

Bible History Puzzle 68

Two kings had been conquered and killed so far. There were many left still. The Israelites waited for Joshua's command before they continued.

One day they saw a group of strange men coming. They looked very poor! Their _____ were in pieces and worn out and their clothes were full of rips and holes. The _____ bags that hung over the backs of their donkeys had burst and cracked.

Joshua looked up at this group of beggars who stopped in front of his _____. He looked them over and said, "Who are you? And where do you come from?"

"We have come from a far _____. We want to make a treaty with you." The man told how they had heard how strong the God of Israel was and how many great things He had done for Israel. And so they had decided to come to Israel not to _____ them but to ask if they could be their servants.

Joshua thought quietly, "Look how _____ of us they are!" He liked that!

"You can see," said the men, "how long we have been on our _____. Look at our shoes and clothes!"

One of them pulled a piece of bread out of their bag and let Joshua see it. "Look!" he said, "this was freshly _____, still warm out of the oven, when we started on this journey." Joshua saw that it was dried out and covered in mold.

Joshua thought about it for a little while and talked with some of the elders. Then he said, "Very well. We _____ that we will not kill anyone. We will make a treaty. The Lord has heard our agreement." The Gibeonites, because that's who they were, were very glad.

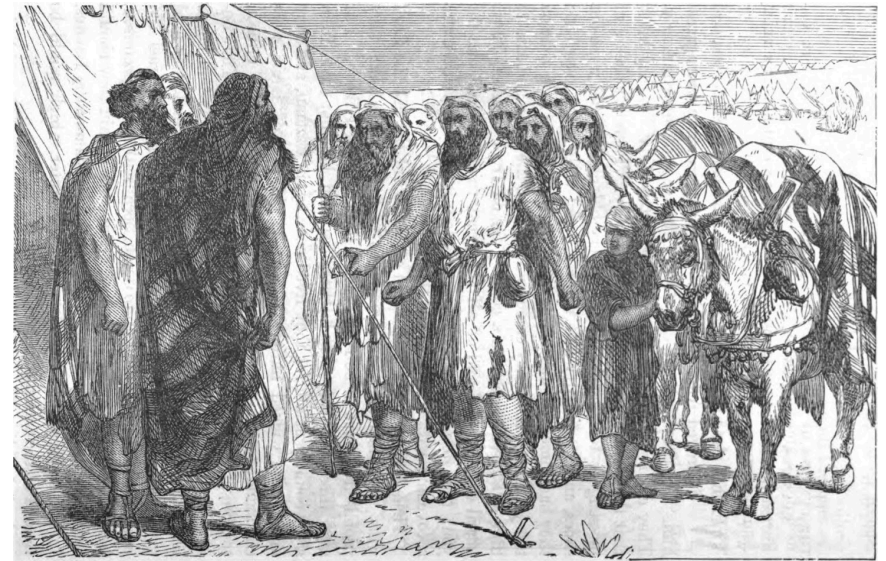
It was only a few days later that the truth came out. The Israelites had been deceived and _____. These people had not come from a far country at all. They actually lived close by. The Israelites were angry. "Kill them!" a cry rang out.

But Joshua knew they couldn't do that. He realized he had been foolish. He had not asked the _____ if he should make this

treaty. He had not been careful. The Lord had forbidden them to make any treaties with the Canaanites, but they had promised to keep this treaty, and now he must keep his word.

"You have deceived me!" he said angrily. "But the Lord heard what I promised you, so you may live. But, you will be our servants, hauling water and cutting _____. And now, leave!"

The Gibeonites went home happy. When they reached home, they called out, "The trick worked! We are going to live!" That had been their goal, and they had managed to reach it through deceit and because Joshua had failed to _____ the Lord's guidance.



WORD BANK

ask	tent	wood	baked	country
Lord	shoes	afraid	fight	
water	promise	tricked	journey	

The Gibeonites Deceive the Israelites

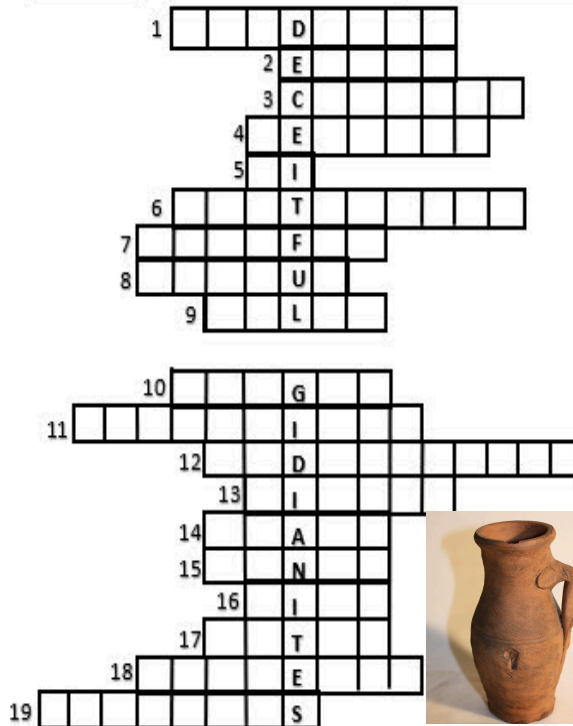
Joshua 9

Put the correct word in each blank, then match the number to the puzzle and insert each word.

The people that were on this side of Jordan had heard how Joshua had defeated 4. _____ and 5. _____. The 15. _____ all got together and decided to go to war against 8. _____. The Gibeonites were 7. _____ after hearing how mighty the Israelites were. To look like they had been traveling a long way, the Gibeonites put on old 14. _____ and old 18. _____. In 10. _____, where Joshua was camped, the Gibeonites first approached him with their sad story. The Gibeonites 16. _____ by saying that they came from a 3. _____ far away. The Gibeonites told Joshua that they had heard of the fame of the Lord thy God and all He had done in 2. _____. The 11. _____ were told that the Gibeonites were 12. _____ and wanted to be on their side. The Gibeonites claimed that the bread that they had started off with was hot and fresh, but now was dry and 9. _____ and their wine bottles were full of new wine, but were empty and falling to pieces. The Gibeonites told Joshua, "We are your 19. _____." Even though the Gibeonites deceived Joshua, they were still under his 6. _____. The punishment for the Gibeonites for deceiving the Israelites was to become 1. _____ to the house of God, along with 13. _____ of wood and drawers of 17. _____.

Word List

Ai
ambassadors
bondsmen
country
Egypt
fearful
garments
Gilgal
hewers
Israelites
Jericho
Joshua
kings
lied
moldy
protection
servants
shoes
water



Joshua learned an important lesson in this story to not depend on his own wisdom. Many times we think we know everything already and do not need to listen to others, or ask the Lord for guidance, but God's Word says differently. Who should we learn from and who should we turn to to ask for advice when we need to make decisions?

Proverbs 13:1 A _____ son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.

Proverbs 13: 20 He that walketh with _____ men shall be wise: but a companion of _____ shall be destroyed.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the _____ with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall _____ thy paths.

Proverbs 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own _____: but he that hearkeneth unto _____ is wise.

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of _____, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

In 1 Kings, there was a man who knew he needed wisdom given to him. Who was it? *Find the answer in the bottom line by unscrambling those who you can and should ask for advice and wisdom from in the top lines.*

RNTEPSA

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