

## **Joshua 9: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Failure In The New Land.**

Preview:

- What causes Christians to sometimes fail?
  - What lessons can we learn through failing?
  - How do we avoid failure?
- 

**The key verse in Joshua 9 is verse 14 (NLT) “So the Israelites examined their food, but they did not consult the Lord.”**

V2. The kings of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites combined their armies to fight against Israel.

(When God gives us victory in battle we must become alert for the next enemy.)

V3. The next battle for Israel was not physical in nature, but a new enemy was devising a spiritual battle with Israel.

(The Gibeonites used deception and deceit to defeat Israel.)

### **The Disguise. (Joshua 9: 4-6)**

V4. Explain how the Gibeonites deceived Israel.

V6. Joshua was deceived because he did not use discernment. What is discernment? Did Joshua use discernment with the Gibeonites?

### **Brief history on the Gibeonites. II Samuel 21: 1-9**

- The Gibeonites were descendants of the Amorites.
- King Saul broke the agreement with the Gibeonites by killing some of their men.
- King David attempted to resolve the matter & Gibeon said King Saul's relatives must die.
- Only Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son, was spared.
- The Gibeonites hanged King Saul's relatives.

### **The Deception. (Joshua 9: 7-15)**

V8. The Gibeonites deceived Joshua claiming they were Israel's servants.

V9. The Gibeonites claimed they were from a far country, and they lied about coming in God's name.

- V11. The Gibeonites claimed they were representatives of their country and requested a treaty.
- V12-13. The Gibeonites offered moldy bread, old wine wines, and ragged garments.
- V14. Israel took the Gibeonites food, but did not seek God's counsel. (Explain Israel's failure)
- V15. Joshua made peace with the enemy.

**The Discovery. (Joshua 9:16-27)**

- V16. After 3 days Israel discovers they have been deceived.
- V18. Why didn't Israel destroy the Gibeonites for their deceit?  
**\*The moral issue: If we enter into an agreement based on deception are we required to honor the agreement?**
- V19. Israel keeps their promise to God.
- V21. Israel decides to make the Gibeonites slaves. (How do we treat people who have deceived us?)

**The Decision. (Joshua 9: 23-27)**

- V23. Joshua decides to pronounce a curse of slavery on the people of Gibeon.
- V25. The Gibeonites agree to enslavement.
- V26. The Gibeonites chose slavery instead of death.
- V27. Did Israel's failure work out for their good?