### Joshua

## Chapter 9

1Well when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the Well when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the <span class="placename">HittitesWell when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, Well when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">CanaAnitesWell when the kings 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class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">Evites</span>, <span class="placename">AmoritesWell when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">Evites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, Well when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">Evites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">GergesitesWell when the kings of the 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JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">Evites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">Gergesites</span>, and the <span class="placename">Jebusites</span> heard what had happened there, 2they all banded together to fight against JoShua and IsraEl.  
  
  
3However, when the inhabitants of GibeOn heard what Jehovah had done to JeriCho and Gai, 4they craftily made [a plan to save themselves]...  
  
They put old sacks over their shoulders, they carried old torn and patched wine skins, 5and they tore off the upper parts of old shoes and sandals and put them on their feet. Then they dressed themselves in old clothes and carried along some bread that was dry, moldy, and rotting; 6and they went to JoShua at the camp of IsraEl at GilGal, and said:  
  
 ‘We’ve come from a faraway land, [and we want you to] make a treaty with us.’  
  
7But [JoShua] asked the GibeOnites:  
  
 ‘How can I sign a treaty with you if you live near to us?’  
  
8And they told JoShua:  
  
 ‘We’re [coming here to be] your servants!’  
  
Then JoShua asked:  
  
 ‘So, who are you and where have you come from?  
  
9And they replied:  
  
 ‘Your servants have come from a far away country in the Name of your God, Jehovah.  
  
 ‘For we’ve heard of His Name and of all that He did in ‘For we’ve heard of His Name and of all that He did in <span class="placename">Egypt ‘For we’ve heard of His Name and of all that He did in <span class="placename">Egypt</span>, 10as well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of as well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of <span class="placename">BaShanas well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of <span class="placename">BaShan</span> who lived in as well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of <span class="placename">BaShan</span> who lived in <span class="placename">AstarOthas well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of <span class="placename">BaShan</span> who lived in <span class="placename">AstarOth</span> and in as well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of <span class="placename">BaShan</span> who lived in <span class="placename">AstarOth</span> and in <span class="placename">EdraInas well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of <span class="placename">BaShan</span> who lived in <span class="placename">AstarOth</span> and in <span class="placename">EdraIn</span>. 11And when our elders and the people who live in our land heard of this, they spoke to us and said:  
  
 ‘Take along enough provisions for the trip and travel to meet with them; then tell them that we’ll be their servants and that [we want to] make a treaty with them.’  
  
 12‘Look at our bread! On the day that we started our journey to come here, it was hot. But now it’s all dry and moldy. 13And look at these wine skins! When we filled them they were new, but now they’re torn… And our clothes and shoes are worn out because of the long journey!’  
  
14So the leaders [of IsraEl] shared their provisions with them. And because they’d failed to ask Jehovah’s direction, 15JoShua concluded a peace treaty with them and agreed to allow them to live… And the leaders of the gathering also swore to this.  
  
  
16Well, it was three days after they’d made the treaty [with the GibeOnites] that [the IsraElites] found out that they were [actually] close neighbors who lived in their midst!  
  
17So the children of IsraEl went to their cities (So the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOnSo the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOn</span>, So the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOn</span>, <span class="placename">KePhiraSo the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOn</span>, <span class="placename">KePhira</span>, So the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOn</span>, <span class="placename">KePhira</span>, <span class="placename">BerotSo the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOn</span>, <span class="placename">KePhira</span>, <span class="placename">Berot</span>, and the cities around So the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOn</span>, <span class="placename">KePhira</span>, <span class="placename">Berot</span>, and the cities around <span class="placename">JaRimSo the children of IsraEl went to their cities (<span class="placename">GibeOn</span>, <span class="placename">KePhira</span>, <span class="placename">Berot</span>, and the cities around <span class="placename">JaRim</span>). 18However, they didn’t fight against them, because all the leaders had sworn not to do this in an oath that they’d made before Jehovah the God of IsraEl… And this caused the whole gathering to start grumbling against their leaders.  
  
19So the leaders spoke to the gathering and said this:  
  
 ‘Because we’ve sworn [an oath] to them by Jehovah the God of IsraEl, we can’t touch them!  
  
 20‘However, we will do this:  
  
 ‘We’ll let them live and we’ll protect them, so [God] won’t be angry with us for [breaking] the oath that we swore to them. 21But they’ll have to serve our entire gathering as woodcutters and water bearers, just as our leaders have told them.’  
  
22Well thereafter, JoShua assembled the [GibeOnites] and he asked them:  
  
 ‘Why did you deceive me?  
  
 ‘Why did you say that you live far away from us, when you’re really the fellow countrymen of the other people who live here? 23Because you did this, you are cursed! And you’ll always have to serve as slaves, woodcutters, and water drawers for me and for my God!’  
  
24And they replied to JoShua:  
  
 ‘We were told that Jehovah your God ordered his servant Moses to [take] this land and to destroy us, along with everyone else who lives here.  
  
 ‘So it was because we feared for our lives that we did this thing! 25And now look… We’ve surrendered to you, so you may do to us whatever pleases and seems good to you.’  
  
26Well, that’s what they did.  
  
JoShua saved them from the hands of the children of IsraEl, and he didn’t allow them to be killed. 27Then JoShua made them woodcutters and water bearers to the whole gathering and for the Altar of God.  
  
[And he said]:  
  
 ‘The inhabitants of ‘The inhabitants of <span class="placename">GibeOn ‘The inhabitants of <span class="placename">GibeOn</span> will continue to serve as the woodcutters and water bearers for the Altar of God even in that [future] place that will be chosen by Jehovah.’