

# YEHOSHUA

## Chapter 10 & *Mishpatim*

In previous chapters, Jericho and Ai were laid to waste. If Israel, with God's assistance, was to continue through the land with in this way, it would all be wasteland. But that is not what God had promised the Israelites (Deut. 6:10-12). These first initial conquests were so complete—absolute—so as to establish what God could be accomplished for the sake of the Israelites. Normally in war, the victors are left to rebuild all that is destroyed—from its economy to its physical infrastructure—but a land so desomated is not what God had promised. The Gibeonites' defection from combatant to servant was the turning point as it set a dangerous precedent for the Canaanite kingdoms. All this made it possible for Israel to conquer a land with its prosperity intact.

### Joshua Discussion Questions:

1. The end of this chapter states "Adonai God of Israel fought for Israel". List the ways God fought for Israel in this chapter.
2. Reading Genesis 3:15, how might God's promise to the serpent inform Joshua's method of execution of the kings in Joshua 10:24-27? How does this foreshadow the dominion Yeshua will exercise when all things are put under his feet (1 Cor. 15:26; Rev. 20:14; 21:8)?
3. In verse 28, the narrative picks up speed. What words or phrases are repeated? What do you think is the significance of this repetition?

### Mishpatim Discussion Questions:

4. Compare the standard Christian view of the Torah's commandments to a more Hebraic perspective. What would you personally say to a Christian to succinctly express a more clear-eyed view of "the Law?"
5. What have you learned about the difference between the Torah's use of the word "slave" and the image given to us by historical American slavery?
6. In your own words, describe the progression from 1 to 2 to 3 as this is understood Hebraically.

