Joshua 9



4) Making a covenant.



# Joshua 9:14-15

<sup>14</sup> So the men *of Israel* took some of their provisions, and did not ask for the counsel of the LORD.

# Joshua 9:14-15

<sup>15</sup> Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live; and the leaders of the congregation swore *an oath* to them.

# Joshua 9



5) Realizing their mistake.

# Joshua 9:16-21

<sup>16</sup> It came about at the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, that they heard that they were neighbors and that they were living within their land.



# Joshua 9:16-21

<sup>17</sup> Then the sons of Israel set out and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities *were* Gibeon and Chephirah and Beeroth and Kiriath-jearim.

# Joshua 9:16-21

<sup>18</sup> The sons of Israel did not strike them because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD the God of Israel. And the whole congregation grumbled against the leaders.

# Joshua 9:16-21

<sup>19</sup> But all the leaders said to the whole congregation, “We have sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, and now we cannot touch them.

<sup>20</sup> This we will do to them, even let them live, so that wrath will not be upon us for the oath which we swore to them.”

# Joshua 9:16-21

<sup>21</sup> The leaders said to them, “Let them live.” So they became hewers of wood and drawers of water for the whole congregation, just as the leaders had spoken to them.



# Deuteronomy 20:11,15

<sup>11</sup> If it agrees to make peace with you and opens to you, then all the people who are found in it shall become your forced labor and shall serve you.

...

<sup>15</sup> Thus you shall do to all the cities that are very far from you, which are not of the cities of these nations nearby.

# Joshua 9



6) Confronting and making  
an agreement.

# Joshua 9:22-27

<sup>22</sup> Then Joshua called for them and spoke to them, saying, “Why have you deceived us, saying, ‘We are very far from you,’ when you are living within our land?”

<sup>23</sup> Now therefore, you are cursed, and you shall never cease being slaves, both hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.”

# Joshua 9:22-27

<sup>24</sup> So they answered Joshua and said, “Because it was certainly told your servants that the LORD your God had commanded His servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land before you; therefore we feared greatly for our lives because of you, and have done this thing.

# Joshua 9:22-27

<sup>25</sup> Now behold, we are in your hands; do as it seems good and right in your sight to do to us.”

<sup>26</sup> Thus he did to them, and delivered them from the hands of the sons of Israel, and they did not kill them.



# Joshua 9:22-27

<sup>27</sup> But Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, to this day, in the place which He would choose.

# Some Lessons to Notice

1) Looks can  
be deceiving.

# John 8:44

<sup>44</sup> You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

# Matthew 7:15

<sup>15</sup> “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

# Proverbs 18:17

<sup>17</sup> The first to plead his  
case *seems* right,  
*Until* another comes and examines  
him.

# Matthew 10:16

<sup>16</sup> “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves.



# Some Lessons to Notice

2) Covenants  
are important;  
enter them  
with wisdom.

# 2 Corinthians 6:14

<sup>14</sup> Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

# Some Lessons to Notice

3) In a dishonest world, can we be people of integrity?

# Proverbs 12:22

<sup>22</sup> Lying lips are an abomination to  
the LORD,  
But those who deal faithfully are His  
delight.

# Psalm 15:4

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....

But who honors those who fear  
the LORD;  
He swears to his own hurt and does  
not change;

# Proverbs 19:1

<sup>1</sup> Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity  
Than he who is perverse in speech and  
is a fool.



# Some Lessons to Notice

## 4) Seek God's counsel in your decisions!

# Joshua 9:14

<sup>14</sup> So the men *of Israel* took some of their provisions, and did not ask for the counsel of the LORD.

# Psalm 127:1

<sup>1</sup> Unless the LORD builds the house,  
They labor in vain who build it;  
Unless the LORD guards the city,  
The watchman keeps awake in vain.

Let's make our decisions  
with God.

**JOSHUA**