

# Lesson 24

## 182 Chapter Five Israel Conquers Canaan

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12. Why did the five kings of the Amorites attack Gibeon instead of the Israelites? Circle the letters of the *two* best reasons.

- (a) They were angry with the Gibeonites and wanted to get even with them.
- (b) They were afraid to attack the Israelites because of what had happened to Jericho and Ai.
- c. They wanted to get rid of the Gibeonites so that the Israelites would be their friends.

13. When the five kings came to attack Gibeon, the Gibeonites quickly sent to \_\_\_\_\_ Joshua \_\_\_\_\_ for help.

14. \_\_\_\_\_ Joshua \_\_\_\_\_ came up from Gilgal with all the \_\_\_\_\_ people \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ war \_\_\_\_\_ and all the \_\_\_\_\_ mighty \_\_\_\_\_ men \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ valour \_\_\_\_\_.

You might think that the Israelites should have let the Amorites destroy the Gibeonites. However, the Israelites' league with the Gibeonites was so binding that it was their duty to help them out of trouble. God expects His people to keep their promises.

#### **Joshua 10:8-14**

The call for help from the Gibeonites put the Israelites in the unusual position of protecting a Canaanite city against its enemies. However, the Lord used this as a way to destroy more of Israel's enemies.

15. God helped the Israelites to fight against the Amorites by causing great stones (hailstones) to fall upon them. More people were killed by these than by the Israelites.

16. Joshua told the \_\_\_\_\_ sun \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ moon \_\_\_\_\_ to stand still, and they obeyed him.

17. How long did the sun stand still? \_\_\_\_\_ until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies (or about a whole day) \_\_\_\_\_

18. This miracle took place because the \_\_\_\_\_ LORD \_\_\_\_\_ fought for Israel.

#### **Where Is It Found!**

19. Which chapter of Joshua tells how the Gibeonites deceived the Israelites? \_\_\_\_\_ Joshua 9 \_\_\_\_\_

—what God did to help the Israelites win a battle. (He made the sun and the moon stand still and sent a hailstorm.)

#### **Truths to Instill**

- In a time of success, Joshua and the people of Israel let down their guard. The LORD had given them great victories at Jericho and Ai, and they were feeling quite confident. When the Gibeonites arrived, the Israelites “asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD.” Did they forget the command God had given Moses, “Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods” (Exodus 23:32)?

- The Gibeonites would be a threat to Israel because of their proximity, which would increase their ungodly influence. God warned the Israelites that nearby heathen neighbors would be more dangerous to them than distant ones. (See Deuteronomy 20:10–16.) The lesson this has for us is that worldly influences close at hand are often a greater threat than serious sins that we would not even think of committing.
- This lesson shows how binding our word must be. God held the Israelites to their oath, even though He had told them to destroy all the heathen. When Saul broke the oath, God punished Israel with a famine for three years, until David righted the wrong (2 Samuel 21).