

Journey Through the Bible (37)

THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN - 2

Joshua 9-12

Conquering Canaan

- We are continuing the 7th of 17 time periods of Bible history – conquering and inheriting Canaan
- Israel has crossed the Jordan and arrived.
- In our last lesson we addressed the conquest of Jericho and Ai.
- In this lesson, we notice the conquest of the rest of the promised land.

A treaty with Gibeon

- **Joshua 9:1-2**
- Because of Israel's success with Jericho and Ai, kings of the south band together to discuss dealing with Joshua and Israel.
- **9:3-15**, the Gibeonites, knowing YHWH's power, devise a scheme to save themselves. They pretend to be from a far country.

- **Joshua 9:3-15**
- While hesitant at first (**vs. 7**), Joshua does make a treaty with them (**vs. 15**)
- Consider:
- **Deuteronomy 20:10-18** – laws for treaties.
- Note **Vs. 3, 9-10**, the Gibeonite's plans.
- **Vs. 14**, Israel did not ask counsel of the LORD.

A treaty with Gibeon

- **Joshua 9:16-27**
- 3 days later, Gibeon is discovered as neighbors and put into servitude – woodcutters and water carriers for the people and temple .
- **2 Samuel 21:2**, ~400-500 years later. David needs to make restitution for actions of Saul.
- SOME believe the Gibeonites were associated with the Nethinim (Ezra & Nehemiah)

- **Joshua 10**
- **10:1-5**, Adoni-Zedek (of Jerusalem) gathers forces to attack Gibeon. Gibeon appeals to Joshua for help (**10:6-15**). Note **vs. 8**.
- YHWH helps with the defeat :
 - 1) They are killed by a great slaughter
 - 2) Large hailstones killed more than soldiers
 - 3) The sun stood still for a whole day (**12-14**).

- **Joshua 10**
- **10:16-27**, The 5 kings fled to a cave at Makkedah. It is secured while the battle is completed. After, the kings are brought out and executed. The cave became their grave.
- **10:28-43** – The southern campaign continues. Note: This likely took 2-3 years of time.

- **Joshua 11:1-15**
- **11:1-5**, Jabin, king of Hazor, amasses as large of an army as possible (kings joining forces).
- **11:6-15** – YHWH assures Joshua that they would be defeated. Instructed to hamstring horses and destroy chariots (**cf. Deuteronomy 17:16, Psalm 20:7, Isaiah 31:1, etc.**). Israel likely ambushed the army and was victorious. Hazor was utterly destroyed, and all their army and men. Israel obeyed the command of YHWH, **vs. 15.**

- **Joshua 11:16-12:24**

- The various cities and nations conquered are named including:

11:16-23 – the territory Joshua conquered and his success summarized. The only area not subdued would become the Philistines (**22**)

12:1-6 – the kings conquered by Moses (in the wilderness)

12:7-24 – the kings conquered by Joshua in Canaan (31 kings).

Lessons from the conquest

- Before acting, inquire of God
- Why did they not learn from Ai. Gibeon deceived them because they did not ask YHWH.
- Before we act, we need authority.

Colossians 3:17

Far too many believe that if something is a good idea, God will always be pleased. The Bible is filled with examples to the contrary!

Lessons from the conquest

- Keep your promises
- Because of their covenant with Gibeon, Israel came to their defense. YHWH expected it and was with them.
- When we make a promise, we must do our best to keep it. **Ecclesiastes 5:1-7, Psalm 15:1-4**
- The NT says it this way – **Matthew 5:37, James 5:12** – let your ‘yes’ be ‘yes’...

Lessons from the conquest

- Concerning the sun standing still
- **10:12-14** – I cannot explain the science behind it. Whatever happened it was miraculous and spectacular.
- Consider the effect such would have on the enemy army, awaiting darkness to hide them. BUT, Israel had YHWH on their side!

Lessons from the conquest

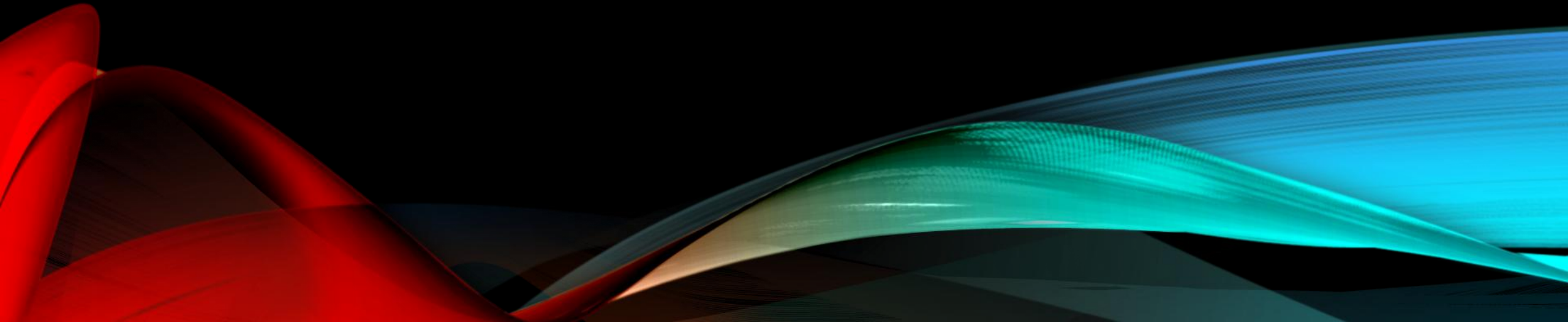
- Concerning the sun standing still
- Some lessons
- God is able to accomplish His will, even supernaturally. He is God – **cf. Luke 1:37, Jeremiah 32:17, 27, etc.**
- The power of prayer – Joshua made his request to YHWH. **1 John 5:14-15**
- God has a plan! His will was carried out.
- A lesson in faith – trusting God.
Cf. Matthew 17:20 – what a little faith can do.

Lessons from the conquest

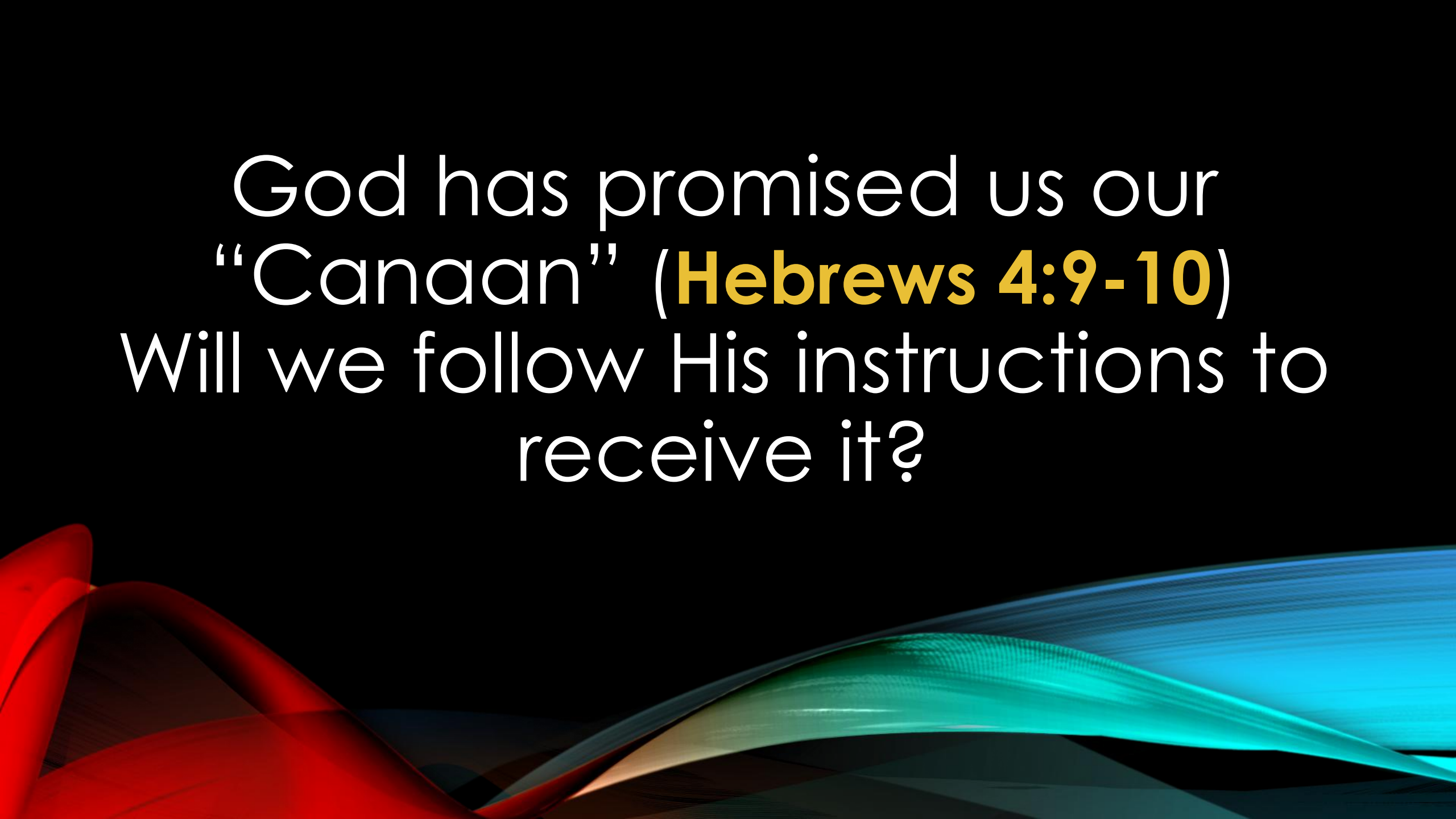
- When facing battles, we need God on our side!
- We are at war spiritually!
- **Ephesians 6:10-12, 1 Timothy 6:12.** Whose side are we fighting for?
- Why do we need to trust God?
 - **Colossians 2:13-15, Hebrews 2:14 (14-18)**
- Consider passages like:
Romans 8:31, 1 Peter 3:12, 1 John 4:4, etc.

God gave Israel the land He
promised.

If He would keep that promise,
He can keep His promises to us!



God has promised us our
“Canaan” (**Hebrews 4:9-10**)
Will we follow His instructions to
receive it?

The background features abstract, flowing, wavy lines in shades of red and blue, set against a dark background. The lines are smooth and have a slight gradient, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Let us pray!

