



When Peace Costs Too Much and the Longest Day

Joshua 9:1 — 10:13

June 25, 2023

No Counsel from God

Joshua 9:1-15

¹And it came to pass when all the kings who *were* on this side of the Jordan, in the hills and in the lowland and in all the coasts of the Great Sea toward Lebanon—the Hittite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite—heard *about it*,

² that they gathered together to fight with Joshua and Israel with one accord.

³ But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai,

⁴ they worked craftily, and went and pretended to be ambassadors. And they took old sacks on their donkeys, old wineskins torn and mended,

⁵ old and patched sandals on their feet, and old garments on themselves; and all the bread of their provision was dry *and* moldy.

No Counsel from God

Joshua 9:1-15
Continued

⁶ And they went to Joshua, to the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of Israel, “We have come from a far country; now therefore, make a covenant with us.”

⁷ Then the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “Perhaps you dwell among us; so how can we make a covenant with you?”

⁸ But they said to Joshua, “*We are your servants.*” And Joshua said to them, “*Who are you, and where do you come from?*”

⁹ So they said to him: “From a very far country your servants have come, because of the name of the LORD your God; for we have heard of His fame, and all that He did in Egypt,

¹⁰ and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites who *were* beyond the Jordan—to Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who was at Ashtaroth.

No Counsel from God

Joshua 9:1-15
Continued

11 Therefore our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spoke to us, saying, ‘Take provisions with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say to them, “*We are your servants; now therefore, make a covenant with us.*” ’

12 This bread of ours we took hot *for* our provision from our houses on the day we departed to come to you. But now look, it is dry and moldy.

13 And these wineskins which we filled *were* new, and see, they are torn; and these our garments and our sandals have become old because of the very long journey.”

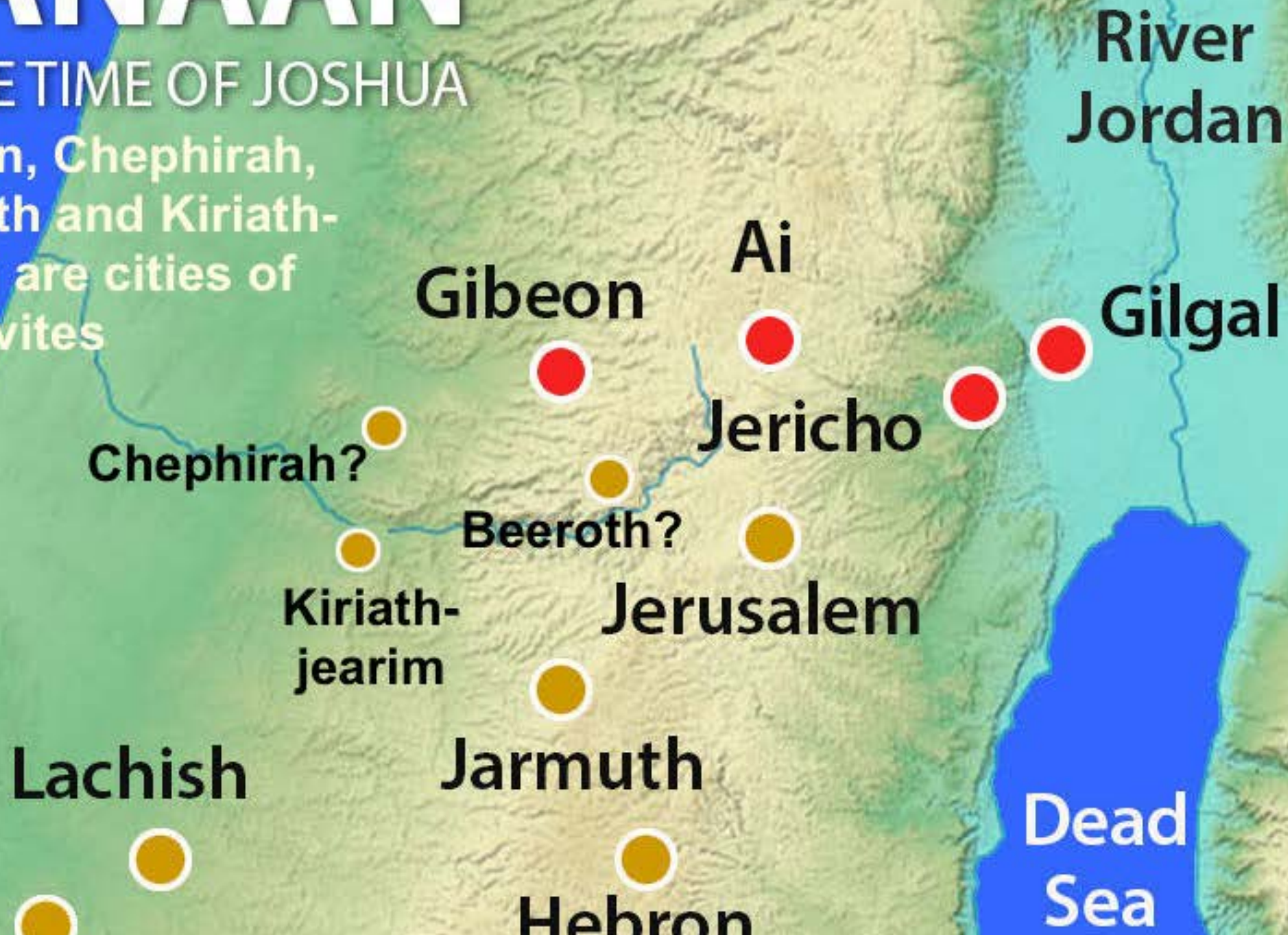
14 Then the men of Israel took some of their provisions; but they did not ask counsel of the LORD.

15 So Joshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them to let them live; and the rulers of the congregation swore to them.

CANAAN

IN THE TIME OF JOSHUA

Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath-jearim are cities of the Hivites



The Gibeonite Ruse

- We heard about the greatness of God—the devil talks “Christian.”
- We are your servants.
- We are from far country.
- No counsel was sought from God.
- Israelites made covenant with them.

Truth and Consequences

Joshua 9:16-27

16 And it happened at the end of three days, after they had made a covenant with them, that they heard that they *were* their neighbors who dwelt near them.

17 Then the children of Israel journeyed and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities *were* Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kirjath Jearim.

18 But the children of Israel did not attack them, because the rulers of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD God of Israel. And all the congregation complained against the rulers.

19 Then all the rulers said to all the congregation, “We have sworn to them by the LORD God of Israel; now therefore, we may not touch them.

Truth and Consequences

Joshua 9:16-27 Continued

²⁰ This we will do to them: We will let them live, lest wrath be upon us because of the oath which we swore to them.”

²¹ And the rulers said to them, “Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers for all the congregation, as the rulers had promised them.”

²² Then Joshua called for them, and he spoke to them, saying, “Why have you deceived us, saying, ‘We *are* very far from you,’ when you dwell near us?”

²³ Now therefore, you *are* cursed, and none of you shall be freed from being slaves—woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God.”

²⁴ So they answered Joshua and said, “Because your servants were clearly told that the LORD your God commanded His servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you; therefore we were very much afraid for our lives because of you, and have done this thing.

Truth and Consequences

Joshua 9:16-27 Continued

25 And now, here we are, in your hands; do with us as it seems good and right to do to us.”

26 So he did to them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, so that they did not kill them.

27 And that day Joshua made them woodcutters and water carriers for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, in the place which He would choose, even to this day.



The Result of Compromise

- The Gibeonites were made slaves.
- Israel must defend them.

The Confederacy

Joshua 10:1-8

¹ Now it came to pass when Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem heard how Joshua had taken Ai and had utterly destroyed it—as he had done to Jericho and its king, so he had done to Ai and its king—and how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were among them,

² that they feared greatly, because Gibeon *was* a great city, like one of the royal cities, and because it *was* greater than Ai, and all its men *were* mighty.

³ Therefore Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth, Japhia king of Lachish, and Debir king of Eglon, saying,

⁴ “Come up to me and help me, that we may attack Gibeon, for it has made peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel.”

The Confederacy

Joshua 10:1-8 Continued

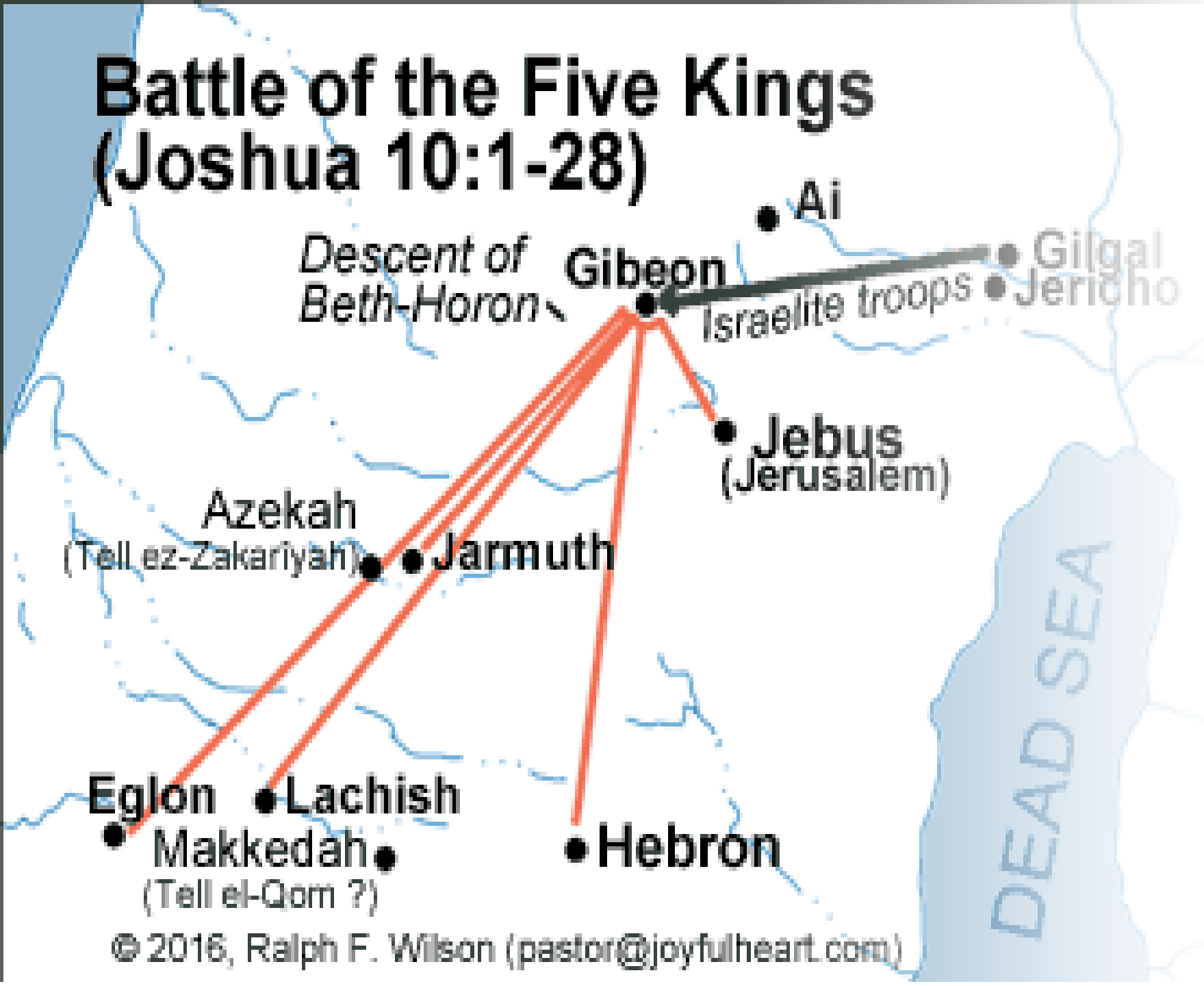
⁵ Therefore the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, *and* the king of Eglon, gathered together and went up, they and all their armies, and camped before Gibeon and made war against it.

⁶ And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal, saying, “Do not forsake your servants; come up to us quickly, save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the mountains have gathered together against us.”

⁷ So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valor.

⁸ And the LORD said to Joshua, “Do not fear them, for I have delivered them into your hand; not a man of them shall stand before you.”

Battle of the Five Kings (Joshua 10:1-28)



The Attack on Gibeon

- Adoni-Zedek, King of Jerusalem
- Hoham of Hebron
- Piram of Jarmuth
- Japhia of Lachish
- Debir of Eglon

First Big Fight

Joshua 10:9-15


⁹ Joshua therefore came upon them suddenly, having marched all night from Gilgal.

¹⁰ So the LORD routed them before Israel, killed them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, chased them along the road that goes to Beth Horon, and struck them down as far as Azekah and Makkedah.

¹¹ And it happened, as they fled before Israel *and* were on the descent of Beth Horon, that the LORD cast down large hailstones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and they died. *There were* more who died from the hailstones than the children of Israel killed with the sword.

¹² Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel:

“Sun, stand still over Gibeon;
And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon.”

A dramatic painting depicting a battle scene. In the foreground, soldiers in various colored tunics and armor are engaged in combat. The middle ground shows a large, dense group of soldiers. In the background, a landscape with rolling hills and a bright, multi-colored rainbow arching across the sky is visible. The overall style is reminiscent of classical or religious art.

First Big Fight Joshua 10:9-15 Continued

13 So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge
Upon their enemies.

*Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go *down* for about a whole day.*

14 And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel.

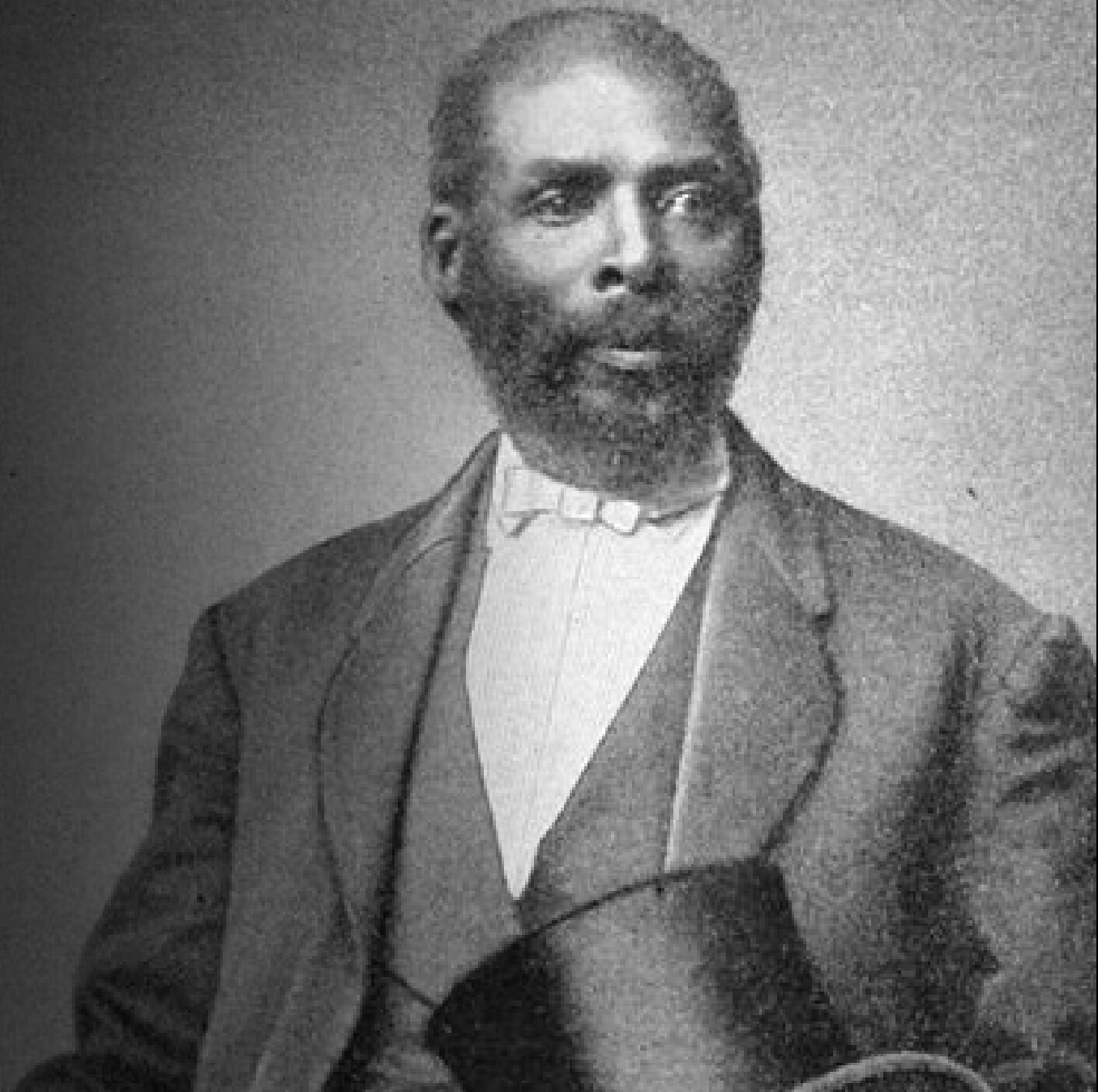
15 Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.



First Big Fight Joshua 10:9-15

- Joshua marches at night
- God causes hail
- Sun stands still in Gibeon
- Moon in Aijalon
- Recorded in Book of Jasher
- No day like it

John Jasper



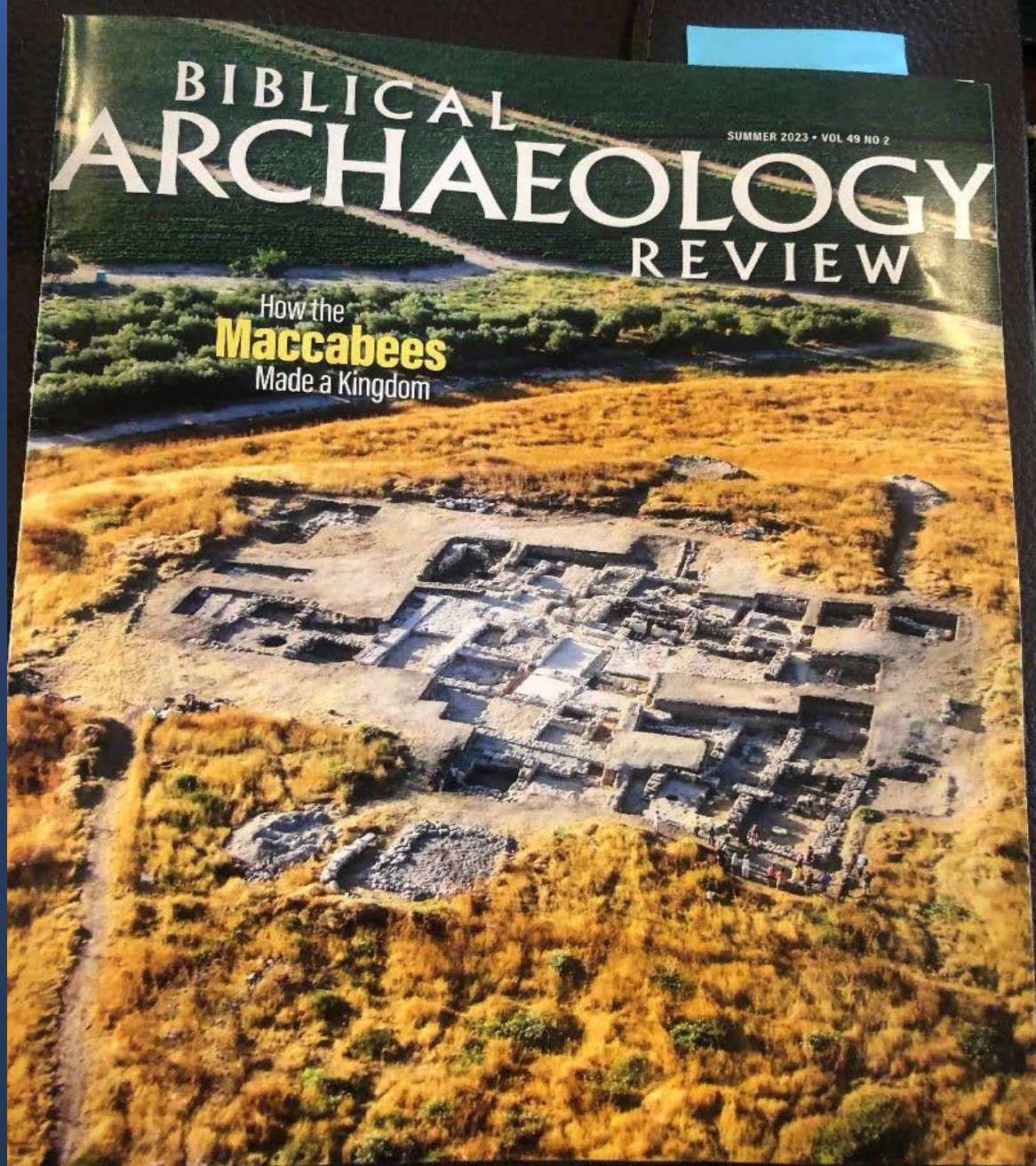
John Jasper
(1812-1901)
6th Mount Zion
Baptist Church
in Richmond, VA

- Married Candus Jordan, 9 children
- Famous Sermon “The Sun Do Move”
- Church still there
(Civil War—April 12, 1861, to April 9, 1868)

BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY REVIEW

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How the
Maccabees
Made a Kingdom



The Amorites and the Bible

AARON A. BURKE

IN THE BIBLE, THE AMORITES are frequently mentioned among Canaan's original inhabitants, those who lived in the land before the Israelites. Yet the Amorites received a pointed condemnation unlike any reserved for another group. They are called out for their impure religious practices and deviant gods (e.g., Genesis 15:16; Joshua 24:15; 1 Kings 21:26).

Who were these detested "Amorites," and how did the biblical writers think about them?

There is a legendary quality to Israelite memories of Canaan's earliest inhabitants, including the Amalekites, Hittites, Jebusites, Canaanites, and Amorites (Numbers 13:29). The Israelite spies who first entered the land characterized them as "strong" and their towns as "fortified and very large" (Numbers 13:28, ESV).

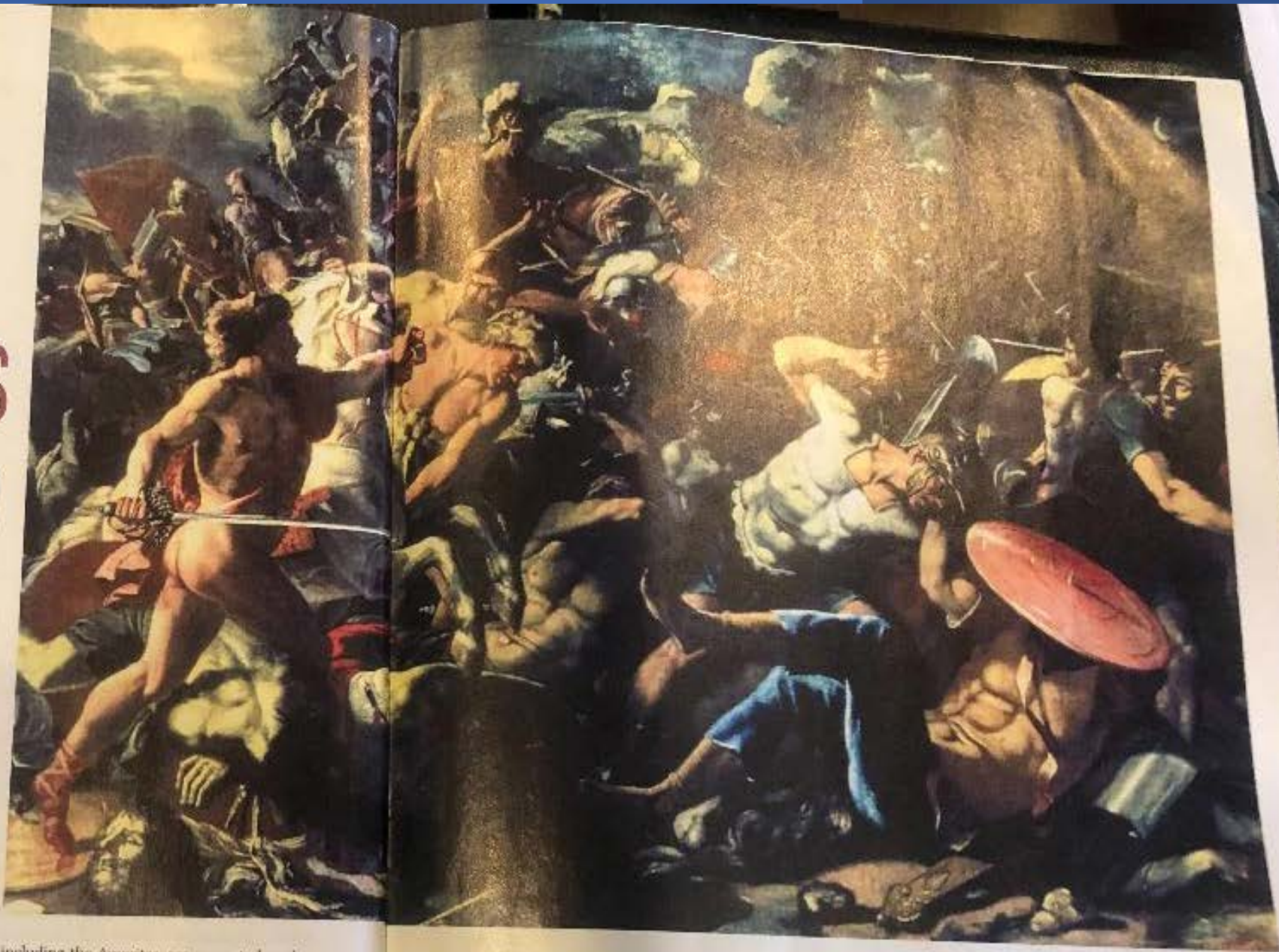
What is more, the biblical writers perceived all of these groups to have descended from antediluvian heroes and giants, namely the Nephilim

including the Amorites, are presented as the descendants of the Nephilim.

Even before Israel's conquest, the Amorites are already identified as inhabitants of Canaan

country of Jeshim (Numbers 13:29; Joshua 9:10) and live west of Ephraim and throughout southern Judah (Judges 1:34-36). It was perhaps

BATTLE ROYALE. Joshua 10 describes how five Amorite kings attacked Gibeon, a city that had made peace with Israel. The Israelites came to the aid of the Gibeonites and scattered the



Theories of the Long Day of Joshua

Donald Madrig

- H. H. Rowley—a prayer
- R.B.Y. Scott, United Church of Canada, O.T. scholar—request for cloud cover
- John Bright—died 1996, Presbyterian, liberal O.T. scholar—a wishful poem
- Immanuel Velikovski



Immanuel Velikovski

- Jewish Russian—American Psychoanalyst
- Born 1895 Belarus—died 1979, Princeton, New Jersey
- 1950--*Worlds in Collision*—Venus breaks off from Jupiter
- 1952—*Ages of Chaos*
- 1955—*Earth in Upheaval*



Genesis 1:1

*In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth.*