JOSHUA: presence courage action.

The Long Day - Joshua 10:1-28 April 23, 2017

"Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."
- Joshua 10:12

I. A COVENANT HONORED

- Five kings gather their armies to punish Gibeon for its treachery against the Canaanite coalition. The strongest king, Adoni-zedek of Jerusalem, leads the charge (vss. 1-5).
- The Gibeonites call upon Israel to honor their treaty (covenant), and it is honored not only by Joshua, but by the Lord Himself (vss. 6-9).
- A strategic all-night march leads to a surprise morning attack that sends the enemy to flight. God then intervenes supernaturally to decisively destroy the enemy (vss. 10-15).

II. IF GOD IS FOR US

- When you align yourself with God, expect opposition. But God is for you (Ps. 23:4; Mark 13:13; Luke 6:22-23; John 16:32-33; 1 Pet. 5:8).
- When you are weak, the enemy will attack. But God is for you. His power is perfected in your weakness (2 Cor. 12:6-10).
- Nothing can separate you from the love of Christ. Nothing (Rom. 8:31-39).
- We serve a God who is for us, not against us. It is paramount that we remember this (Deut. 31:8; Josh. 1:5; Ps. 9:10; 37:25; Heb. 13:5).

KNOW: If you are a Christ-follower, then God is on your side. He is for you, not against you.

DO: Rest in the knowledge that God is for you.

Recommended Reading:

God in the Whirlwind: How the Holy-love of God Reorients Our World, by David F. Wells (Available in the LifePoint Library, 231.6 WEL)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

- 1. Why do the Canaanite kingdoms unite against God's people?
- 2. Talk through some of the implications you see for us today as they relate to Israel going to war to protect Gentiles, all based on a treaty. What does it say about honoring our word, for instance?
- 3. What do you think about the supernatural interventions related to us in this chapter?
- 4. Once again, we see incredible violence in this chapter. Talk through your thoughts on this issue if you have not already done so previously in our study through Joshua.
- 5. Where do you struggle in this area of "God for us"? Is that difficult for you to grasp or see in your life? Why or why not?
- 6. What are some of your take-aways from this chapter in Joshua?