



# JOSHUA

MOVING F >> FORWARD IN FAITH

**Trick or Treaty? | Joshua 9:1-27**

# ***Need a Bible today?***



*Please raise your hand  
and our ushers will  
bring a Bible to you.*

***This is our gift for you  
to take home!***

*Or you may return it to  
the table in the back after  
the service.*





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**Trick or Treaty? | Joshua 9:1-27**

**Main P  int**

**God's people are led astray when they fail  
to depend on Him.**



# Gibeon's Trickery

- Hatching the plan (1-6)



## Deuteronomy 20:10-11

**10** “When you draw near to a city to fight against it, **offer terms of peace to it.** **11** And if it responds to you peaceably and it opens to you, then all the people who are found in it shall do forced labor for you and shall serve you...



16 But in the cities of these peoples that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance, you shall save alive nothing that breathes, 17 but you shall **devote them to complete destruction**, the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, **the Hivites** and the Jebusites, as the LORD your God has commanded,



# Gibeon's Trickery

- Hatching the plan (1-6)
- Deceiving the target (7-14)





# Gibeon's Trickery

- Hatching the plan (1-6)
- Deceiving the target (7-14)
- Sealing the deal (15)



# Israel's Treaty

- Realizing their mistake (16-17)



# Israel's Treaty

- Realizing their mistake (16-17)
- Keeping their promise (18-21)



# Israel's Treaty

- Realizing their mistake (16-17)
- Keeping their promise (18-21)
- Delivering their “enemies” (22-27)



## Points to Ponder

Don't be surprised when testing comes on the heels of great success.





## Proverbs 16:18; 1 Corinthians 10:12

<sup>18</sup> Pride goes before destruction,  
and a **haughty spirit before a fall.**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands **take heed lest he fall.**



## Points to Ponder

Don't be surprised when **testing** comes on the heels of great **success**.

Deception often comes **wrapped** in spiritual **packaging**.



## Points to Ponder

**Presumption** and  
**self-sufficiency** are stumbling  
blocks to faith.





## Points to Ponder

**Presumption** and  
**self-sufficiency** are stumbling  
blocks to faith.

God's wisdom must be  
**sought**, not **neglected**.



## Points to Ponder

God can use our failures for  
His glory.





<sup>7</sup> And next to them repaired Melatiah **the Gibeonite** and Jadon the Meronothite, **the men of Gibeon** and of Mizpah, the seat of the governor of the province Beyond the River.

<sup>6</sup> These were the people of the province who came up out of the captivity of those exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried into exile. They returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his town... <sup>25</sup> **The sons of Gibeon, 95.**





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“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9



**“Trick or Treaty”**

Joshua 9:1-27 - *Pastor Scott Gnuse*

**Main Point:** God's people are led astray when they fail to depend on Him.

- Gibeon's Trickery (1-15)
  - Hatching the plan (1-6)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Deceiving the target (7-14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Sealing the deal (15)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Israel's Treaty (16-27)
  - Realizing their mistake (16-17)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Keeping their promise (18-21)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Delivering their “enemies” (22-27)

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Your responsibility by God's enabling is to consistently apply the divine principles and truth you've heard (Phil. 2:12-20, 1 Tim. 4:7-9, James 1:22-27).

As you meditate on this message, ask yourself:

- How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?
- How can I accomplish this change?
- What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

### **Points to Ponder:**

- Don't be surprised when \_\_\_\_\_ comes on the heels of great \_\_\_\_\_.
- Deception is often \_\_\_\_\_ in spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are stumbling blocks to faith.
- God's wisdom must be \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.
- God can use our \_\_\_\_\_ for His \_\_\_\_\_ (turn evil into good).

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Have you ever had a major failure come after experiencing great success? Why is success potentially dangerous for Christians?
2. Do you consider yourself to be a gullible or naïve follower of God? Where do you find yourself most susceptible to deception?
3. How are you prone to self-sufficiency? When are you most tempted to handle things yourself rather than seeking truth, prayer, or wise counsel?
4. What are some ways you can actively seek God's wisdom in daily life? Does it always come from His Word? Where else can you attain good spiritual guidance?
5. God eventually used the deception of the Gibeonites for their greater good. How have you seen God use your own failures for greater good – in your life or the life of others?