

1 Then it came about, when Jabin king of Hazor heard of it, that he sent to Jobab king of Madon and to the king of Shimron and to the king of Achshaph, 2 and to the kings who were of the north in the hill country, and in the Arabah—south of Chinneroth and in the lowland and on the heights of Dor on the west— 3 to the Canaanite on the east and on the west, and the Amorite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Jebusite in the hill country, and the Hivite at the foot of Hermon in the land of Mizpeh. 4 And they came out, they and all their armies with them, as many people as the sand that is on the seashore, with very many horses and chariots. 5 So all of these kings having agreed to meet, came and encamped together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.

Southern kings conquered now Northern kings rise up-when enemy knows you are making progress he comes after you full force w/ frontal assault.

Tries to intimidate w/ numerous forces *like the sand of the sea* to scare us.

to surrender to enemy, culture or get lazy toward spiritual things, not wanting to go to battle to gain victory--*it's too hard*: the enemy won--instead of a frontal assault as here w/ Joshua, it's a slow deterioration, eating away at your faith like termites to wood. *Frog in the kettle*

Victory to those standing firm--waiting on Lord, listen for His battle plan.

When we win the battle in one area of our life—the enemy doesn't pack it up & leave but he reassesses--changes strategy, attacks on a different front. Battle w/ alcohol won-but you angry drunk now battle in area of anger

*6 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid because of them, for **tomorrow** at this time I will deliver all of them slain before Israel; you shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire." 7 So Joshua and all the people of war with him came upon them suddenly by the waters of Merom, and attacked them. 8 And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, so that they defeated them, and pursued them as far as Great Sidon and Misrephoth-maim and the valley of Mizpeh to the east; and they struck them until no survivor was left to them. 9 And Joshua did to them as the LORD had told him; he hamstrung their horses, and burned their chariots with fire.*

If the Lord be for us who can be against us—do not be afraid. That is if we are willing to do all that He says to do. *Lk 9:62...Jesus said to him, “No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”*

God's timetable *tomorrow at this time I will deliver.* We are impatient people. I want God to work right now. He is working right now but we don't see results until later, God's time table. *Daniel 10 waited 21 days but from the first day your words were heard...prince of Persia hindered*

*So Joshua & people came upon them...*Active faith not passive faith, they engaged the enemy & won the victory. *James 2:18 But someone may well say, “You have faith, and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”*

Hamstrung-cripple— cut muscle back of leg so can't use for warfare '*Some trust in horses some in chariots but we will trust in the Lord our God*'.

MH Joshua's obedience in destroying the horses & chariots, shows his self-denial in compliance w/ God's command. The possession of things on which the carnal heart is prone to depend, is hurtful to the life of faith, & the walk w/ God; therefore it is better to be w/o worldly advantages than to have the soul endangered by them.

Ellicott we cannot, therefore, be certain whether it was done so as to destroy the lives of the horses, or merely to make them useless for purposes of warfare.

10 Then Joshua turned back at that time, and captured Hazor and struck its king with the sword; for Hazor formerly was the head of all these kingdoms. 11 And they struck every person who was in it with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them; there was no one left who breathed. And he burned Hazor with fire. 12 And Joshua captured all the cities of these kings, and all their kings, and he struck them with the edge of the sword, and utterly destroyed them; just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded. 13 However, Israel did not burn any cities that stood on their mounds, except Hazor alone, which Joshua burned. 14 And all the spoil of these cities and the cattle, the sons of Israel took as their plunder; but they struck every man with the edge of the sword, until they had destroyed them. They left no one who breathed. 15 Just as the LORD had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did; he left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses.

Joshua struck the main influencer who rallied the others *head of all...Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.*"

Head is where the serpent's poison is. *Col 2:15 He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him. Rom 16:20 And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.... Lk 10:17 And the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." 18 And He said to them, "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. 19 "Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you. 20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."*

Joshua a loyal leader-proved himself as loyal follower to Moses who followed God's commands to utterly destroy. Why? Only need a little poison over time to kill the whole body.....a little leaven....leavens the whole

16 Thus Joshua took all that land: the hill country and all the Negev, all that land of Goshen, the lowland, the Arabah, the hill country of Israel and its lowland 17 from Mount Halak, that rises toward Seir, even as far as Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon at the foot of Mount Hermon. And he captured all their kings and struck them down and put them to death. 18 Joshua waged war a long time with all these kings. 19 There was not a city which made peace with the sons of Israel except the Hivites living in Gibeon; they took them all in battle. 20 For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, to meet Israel in battle in order that he might utterly destroy them, that they might receive no mercy, but that he might destroy them, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Southern conquest was quick *10:42 And Joshua captured all these kings and their lands at one time, because the LORD, the God of Israel, fought for Israel..*

Northern kings took longer to conquer :18 Close to 7 years—Caleb was 40 yrs old when spy land 14:7—wandered 38 yrs then crossed Jordan Dt 2:14. He is 85 when conquest was complete 14:10 So about 7 years to conquer.

Needed is determination when entering into the full blessings of God. They don't come all at once, it's a journey---some give up too soon. We learn determination, fortitude, stick w/ it-ness at early age. Force to do tedious jobs builds character & determination. *53 Ply wagon cut coil springs—Greg Noll rub rails \$1/rail---sticking it out and working it out in marriage.* But too many give up too soon and never enter into the promises of God.

In the days of the Colorado gold rush R U Darby had gold fever. He staked a claim & went to work w/ pick & shovel. The going was hard, but he had a lust for gold. He hit gold but needed machinery to bring the ore out of the ground. He hid the mine & went home to Williamsburg, Maryland to raise funds for equipment. He got what he needed shipped it off & returned to work on the mine. The first load out was sent to the smelter & verified he had one of the richest mines in Colorado. He figured a few more car loads would clear his debts & then he'd make big profits. Time went on & the gold dried up, the vein had disappeared. He continued to labor but to no avail. Desperate, discouraged & out of money he quit & sold the mine & machinery to a junk dealer cheap . The dealer called a geologist who surveyed the mine, advise him that the previous owners were not familiar w/ fault lines and that the vein of gold could be found just 3 feet from where Darby stopped drilling. They began to drill & sure enough the gold vein was discovered. It was reported that the junk dealer became one of the richest men in Colorado. All because Darby quit too soon--3 feet short.

God hardened or ratified what they were=hard hearted--a fact nurtured for the last 4 generations—they cultivated unbelief, *iniquity complete Gen 15:16*;- Now destroy them so lifestyle not infect nation of Israel. *Rabid dog-* A little leaven...*Rom 1:24-28 God gave them over 3 x's --betrayal*

Ex 7: "But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt, he will not listen to you.

Not drop kids @ childcare if hire pedophile or transgender. *FI-Death penalty*

21 Then Joshua came at that time and cut off the Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab and from all the hill country of Judah and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua utterly destroyed them with their cities. 22 There were no Anakim left in the land of the sons of Israel; only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod some remained. 23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses, and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Thus the land had rest from war.

10 spies saw Anakim-warlike giants and said *we are grasshoppers in their sight*. Now a generation later--Joshua compromised by leaving giants in land--later had negative affect—**Goliath of Gath**. When problems are not dealt w/ & left to themselves they fester & grow take on a life of their own Anakim left in Gath, Gaza, Ashdod—500 years later Goliath of Gath had the army of Israel and King Saul in fear and trembling until David a ruddy youth killed Goliath. Next after Joshua conquered the whole we see the people had to city by city possess their own portion.

Alan Redpath reminds us that ""Much territory was yet to be possessed, but it was left to each tribe to possess what potentially it had received through the conquest of the whole people in which it had taken part. Each tribe was to apply individually the lessons it had learned in united war if it was to possess its inheritance. That the tribes failed to do so was not a reflection on the power of God, but on the failure to take for themselves what Joshua had given and allotted to each one of them." ([Victorious Christian Living](#))