

conquest

The message reaches us fast. Gibeon is in trouble. The men who deceived us now cry out for help. Their words come urgent, breathless, carried across the hills. Five kings have risen against them. Armies gather. The trap they set has closed in on them.

I stand with the weight of it pressing down. We swore an oath. Not to them alone, but before the Lord. We did not seek His counsel. We moved ahead, trusted what we saw, and bound ourselves with words we cannot take back.

This is the cost. I will not break what we have sworn.

“Prepare the men,” I command, my voice steady despite the turmoil inside.

Stillness gave way to purposeful movement as armor was pulled tight. It was a war thrust upon us by deceit, one that demanded everything we had.

I gather the entire army. No one stays behind. If we go, we go with everything. But I know this: numbers will not carry us. Strength will not secure this. We step into this because we must.

So I turn my heart fully to the Lord, pressing in, holding nothing back.

“You see this. You know how this came. It is because we did not ask You. It is because we did not wait. And now we stand bound by the oath. Cover us. Go before us. Do not leave us to the consequences of our own haste.”

The camp bustled around me, but I remained fixed in that moment, waiting, listening in the depths of my spirit.

Then He answered with words I know so well. “Do not fear.”

The words pierced though, settling into my soul with divine weight.

“Victory is Mine, Joshua. Not a man shall stand before you.”

I took the promise in, holding it close, a shield against the unknown. The battle ahead was real, but the outcome did not rest on our shoulders. It never had.

I rise and turn back to the men. “Move out.”

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definitions

Using a Bible app or the word glossary at the back of this book,
look up each Strong's number to find the definitions.

stand still/stood still

STRONGS DEFINITION | H1826

Joshua 10:12 At that time Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day when the Lord gave the Amorites over to the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, "Sun, **stand still** at Gibeon, and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."

struck

STRONGS DEFINITION | H5221

Joshua 10:35 And they captured it on that day, and **struck** it with the edge of the sword. And he devoted every person in it to destruction that day, as he had done to Lachish.

Gibeon made an alliance with Joshua, the enemy of Canaan,

TURNING FORMER

allies

INTO *foes*

decode the text

READ JOSHUA 10:1-9

What provoked the king of Jerusalem in 10:1–2? Compared to the city of Ai, how is Gibeon described in verse 2?

What message do the Gibeonites send to Joshua?
How quickly does Joshua respond and what details emphasize the urgency?

READ JOSHUA 10:10-11

List the specific ways the LORD intervenes in the battle.

READ JOSHUA 10:12-15

What extraordinary event occurs in verses 12–14? How does the text describe the uniqueness of this day?

READ JOSHUA 10:16-27

Summarize what happened to the Amorite kings in your own words.

PATTERN-HUNTING MISSION

Sweep back through Chapter 10:29 – Chapter 11 and look for repeated phrases that describe:

- What Israel did to the people of the land?
- What happened to those people as a result?

For a hint: pay close attention to the repeated wording in the descriptions of each city's defeat.





lengthen the day

“Sun, stand still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.” (Joshua 10:12)

Joshua needed more time. The battle raged. The enemy pressed hard. They had not yet finished the conquest. In the heat of the fight, with victory hanging in the balance, Joshua cried out to the Lord for what every warrior fears he lacks. More daylight, more minutes, more moments to complete the assignment God had given him.

And God answered. The Creator of sun, moon, and stars halted the heavens so His servant could finish the work. The sun stood still. The day was lengthened. Never before or since has there been a day like it, when the Lord listened to the voice of a man and fought for Israel (Joshua 10:14).

How bold are our prayers?

Would we dare ask the Lord of the universe to stretch time itself because the mission He gave us matters that much? Joshua’s request wasn’t small or safe. It was raw, desperate, and fully confident in the One who made time. And the Lord honored the prayer of a man who refused to leave the battlefield unfinished.

How do we lengthen our days?
We pray to the Son.

When the hours feel too short and distractions steal what little time we have, turn to Jesus. He is the Light who gives quality and power to every moment. Ask Him to purge the lesser things that rob you of focus. Plead for strength to stay in the fight, wisdom to make every minute count, and fresh grace to finish what He has started in us.

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. (Ephesians 5:15-16). Walk in wisdom and make the most of every opportunity the Lord grants.

Lift your voice like Joshua. Ask the Son to lengthen your day, to silence the noise, steady your heart, and multiply the fruit of your labor.

The same God who stopped the sun for one warrior still delights to empower His people today. Clocks or calendars do not limit him.

What if we lifted bold prayers rooted in obedience? Heaven still moves when God’s people cry out in faith for the strength to finish the race set before them.

stepping forward



The Lord is not divided in Himself. He is not sometimes just and sometimes merciful, as though He shifts with the moment. He is perfectly just, perfectly merciful, and perfectly gracious all the time and at the same time. And what you have seen in this lesson is not a contradiction in His character, but a revelation of it.

His justice is not hurried. It is not reactionary. It is measured, patient, and certain. For generations, He endured sin. He gave space for repentance and held back what was fully deserved. And yet, when the time came, His judgment was exact. Nothing overlooked, nothing excessive. This is the steady, unshakable righteousness of the Lord.

But His mercy is just as real.

Grace extended in the same landscape where judgment fell. The door was not locked. It never is. The difference was not in the severity of sin, nor in worthiness, nor in background. The difference was this: some continued in rebellion, and one turned in faith.

This is where everything comes to rest for us.

The Lord has not changed. The same justice still stands. The same mercy and grace are still extended. And the dividing line is still the same: what is done with His Son.

There are only two places to stand: under judgment for sin, or under the covering of Christ. There is no middle ground, no delay that lasts forever. The patience of God is real, but it is not endless.

And yet, for those who have believed, there is no fear left in this. The judgment has already fallen fully and completely on Jesus Christ. What remains is not wrath, but peace. Not uncertainty, but assurance. Not striving, but a settled standing in grace.

So hold fast to Him.

Stand firm in what He has accomplished. Let the reality of His justice deepen your reverence and let the certainty of His mercy anchor your soul.

And as you go forward, remember: the same God who judges perfectly is the One who saves completely.