

Joshua 9:1-16, 22-27

(1) As soon as all the kings who were beyond the Jordan in the hill country and in the lowland all along the coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, heard of [the destruction of Ai],

(2) they gathered together as one to fight against Joshua and Israel.

(3) But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai,

(4) they on their part acted with cunning and went and made ready provisions and took worn-out sacks for their donkeys, and wineskins, worn-out and torn and mended,

(5) with worn-out, patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes. And all their provisions were dry and crumbly.

(6) And they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, "We have come from a distant country, so now make a covenant with us."

(7) But the men of Israel said to the Hivites, "Perhaps you live among us; then how can we make a covenant with you?"

(8) They said to Joshua, "We are your servants." And Joshua said to them, "Who are you? And where do you come from?"

(9) They said to him, "From a very distant country your servants have come, because of the name of the LORD your God. For we have heard a report of him, and all that he did in Egypt,

(10) and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon the king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth.

(11) So our elders and all the inhabitants of our country said to us, 'Take provisions in your hand for the journey and go to meet them and say to them, "We are your servants. Come now, make a covenant with us."'

(12) Here is our bread. It was still warm when we took it from our houses as our food for the journey on the day we set out to come to you, but now, behold, it is dry and crumbly.

(13) These wineskins were new when we filled them, and behold, they have burst. And these garments and sandals of ours are worn out from the very long journey."

(14) So the men took some of their provisions, but **did not ask counsel from the LORD.**

(15) And **Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live,** and the leaders of the congregation swore to them.

(16) At the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, they heard that they were their neighbors and that they lived among them.

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(22) Joshua summoned the Gibeonites, and he said to them, "Why did you deceive us, saying, 'We are very far from you,' when you dwell among us?"

(23) Now therefore you are cursed, and some of you shall never be anything but servants, cutters of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God."

(24) **They answered Joshua, "Because it was told to your servants for a certainty 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 from before you—so we feared greatly for our lives because of you and did this thing.**

(25) And now, behold, we are in your hand. Whatever seems good and right in your sight to do to us, do it."

(26) So he did this to them and delivered them out of the hand of the people of Israel, and they did not kill them.

(27) But Joshua made them that day cutters of wood and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, to this day, in the place that he should choose.

2 Samuel 21:1-6, 8-9, 13-14

(1) Now **there was a famine in the days of David for three years,** year after year. And David sought the face of the LORD. And the LORD said, "There is bloodguilt on Saul and on his house, **because he put the Gibeonites to death.**"

(2) So the king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them. Now the Gibeonites were not of the people of Israel but of the remnant of the Amorites. **Although the people of Israel had sworn to spare them, Saul had sought to strike them down** in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah.

(3) And David said to the Gibeonites, "What shall I do for you? And how shall I make atonement, that you may bless the heritage of the LORD?"

(4) The Gibeonites said to him, "It is not a matter of silver or gold between us and Saul or his house; neither is it for us to put any man to death in Israel." And he said, "What do you say that I shall do for you?"

(5) They said to the king, "The man who consumed us and planned to destroy us, so that we should have no place in all the territory of Israel,

(6) let seven of his sons be given to us, so that we may hang them before the LORD at Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of the LORD." And the king said, "I will give them."

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(8) The king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul; and the five sons of Merab the daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite;

(9) and he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them on the mountain before the LORD, and the seven of them perished together.

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(13) And he brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan; and they gathered the bones of those who were hanged.

(14) And they buried the bones of Saul and his son Jonathan in the land of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of Kish his father. And they did all that the king commanded. **And after that God responded to the plea for the land.**

Psalm 97

- (1) The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- (2) Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; **righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**
- (3) Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around.
- (4) His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.
- (5) The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.
- (6) The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.
- (7) All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; worship him, all you gods!
- (8) Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD.
- (9) For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- (10) **O you who love the LORD, hate evil!** He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- (11) Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.
- (12) **Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!**
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Philippians 2:9-11

- (9) Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,
- (10) so that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- (11) and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Genesis 18:22-25

- (22) So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD.
- (23) Then Abraham drew near and said, "**Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?**"
- (24) Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it?
- (25) Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! **Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?**"

Hebrews 8:8-12 (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

- (8) ..."Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when **I will establish a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,
- (9) not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.
- (10) **For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.**
- (11) And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.
- (12) **For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."**

Romans 3:21-26

- (21) But now **the righteousness of God** has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—
- (22) **the righteousness of God** through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:
- (23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
- (24) and are **justified by his grace as a gift**, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,
- (25) whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show **God's righteousness**, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.
- (26) It was to show **his righteousness** at the present time, so that **he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**