

A DEEPER DIVE

June 28, 2026
Joshua 10:16-27

Prayer Focus— Each day this week as you meet with your savior, lift up in prayer the places in the world where there is war, destruction, and little hope. Also pray for the missionaries that you know of and support. Pray for our nation and our leaders, and also your local church and community. Pray daily for our Pastors and Elders. Finally, follow the instruction in Philippians 4:4-7 make your prayer personal. Remember 1 Peter 5:7.

Monday: Reading – Joshua 10:16-27; Genesis 15.

Consider this – Who goes down with the ship?

Apparently not the kings. As the battle wound down, where do we find the Kings who were listed in the first couple of verses? How many kings were there? What does the fact that these were Amorite kings remind you of? Read in Genesis what God said about the Amorites?

Tuesday: Reading – Joshua 10:16-27

Consider this – How long do you need?

McGee reminds us that “these kings and their people were given 420 years to make up their minds as to whether or not they would turn to God.” In the introduction to the book of Joshua, the ESV study Bible notes that readers are presented “with a deep problem, namely, the apparently wholesale slaughter of the indigenous Canaanite population in order to allow the people of Israel to occupy the land.” In our modern age, we use the term genocide, or ethnic cleansing to describe the destruction of a people group and their culture. How do you deal with this idea?

Wednesday: Reading – Joshua 10:18-19

Consider this – The aftermath.

We get a quick summation of what happens after the main part of the battle is over. What happens to the kings in verse 18? What happens to the soldiers in verse 19? What encouragement does Joshua give to his army? Verse 21 gives a concluding statement about this whole battle and post-battle scene. Put it in your own words, why do you think that statement is there? In verse 19 how does Joshua make sure that the Lord gets all the glory from the victory?

Thursday: Reading – Joshua 10:22-27

Consider this – It’s good to be king! Or is it?

Read what happens to the kings. Describe what you think their attitude would have been in the first few verses, and what you think their attitude is in verses 22-26. The Bible does not tell us if the kings were begging for their lives, or trying to make a deal, or anything. What happens to these kings? Go back and read what the Lord told Joshua in 1:6,9 and 10:8 and then what Joshua tells the people in verse 25. How has Joshua changed over time?

Friday: Reading – Joshua 10:16-27

Consider this – A complete victory.

Before they killed the kings, what did Joshua have the army commanders do? Why do you think this was a step Joshua would take? Think back to how this story began, all the way back to Numbers 13 and 14 and remember how the people felt when they first sent spies into the promised land. How does what happened here in this chapter show the people that God is faithful, even after all this time?

Saturday: Reading – Joshua 10:16-27

Consider this – OT violence.

This part of Joshua and also the part coming in the next section describes some pretty violent acts. We have somewhat been inured to the violence described here because of our exposure to what is on our media devices and TV and movies. When you take the time to read through these sections and read about the violent acts taken by Israel how do you respond? McGee says (about the 5 kings) that the Israelites could have left them to starve in the cave. They had no prisons to put them in. He maintains that “it was more humane to slay them.” Do you agree? Could they have reached an accord with them and released them? McGee says that, “they settled their problem in the only way they could...If these kings had been turned loose, they would have led a rebellion against Joshua that would have caused literally thousands of people to die.” Do you agree with that summation? Of course, it is pure speculation on McGee’s part. Why do you think he is right, or wrong?

From the Henri Nouwen Society–

Our waiting is always shaped by alertness to the Word of God that comes to us in such mysterious ways. It is waiting in the knowledge that Someone wants to address us. The question is, are we home? Are we at our address, ready to respond to the doorbell? We need to wait together to keep each other at home spiritually, so that when the Word comes it can become flesh in us. That is why the Book of God is always in the midst of those who gather. We read the Word so that the Word can become flesh and have a whole new life in us.

Sunday - Go to church with the anticipation of hearing from the Lord.

Questions? Comments? Email me, Steve Callaway, at stvc13@gmail.com.