

The site of ancient Gibeon is “well” known for its 37-foot wide, 82-foot deep pool. This pool was the scene of a 12-way death duel between men of Ish-bosheth and David (II Sam. 2:12-17)

Joshua 9 – 10

## Gibeon Fibbers

# To Tell the Truth (9:1-13)

- Why fight or flee, when you can fool and flatter?
- “We have come from a far away country”
  - Dry bread, ratty clothes & shoes, torn wineskins offered as “evidence”.
- “because of the fame of the Lord your God”
  - They mention only Egypt, Trans-Jordan victories
  - No mention of Jericho, Ai
- “we are your servants; make a covenant with us”
  - Do they know that Israel doesn’t do covenants?




# Let's Make a Deal (9:14-20)



- Was Israel gullible?
  - Not entirely; they did speculate that these guys could be lying (9:7)
  - Certainly their interrogation could have been tougher
  - Better yet, they could have asked God (9:14)
- The ruse worked; Israel made a covenant (with meal, 9:14-15)
- Why did Israel grumble? (9:18)
  - They tried to tell Joshua to consult God? (unlikely)
  - Embarrassment that they were duped? (perhaps)
  - They couldn't kill people and take things? (probable)

# Truth or Consequences (9:21-27)

- Gibeonites were punished by being put to forced labor
- Wood cutters, water boys “for the house of my God” (9:23)
- Ark in Kiriath-Jearim (I Sam. 7:1-2; I Chron. 13:5)
- Tabernacle was in Gibeon (I Chron. 16:39; 21:29; II Chron. 1:3)
- But they were nevertheless protected
  - This chapter (from Israel)
  - Next chapter (from other kings)
  - Except Saul slaughtered them
  - But avenged by David (II Sam. 21:1-9)



What took priority –  
Joshua’s bad covenant  
or God’s command to  
destroy Canaanites?



## Pool at Gibeon

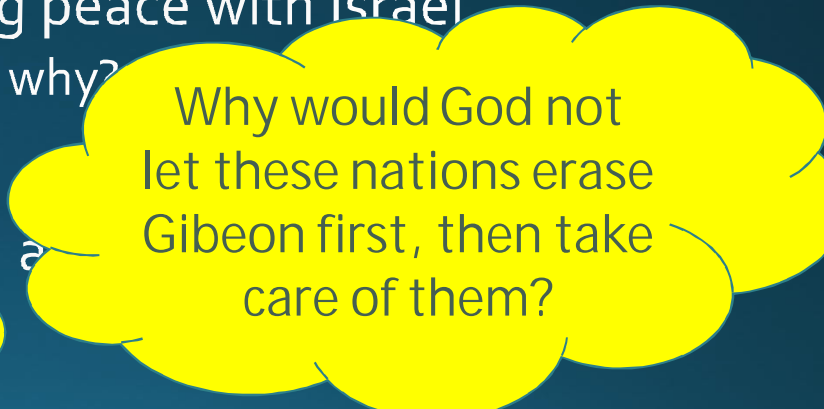


# Spring under Gibeon

[BiblePlaces.com](http://BiblePlaces.com)

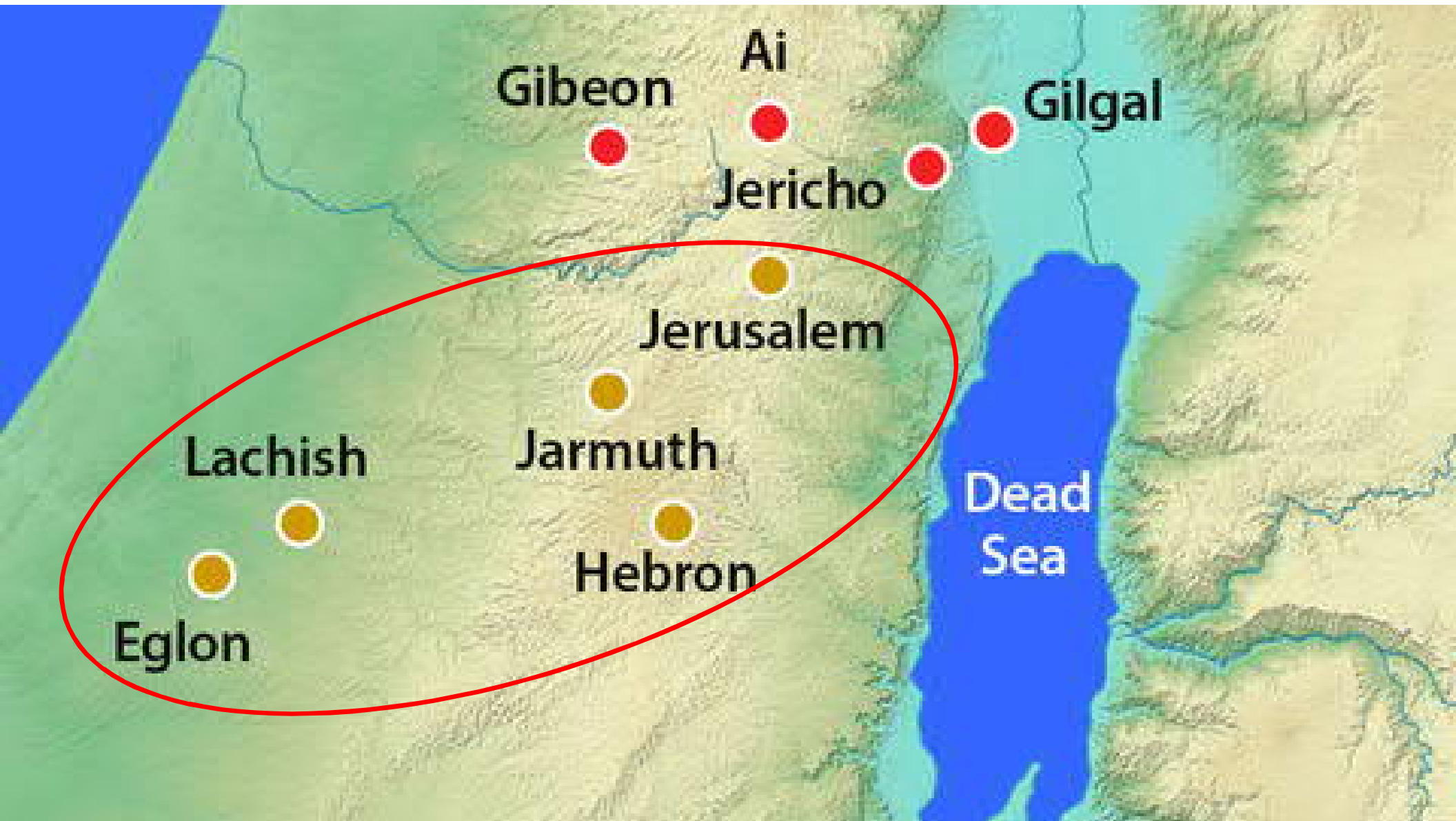
# Fear Factor (10:1-9)

- What was the effect of Gibeon on neighbor cities?
- Jerusalem forms alliance with Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, Eglon
- The mission: to attack Gibeon for making peace with Israel
  - Attacking Gibeon does not defeat Israel, so why?
- Gibeon calls on Joshua for deliverance
- Joshua responds immediately, marching against them
- God assures Joshua of victory



Why would God not let these nations erase Gibeon first, then take care of them?

“For it was of the Lord to harden their hearts to meet Israel in battle in order that he might utterly destroy them, that they might receive no mercy, but that he might destroy them, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.” (Joshua 11:20)



Gibeon

Ai

Gilgal

Jericho

Jerusalem

Lachish

Jarmuth

Dead  
Sea

Eglon

Hebron



# Wipeout (10:10-28)

- Great slaughter at Gibeon; the rest run away
- God sends (hail) stones, which kill the most
- Joshua asks God to stop time, and God does!
- What is obvious about this battle?
  - God is doing the heavy lifting (v. 14)
- The 5 kings hide in cave, become trapped, later hanged
- What is the intent of the neck-stepping in v. 24?
  - Morale booster for the army (v. 25)
  - Acknowledge some of his mighty men (not himself)



Figure of speech in  
Ps. 110:1  
I Cor. 15:25

# Ascent of Beth-Horon



# Valley of Aijalon



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# No Survivor (10:28-43)





“the Lord, the  
God of Israel,  
fought for  
Israel.” (10:42)