

Submission to God:
The Gibeonite Deception
Josh 9:1-27



All the Kings West of the Jordan

*¹And it came to pass when **all the kings who were on this side of the Jordan**, in the hills and in the lowland and in all the coasts of the Great Sea toward Lebanon—the **Hittite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite**—heard about it, ² that they **gathered together to fight with Joshua and Israel with one accord.***

Going against God

A hopeless and useless case

Waste of resources, time, and lives

Don't go against God

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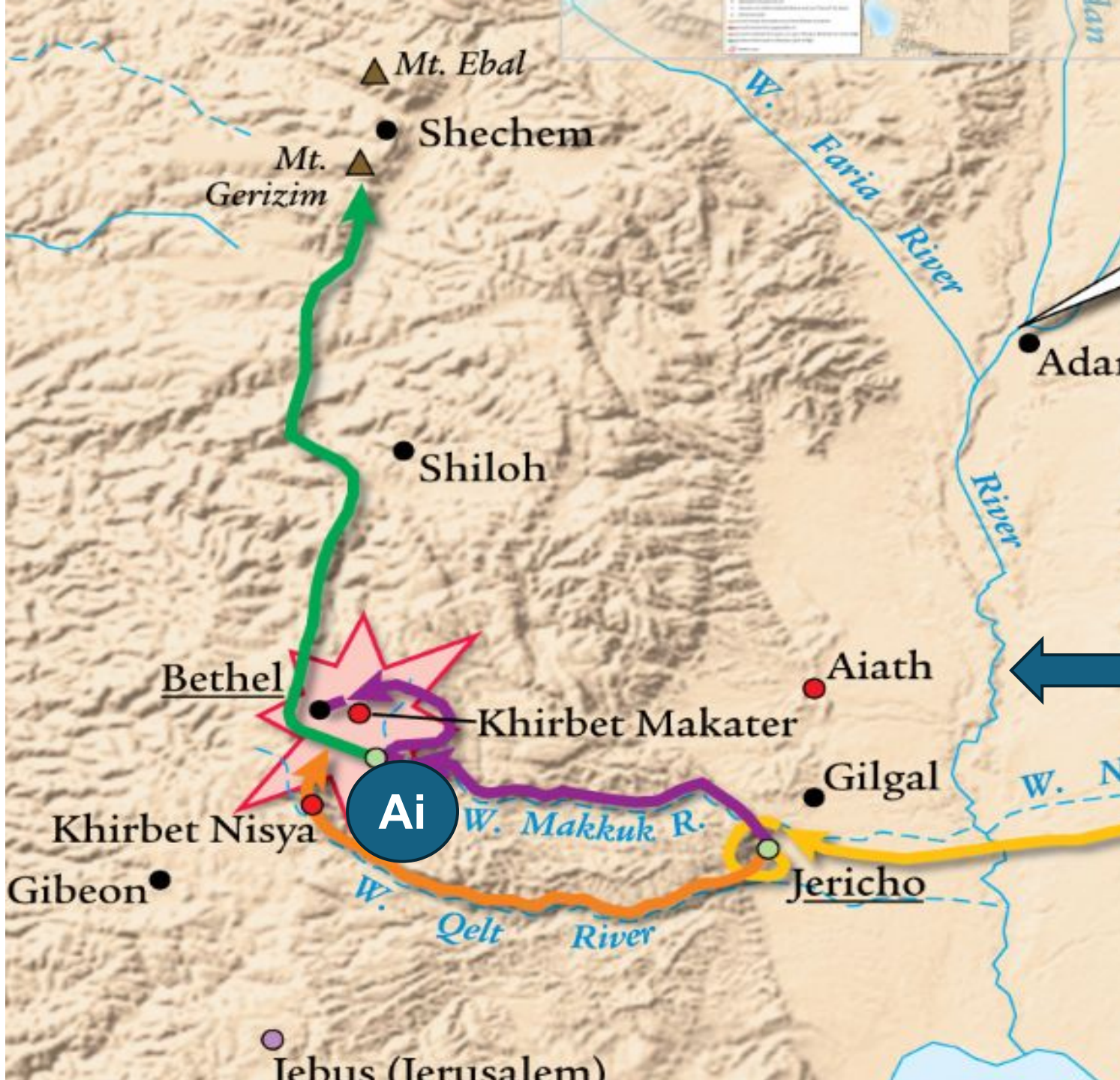
Waste of resources, time, and lives

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As for the Gibeonites

³ But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, ⁴ they worked craftily, and went and pretended to be ambassadors. And they took **old sacks** on their donkeys, **old wineskins torn and mended**, ⁵ **old and patched sandals** on their feet, and **old garments** on themselves; and all the **bread** of their provision was **dry and moldy**. ⁶ And they went to Joshua, to the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of Israel. “We have come from a far country; now therefore, make a covenant with us.”





Jordan River

Gibeon

The Gibeonites Recognized What God was Doing

⁸ *But they said to Joshua, “**We are your servants.**” And Joshua said to them, “Who are you, and where do you come from?”*

⁹ *So they said to him: “From a very far country your servants have come, **because of the name of the Lord your God**; for we have **heard of His fame, and all that He did in Egypt,** ¹⁰ **and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan—to Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan.**”*



The Gibeonites Submitted to God

¹¹ Therefore *our elders* and *all the inhabitants* of our country spoke to us, saying, ‘Take provisions with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say to them, “*We are your servants; now therefore, make a covenant with us.*”’

They subjected themselves to God – even to be servants



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As it was obvious God was with the Israelites

They didn't want to be destroyed

They subjected themselves to God – even to be servants



The Gibeonites Will Take Whatever “Crumbs” Given

Mark 7:27 But Jesus said to her, “Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.”²⁸ And she answered and said to Him, “Yes, Lord, yet **even the little dogs under the table eat from the children’s crumbs.**”

Even in some small ways
Eager to be blessed and to serve
Though undeserving



The Gibeonites Will Take Whatever “Crumbs”

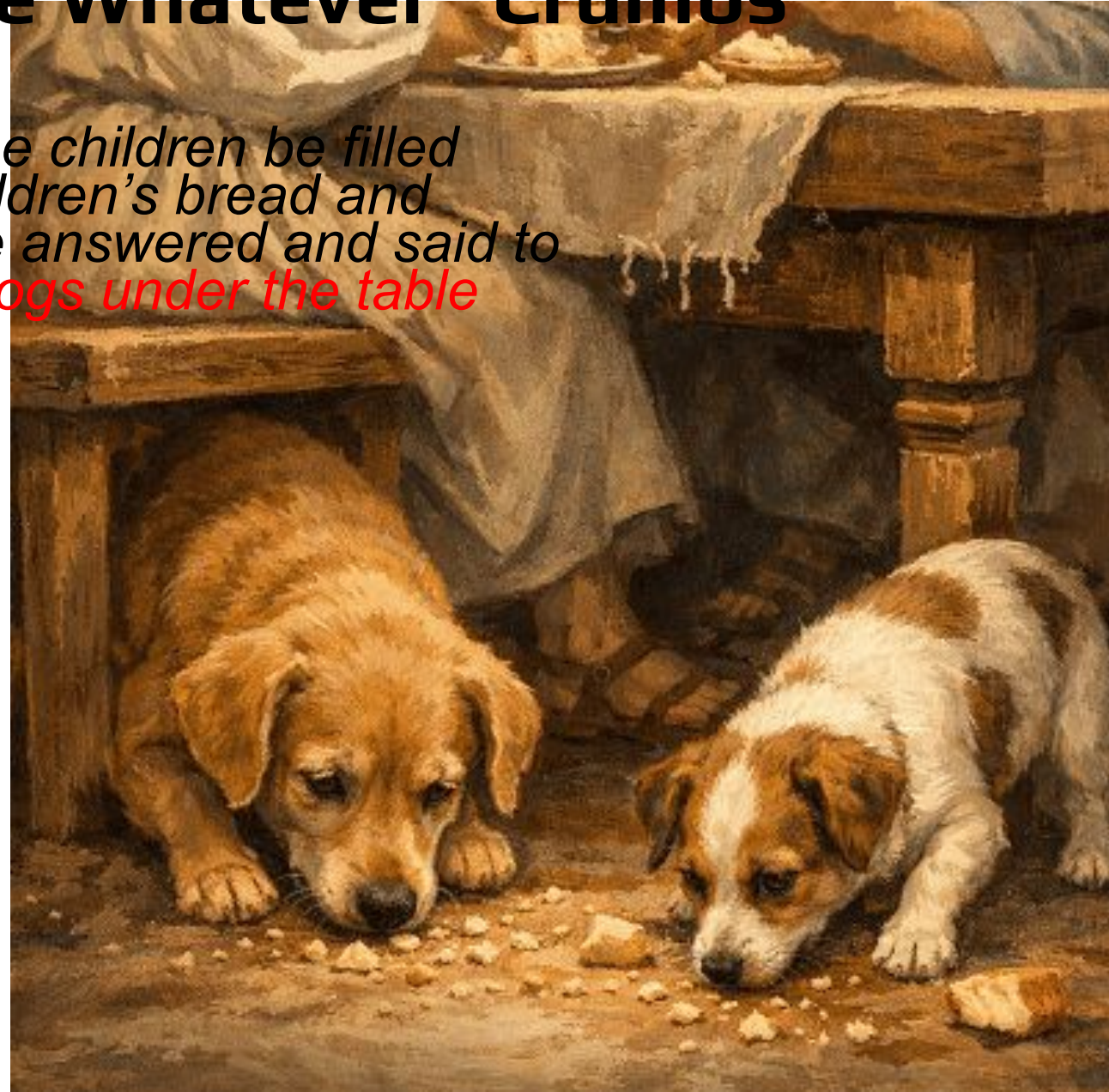
Given

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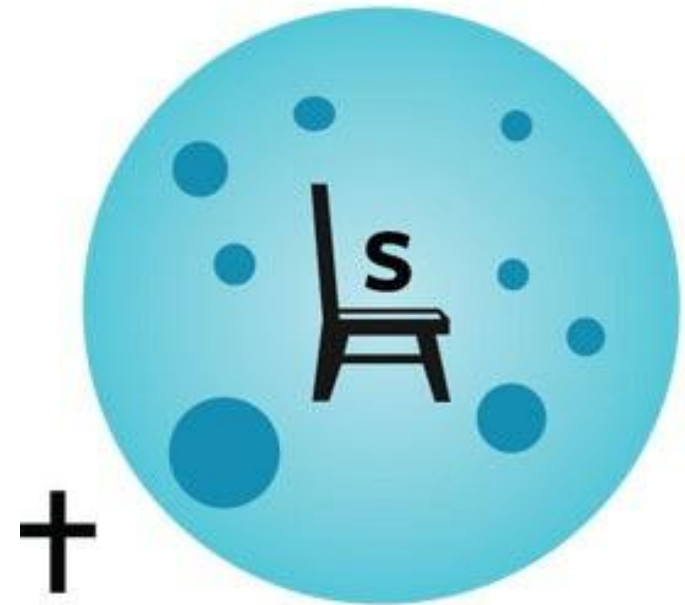
Joshua Acted Without Consulting the Lord

*¹⁴ Then the men of Israel took some of their provisions; but they **did not ask counsel of the Lord.** ¹⁵ So **Joshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them to let them live; and the rulers of the congregation swore to them.***

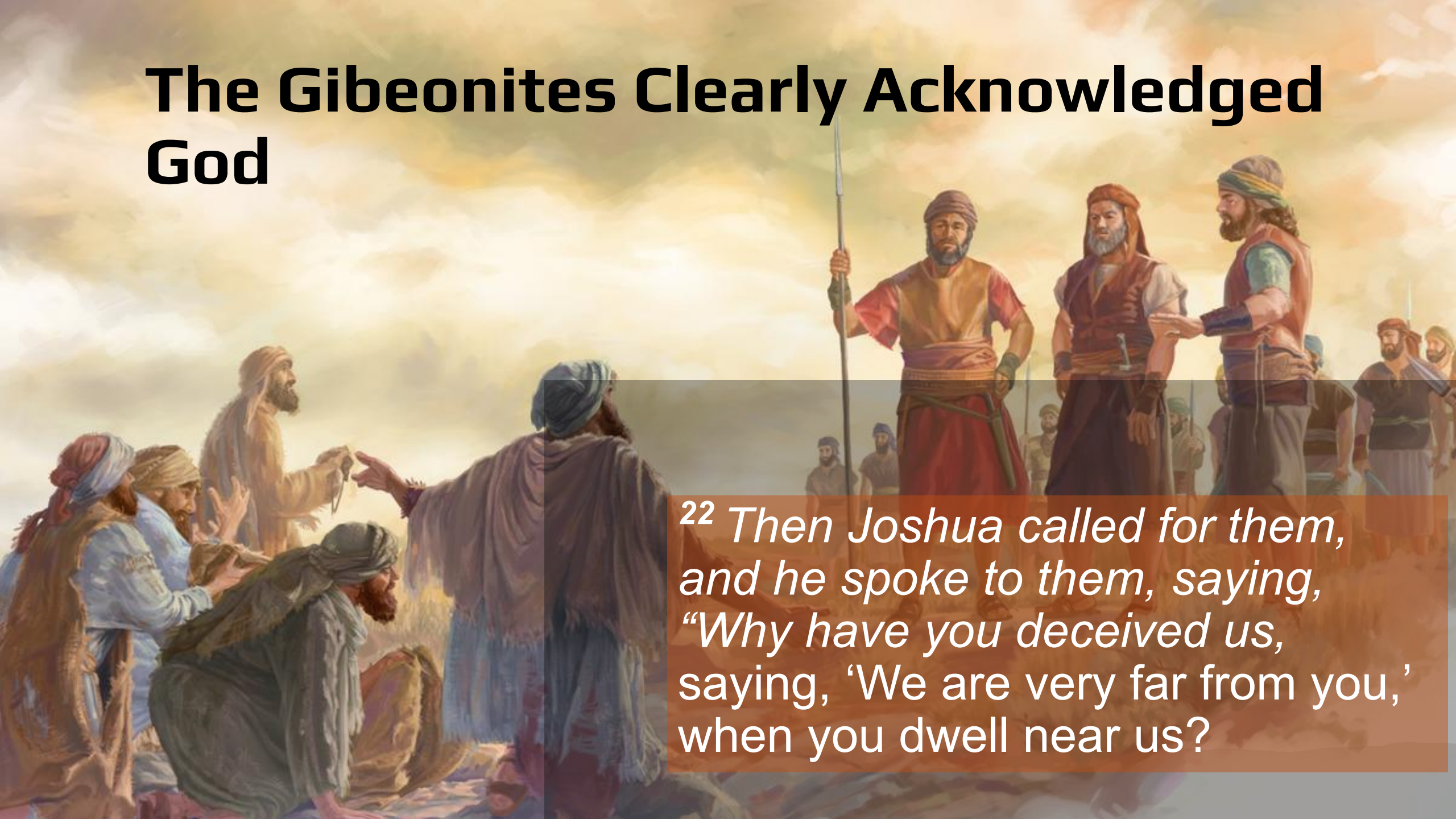
The flesh (self) of Joshua
(Abraham, Moses, Elijah, etc)

Struggle of flesh and spirit

Be humble



The Gibeonites Clearly Acknowledged God



²² Then Joshua called for them, and he spoke to them, saying, “Why have you deceived us, saying, ‘We are very far from you,’ when you dwell near us?”

The Gibeonites Clearly Acknowledged God



*24 So they answered Joshua and said, “Because **your servants were clearly told that the Lord your God** commanded His servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you; therefore we were very much afraid for our lives because of you, and have done this thing. ²⁵ And now, **here we are, in your hands**; do with us as it seems good and right to do to us.”*

A Covenant is to be Kept

²⁶ So he did to them, and *delivered them* out of the hand of the children of Israel, so that they *did not kill them*. ²⁷ And that day *Joshua made them woodcutters and water carriers* for the congregation and for the altar of the Lord.

Let our yes be yes, and no be no
Unless there is a greater evil



Submission to God

- Don't go against God, submit to what He is doing.
- In big or small ways, submit to the Lord, and serve Him.
- Let our yes be yes and your no be no.



Dreams and Visions

1. Jacob – ladder (Gen 28:10-19)
2. Joseph – Sheaves, Sun Moon Stars (Gen 37)
3. Nebuchadnezzar – Giant Statue (Dan 2)
4. Joseph – Take Mary as wife (Mt 1:20)
5. Wise Men – Warning (Mt 2:12)
6. Paul – Call to Macedonia (Acts 16:9-10)
7. Peter – Sheet of animals (Acts 10:9-23)
8. **Present Day Dreams**



Dreams and Visions

¹⁶ But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ 'And it shall come to pass **in the last days**, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall **see visions**, Your old men shall **dream dreams**. (Acts 2:16-17)





Eggs (Warmth)



Rod (Shepherd)



Discipling the Disciplers



New Generation Leaders
2030