

A DEEPER DIVE

July 26, 2026
Joshua 11:1-15

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 11:1-5

Consider this– Same song, different verse?

Reread the opening verses of chapters 9 and 10. Here we are again. What are the similarities in all of these passages?

Who is the king mentioned first in each passage?

What is the verb that is used in the first verse of each passage?

What do you think these kings were thinking because of the stories of Joshua's victories?

What steps did they take because of the victories of Joshua?

Tuesday: Reading– Joshua 11:1-6

Consider this– You have been told this before.

In verse 6, what does the Lord tell Joshua?

Go back in the book and find the different times Joshua was told this, or told this to others.

It's not just an empty promise. Joshua can look back at the other victories and have faith in what the Lord tells him. But, additionally, the Lord gives Joshua some specific promises. What does the Lord promise Joshua, and what does he ask Joshua to do? Truth to tell, I kind of feel bad for the horses.

Wednesday: Reading– Joshua 11:7-8

Consider this– Where are they?

Look at this link to get a map of the Northern campaign <https://ibiblemaps.com/joshua-northern-campaign-canaan/>

Thursday: Reading– Joshua 11:9-11

Consider this– Whew, uh oh!

Read what Joshua does in verse 10. I wonder if the people of Hazor and King Jabin thought that maybe they were being spared. What do you think it means when it says that Joshua, "turned back"? Did Joshua and the army bypass Hazor at first?

Friday: Reading– Joshua 11:12-15; Deuteronomy 7

Consider this– The Lord–Moses–Joshua–completion.

Verse 15 gives us an interesting summary. All of the things that Joshua was doing were originally tasked to Moses. What did the Lord instruct the Israelites to do when they got to the promised land? Why did the Lord instruct them to do these things? Why wasn't Moses able to complete the tasks appointed to him? Verse 15 says something important about Joshua. What does it say about Joshua? It is a brief statement, which Davis says, "sounds bland and nonthreatening...but it stands as a needed witness to Israel's future leaders and kings (and to individual Israelites)." Davis then cites John 8:29 and says, "Here is not only a high standard, but also a liberating purge that can eliminate numerous secondary items from our cluttered agendas." To what degree can you say this verse in John applies to you? Pray that the Lord will give you the wisdom and desire to have this verse be a description of how you follow him.

Saturday: Reading– Joshua 11:1-15; Leviticus 18.

Consider this– Northern campaign ends

The study notes for the NKJV talks about how stereotypes, "tell some of the story...but fail to justly describe their subjects...nowhere has this been more of a problem than in the stereotyping of God's judgement on the Canaanites." Do you think this statement is accurate? Where do you think the stereotypes of God and the Old Testament accounts of Canaan have it right, and where do they fall short? Davis says that because of their sin (see Leviticus), "the Canaanites only received what all peoples deserved; others were spared only by God's grace. But Canaan was not a community of upstanding citizens. It was a thoroughly debased society, hostile to all God's ways." Something like this happened before (read Genesis 6, and Genesis 11). This time, in Joshua, God uses a human agent to carry out his judgement. Before dismissing the Bible or the Lord because of these incidents, it is important to remember, as the NKJV study notes say, "Jesus Christ will judge the wicked nations of the earth... The judgement against the Canaanites is merely one instance of His judgement on the wicked even as He extends forgiveness to others."

From the Henri Nouwen Society–

The spiritual life means that the Spirit of Love is given to us so that we can live with that Spirit within us. With that Spirit in us, we are able to recognize the same Spirit in the world. The Spirit blows where it wants, so the Spirit is everywhere. It's in the people who are dying, people with AIDS, people who are broken, and people with disabilities.

To watch for Christ in the world is to see that the spirit within us recognizes the Spirit among us so that the spirit speaks to Spirit, heart speaks to Heart, love speaks to Love. To watch for Christ is to be attentive to the presence of Christ in the world and in our heart. It's not a kind of emotional or intellectual gymnastics. If we carry God in our hearts, we see God in the world.

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

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