

~GIBEON (890)

(Gib'e-on) [Hill Place, Gibeonites, Gib'e-on-ites]

.. Dealings With Joshua

.. Under Israel's Control

- The city of **Gibeon** is today linked with **el-Jib**, about 9.5 kilometers (6 miles) North-Northwest of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Numerous earthenware jar handles bearing the name Gibeon in ancient **Hebrew** characters have been found there.
- Located on a hill that rises some 60 meters (200 feet) above the surrounding plain, the ancient site covers about 6.5 ha (16 acres)
- The site has in recent years been the scene of archaeological diggings. Excavators cleared a 51-meters (167 feet) tunnel cut through solid rock.
- This tunnel was anciently lighted by means of lamps placed in niches at regular intervals along its walls. With its 93 rock-cut steps, the tunnel led from just within **Gibeon** to a man-made cave-reservoir fed by a spring about 25 meters (82 feet) below the city wall.
- This ensured the **Gibeonites** a safe water supply even in time of siege. Excavators also uncovered a round, rock-cut pit, or pool, having a diameter of 11.3 meters (37 feet).
- A circular stairway, with steps measuring about 1.5 meters (5 feet) wide, leads downward in a clockwise direction around the edge of the pit.
- From the bottom of the pit, at a depth of 10.8 meters (35.4 feet), the steps continue for 13.6 meters (44.6 feet) through a tunneled stairwell leading to a water chamber.
- Whether this pit, or pool, is to be identified with the Biblical pool of **Gibeon** is uncertain.
- As for Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David, they went out and later met together by the pool of **Gibeon**, and they kept sitting, these on this side of the pool and those on that side of the pool. (**2 Samuel 2:13**)

.. Dealings With Joshua

- In Joshua's time **Gibeon** was inhabited by Hivites, one of the seven Canaanite nations in line for destruction.
- When Yehowah your God at last brings you into the land to which you are going so as to take possession of it, he must also clear away populous nations from before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations more populous and mighty than you are. (**Deuteronomy 7:1**)
- And Yehowah your God will certainly abandon them to you, and you must defeat them. You should without fail devote them to destruction. You must conclude no covenant with them nor show them any favor. (**Deuteronomy 7:2**)
- And the inhabitants of **Gibeon** heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai. (**Joshua 9:3**)
- So they, even of their own accord, acted with shrewdness and went and stocked themselves with provisions and took worn-out sacks for their asses, and wine skin-bottles worn out and burst and tied up. (**Joshua 9:4**)
- And worn-out and patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out garments upon themselves, and all the bread of their provisions proved to be dry and crumby. (**Joshua 9:5**)
- Then they went to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the men of Israel; It is from a distant land that we have come. And now conclude a covenant with us. (**Joshua 9:6**)
- At this the men of Israel said to the Hivites; Perhaps it is in our vicinity that you are dwelling. So how could we conclude a covenant with you? (**Joshua 9:7**)
- The **Gibeonites** were also called Amorites, as this designation appears at times to have been applied generally to all the Canaanites.
- At this the men of Israel said to the Hivites; Perhaps it is in our vicinity that you are dwelling. So how could we conclude a covenant with you? (**Joshua 9:7**)

- And Canaan became father to Sidon his firstborn and Heth. (**Genesis 10:15**)
- And the Jebusite and the Amorite and the Girgashite. (**Genesis 10:16**)
- And the Hivite and the Arkite and the Sinite. (**Genesis 10:17**)
- And the Arvadite and the Zemarite and the Hamathite, and afterward the families of the Canaanite were scattered. (**Genesis 10:18**)
- But in the fourth generation they will return here, because the error of the Amorites has not yet come to completion. (**Genesis 15:16**)
- Unlike the other Canaanites, the **Gibeonites** realized that despite their military strength and the greatness of their city, resistance would fail because Yehowah was fighting for Israel.
- Therefore, after the destruction of Jericho and Ai, the men of **Gibeon**, apparently also representing the three other Hivite cities of Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim.
- Then the sons of Israel pulled out and came to their cities on the third day, and their cities were **Gibeon** and Chephirah and Beeroth and Kiriath-jearim. (**Joshua 9:17**)
- Sent a delegation to Joshua at Gilgal to sue for peace. The **Gibeonite** ambassadors dressed in worn-out garments and sandals and having burst, skin wine-bottles, worn-out sacks, and dry, crumbly bread represented themselves as being from a distant land, hence not in the way of Israel's conquests.
- They acknowledged Yehowah's hand in what had earlier befallen Egypt and the Amorite kings Sihon and Og. But wisely they did not mention what had happened to Jericho and Ai, as such news could not have reached their **very distant land** before the supposed departure. Israel's representatives examined and accepted the evidence and covenanted with them to let them live.
- And the inhabitants of **Gibeon** heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai. (**Joshua 9:3**)

- **So they, even of their own accord, acted with shrewdness and went and stocked themselves with provisions and took worn-out sacks for their asses, and wine skin-bottles worn out and burst and tied up. (Joshua 9:4)**
- **And worn-out and patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out garments upon themselves, and all the bread of their provisions proved to be dry and crumby. (Joshua 9:5)**
- **Then they went to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the men of Israel; It is from a distant land that we have come. And now conclude a covenant with us. (Joshua 9:6)**
- **At this the men of Israel said to the Hivites; Perhaps it is in our vicinity that you are dwelling. So how could we conclude a covenant with you? (Joshua 9:7)**
- **In turn they said to Joshua; We are your servants. (Joshua 9:8)**
- **Then Joshua said to them; Who are you, and where do you come from?**
- **At this they said to him; It is from a very distant land that your servants have come in regard to the name of Yehowah your God, because we have heard of his fame and of all that he did in Egypt. (Joshua 9:9)**
- **And of all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, namely, Sihon the king of Heshbon and Og the king of Bashan, who was in Ashtaroth. (Joshua 9:10)**
- **Hence our older men and all the inhabitants of our land said this to us, Take provisions in your hands for the journey and go to meet them, and you must say to them; We are your servants. And now conclude a covenant with us. (Joshua 9:11)**
- **This bread of ours, it was hot when we took it as our provisions out of our houses on the day of our going out to come here to you, and now, look! It is dry and has become crumby. (Joshua 9:12)**
- **And these are the wine skin-bottles that we filled new, and, look! They have burst, and these garments and sandals of ours, they**

have worn out because of the great length of the journey.
(Joshua 9:13)

- Upon that the men took some of their provisions, and at the mouth of Yehowah they did not inquire. (Joshua 9:14)
- Shortly thereafter, the ruse was uncovered. But the covenant remained in force, breaking it would have called Israel's trustworthiness into question and brought Yehowah's name into contempt among the other nations.
- When Joshua confronted the **Gibeonites** about their craftiness, they again acknowledged Yehowah's dealing with Israel and then placed themselves at his mercy, saying;
 - Now here we are, in your hand. Just as it is good and right in your eyes to do to us, do. (Joshua 9:25)
 - They were then constituted gatherers of wood and drawers of water for the assembly and for Yehowah's altar.
- And it came about that at the end of three days, after they had concluded a covenant with them, they got to hear that they were near to them and it was in their vicinity they were dwelling. (Joshua 9:16)
- Then the sons of Israel pulled out and came to their cities on the third day, and their cities were **Gibeon** and Chephirah and Beeroth and Kiriath-jearim. (Joshua 9:17)
- And the sons of Israel did not strike them, because the chieftains of the assembly had sworn to them by Yehowah the God of Israel. And all the assembly began to murmur against the chieftains. (Joshua 9:18)
- At this all the chieftains said to all the assembly; We, for our part, have sworn to them by Yehowah the God of Israel, and now we are not allowed to hurt them. (Joshua 9:19)
- This is what we shall do to them while letting them live, that no indignation may come upon us over the oath that we have sworn to them. (Joshua 9:20)
- So the chieftains said to them; Let them live and let them

become gatherers of wood and drawers of water for all the assembly, just as the chieftains have promised them. (**Joshua 9:21**)

- Joshua now called them and spoke to them, saying; Why did you trick us, saying; We are very far away from you, whereas you are dwelling in our very midst? (**Joshua 9:22**)
- And now you are cursed people, and a slaves position and being gatherers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God will never be cut off from you. (**Joshua 9:23**)
- Then they answered Joshua and said; It was because your servants were plainly told that Yehowah your God had commanded Moses his servant to give you all the land and to annihilate all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and we became very much afraid for our souls because of you. So we did this thing. (**Joshua 9:24**)
- And now here we are, in your hand. Just as it is good and right in your eyes to do to us, do. (**Joshua 9:25**)
- And he proceeded to do so to them and to deliver them from the hand of the sons of Israel, and they did not kill them. (**Joshua 9:26**)
- Accordingly Joshua constituted them on that day gatherers of wood and drawers of water for the assembly and for Yehowah's altar, down to this day, at the place that he should choose. (**Joshua 9:27**)
- Although Joshua and the other chieftains had been tricked into making a covenant with the **Gibeonites**, this was evidently in harmony with Yehowah's will.
- There proved to be no city that made peace with the sons of Israel but the Hivites inhabiting **Gibeon**. All the others they took by war. (**Joshua 11:19**)
- Proof of this is seen in the fact that when five Amorite kings sought to destroy the **Gibeonites**, Yehowah blessed Israel's rescue operation, he even hurled down great hailstones upon the foe and miraculously extended the daylight for battle.

- And it came about that as soon as Adonizedek the king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had captured Ai and then devoted it to destruction, that just as he had done to Jericho and its king, so he had done to Ai and its king, and that the inhabitants of **Gibeon** had made peace with Israel and were continuing in their midst. (**Joshua 10:1**)
- He became very much afraid, because **Gibeon** was a great city, like one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all its men were mighty ones. (**Joshua 10:2**)
- Consequently Adoni-zedek the king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham the king of Hebron and to Piram the king of Jarmuth and to Japhia the king of Lachish and to Debir the king of Eglon, saying; (**Joshua 10:3**)
- Come up to me and help me and let us strike **Gibeon**, because it has made peace with Joshua and the sons of Israel. (**Joshua 10:4**)
- At this they gathered together and went on up, five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, these and all their camps, and they proceeded to camp against **Gibeon** and to war against it. (**Joshua 10:5**)
- Upon that the men of **Gibeon** sent to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal, saying; Do not let your hand relax from your slaves. Come up to us quickly and do save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites inhabiting the mountainous region have collected together against us. (**Joshua 10:6**)
- So Joshua went on up from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him and all the valiant mighty men. (**Joshua 10:7**)
- Then Yehowah said to Joshua; Do not be afraid of them, for into your hand I have given them. Not a man of them will stand against you. (**Joshua 10:8**)
- And Joshua proceeded to come against them by surprise. All night long he had gone up from Gilgal. (**Joshua 10:9**)
- And Yehowah went throwing them into confusion before Israel, and they began to slay them with a great slaughter at **Gibeon**

- and went pursuing them by way of the ascent of Bethhoron and slaying them as far as Azekah and Makkedah. ([Joshua 10:10](#))
- And it came about that while they were fleeing from before Israel and were on the descent of Beth-horon, Yehowah hurled great stones from the heavens upon them as far as Azekah, so that they died. There were more who died from the hailstones than those whom the sons of Israel killed with the sword. ([Joshua 10:11](#))
 - It was then that Joshua proceeded to speak to Yehowah on the day of Yehowah's abandoning the Amorites to the sons of Israel, and he went on to say before the eyes of Israel; Sun, be motionless over **Gibeon**, and, moon, over the low plain of Aijalon. ([Joshua 10:12](#))
 - Accordingly the sun kept motionless, and the moon did stand still, until the nation could take vengeance on its enemies. Is it not written in the book of Jashar? And the sun kept standing still in the middle of the heavens and did not hasten to set for about a whole day. ([Joshua 10:13](#))
 - And no day has proved to be like that one, either before it or after it, in that Yehowah listened to the voice of a man, for Yehowah himself was fighting for Israel. ([Joshua 10:14](#))
 - Also, both in seeking a covenant of peace with Israel and in appealing to Joshua for help when threatened, the **Gibeonites** manifested faith in Yehowah's ability to fulfill his word and to effect deliverance, something for which Rahab of Jericho was commended and that resulted in the preservation of her life and that of her household. Moreover, the **Gibeonites** had a wholesome fear of Israel's God.
 - And she went on to say to the men; I do know that Yehowah will certainly give you the land, and that the fright of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have become disheartened because of you. ([Joshua 2:9](#))
 - For we have heard how Yehowah dried up the waters of the Red Sea from before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, namely, Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. ([Joshua 2:10](#))

- **When we got to hear it, then our hearts began to melt, and no spirit has arisen yet in anybody because of you, for Yehowah your God is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. (Joshua 2:11)**
- **And now, please, swear to me by Yehowah that, because I have exercised loving-kindness toward you, you also will certainly exercise loving-kindness toward the household of my father, and you must give me a trustworthy sign. (Joshua 2:12)**
- **And you must preserve alive my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters and all who belong to them, and you must deliver our souls from death. (Joshua 2:13)**
- **At that the men said to her; Our souls are to die instead of you people! If you will not tell about this matter of ours, it must also occur that when Yehowah gives us the land, we also shall certainly exercise loving-kindness and trustworthiness toward you. (Joshua 2:14)**
- **At this they said to him; It is from a very distant land that your servants have come in regard to the name of Yehowah your God, because we have heard of his fame and of all that he did in Egypt. (Joshua 9:9)**
- **And of all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, namely, Sihon the king of Heshbon and Og the king of Bashan, who was in Ashtaroth. (Joshua 9:10)**
- **Hence our older men and all the inhabitants of our land said this to us, Take provisions in your hands for the journey and go to meet them, and you must say to them; We are your servants. And now conclude a covenant with us. (Joshua 9:11)**
- **Then they answered Joshua and said; It was because your servants were plainly told that Yehowah your God had commanded Moses his servant to give you all the land and to annihilate all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and we became very much afraid for our souls because of you. So we did this thing. (Joshua 9:24)**
- **Upon that the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp at**

Gilgal, saying; Do not let your hand relax from your slaves. Come up to us quickly and do save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites inhabiting the mountainous region have collected together against us. (**Joshua 10:6**)

- By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish with those who acted disobediently, because she received the spies in a peaceable way. (**Hebrews 11:31**)

• Under Israel's Control

- **Gibeon** afterward came to be one of the cities in the territory of Benjamin assigned to the Aaronic priests.
- And the cities of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin by their families proved to be Jericho and Beth-hoglah and Emek-keziz. (**Joshua 18:21**)
- **Gibeon** and Ramah and Beeroth. (**Joshua 18:25**)
- And out of the tribe of Benjamin, **Gibeon** and its pasture ground, Geba and its pasture ground. (**Joshua 21:17**)
- Anathoth and its pasture ground, and Almon and its pasture ground, four cities. (**Joshua 21:18**)
- All the cities of the sons of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen cities and their pasture grounds. (**Joshua 21:19**)
- The Benjamite Jeiel apparently fathered, or founded, a house there.
- And it was in **Gibeon** that the father of Gibeon, Jeiel, dwelt, and his wife's name was Maacah. (**1 Chronicles 8:29**)
- And in **Gibeon** was where the father of **Gibeon**, Jeiel, dwelt. And his wife's name was Maacah. (**1 Chronicles 9:35**)
- One of David's mighty men, Ishmaiah, was a **Gibeonite**.
- And these are the ones that came to David at Ziklag while he was still under restrictions because of Saul the son of Kish, and they were among the mighty men, the helpers in the warfare. (**1 Chronicles 12:1**)

- And Ishmaiah the **Gibeonite**, a mighty man among the thirty and over the thirty, and Jeremiah and Jahaziel and Johanan and Jozabad the Gederathite. (**1 Chronicles 12:4**)
- And the false prophet Hananiah, a contemporary of Jeremiah, was from **Gibeon**.
- Then it came about in that year, in the beginning of the kingdom of Zedekiah the king of Judah, in the fourth year, in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azzur, the prophet who was from **Gibeon**, said to me in the house of Yehowah before the eyes of the priests and of all the people. (**Jeremiah 28:1**)
- In the **11th Century B.C.E**, **Gibeon** and its vicinity witnessed a conflict between the army of Ish-bosheth under the command of Abner and that of David under the leadership of Joab.
- Initially, doubtless to settle the issue as to who should be king over all Israel, a combat with 12 men from each side was staged. But this decided nothing, for each warrior transfixed his opponent with the sword so that all 24 perished.
- Thereafter, fierce fighting erupted, with Abner losing 18 times as many men as Joab. All together there were 380 casualties, including Joab's brother Asahel, killed by Abner.
- In time Abner the son of Ner and the servants of Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, went out from Mahanaim to **Gibeon**. (**2 Samuel 2:12**)
- As for Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David, they went out and later met together by the pool of **Gibeon**, and they kept sitting, these on this side of the pool and those on that side of the pool. (**2 Samuel 2:13**)
- Finally Abner said to Joab; Let the young men rise up, please, and let them put on a combat before us. To this Joab said; Let them rise up. (**2 Samuel 2:14**)
- So they rose up and went across by number, twelve belonging to Benjamin and Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, and twelve from the servants of David. (**2 Samuel 2:15**)
- And they began grabbing hold of one another by the head, with

the sword of each one in the side of the other, so that they fell down together. And that place came to be called Helkath-hazzurim, which is in **Gibeon**. (2 Samuel 2:16)

- And the fighting came to be extremely hard on that day, and Abner and the men of Israel were finally defeated before the servants of David. (2 Samuel 2:17)
- Now the three sons of Zeruiah happened to be there, Joab and Abishai and Asahel, and Asahel was swift on his feet, like one of the gazelles that are in the open field. (2 Samuel 2:18)
- And Asahel went chasing after Abner, and he did not incline to go to the right or to the left from following Abner. (2 Samuel 2:19)
- At length Abner looked behind him and said; Is this you, Asahel? To which he said; It is I. (2 Samuel 2:20)
- Then Abner said to him; Veer to your right or to your left and seize one of the young men as yours and take what you strip off him as yours. And Asahel did not want to turn aside from following him. (2 Samuel 2:21)
- So Abner said to Asahel yet again; Turn your course aside from following me. Why should I strike you down to the earth? How, then, could I raise my face to Joab your brother? (2 Samuel 2:22)
- But he kept refusing to turn aside, and Abner got to strike him in the abdomen with the butt end of the spear, so that the spear came out from his back, and he fell there and died where he was. And it came about that all those who came to the place where Asahel fell and then died would stand still. (2 Samuel 2:23)
- And Joab and Abishai went chasing after Abner. As the sun was setting they themselves came to the hill of Ammah, which is in front of Giah on the way to the wilderness of **Gibeon**. (2 Samuel 2:24)
- And the sons of Benjamin went collecting together behind Abner, and they came to be one company and kept standing upon the top of one hill. (2 Samuel 2:25)
- And Abner began to call to Joab and say; Is the sword going to eat endlessly? Do you not really know that bitterness is what

will develop at last? How long, then, will it be before you say to the people to turn back from following their brothers? (2 Samuel 2:26)

- At that Joab said; As the true God is living, if you had not spoken, then only by the morning would the people have been withdrawn, each one from following his brother. (2 Samuel 2:27)
- Joab now blew the horn, and all the people came to a halt and did not continue chasing after Israel anymore, and they did not renew the fighting anymore. (2 Samuel 2:28)
- As for Abner and his men, they marched through the Arabah all that night and went crossing the Jordan and marching through the entire gully and finally came to Mahanaim. (2 Samuel 2:29)
- As for Joab, he turned back from following Abner and began to collect all the people together. And there were missing from the servants of David nineteen men and Asahel. (2 Samuel 2:30)
- And the servants of David, for their part, had struck down those of Benjamin and of the men of Abner, there were three hundred and sixty men that died. (2 Samuel 2:31)
- In revenge over Asahel, Joab later murdered Abner.
- When Abner returned to Hebron, Joab now led him aside inside the gate to speak with him quietly. However, there he struck him in the abdomen, so that he died because of the blood of Asahel his brother. (2 Samuel 3:27)
- As for Joab and Abishai his brother, they killed Abner over the fact that he had put Asahel their brother to death at Gibeon in the battle. (2 Samuel 3:30)
- Sometime after this, near the great stone in Gibeon, Joab also killed his own cousin, Amasa, a nephew of David, whom David had appointed army chieftain.
- They were close by the great stone that is in Gibeon, and Amasa himself came to meet them. Now Joab was girded, clothed with a garment, and upon him there was girded a sword attached to his hip, in its sheath. And he himself came forth, and so it fell out. (2 Samuel 20:8)

- And Joab proceeded to say to Amasa; Is it all right with you, my brother? Then Joab's right hand took hold of Amasa's beard so as to kiss him. (2 Samuel 20:9)
- As for Amasa, he was not on guard against the sword that was in Joab's hand, so that he struck him with it in the abdomen, and his intestines spilled out to the earth, and he did not have to do it to him again. So he died. And Joab and Abishai his brother, for their part, chased after Sheba the son of Bichri. (2 Samuel 20:10)
- Throughout the centuries, the original **Gibeonites** continued to exist as a people, although King Saul schemed to destroy them. The **Gibeonites**, however, patiently waited on Yehowah to reveal the injustice.
- This he did by means of a three-year famine in David's reign. Upon inquiring of Yehowah and learning that bloodguilt was involved, David interviewed the **Gibeonites** to ascertain what should be done to make atonement.
- The **Gibeonites** rightly answered that it was not a matter of silver or gold, because, according to the Law, no ransom could be accepted for a murderer.
- Every fatal striker of a soul should be slain as a murderer at the mouth of witnesses, and one witness may not testify against a soul for him to die. (Numbers 35:30)
- And you must take no ransom for the soul of a murderer who is deserving to die, for without fail he should be put to death. (Numbers 35:31)
- They also recognized that they could not put a man to death without legal authorization. Therefore, not until David's further questioning did they request that seven sons of Saul be handed over to them.
- The fact that bloodguilt was upon both Saul and his household suggests that, although Saul probably took the lead in the murderous action, the sons of Saul may directly or indirectly have shared in it.
- Now there came to be a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year, and David proceeded to consult the face of

Yehowah. Then Yehowah said; Upon Saul and upon his house there is bloodguilt, because he put the **Gibeonites** to death. (2 Samuel 21:1)

- And David went on to say to the **Gibeonites**; What shall I do to you, and with what shall I make atonement, that you may certainly bless the inheritance of Yehowah? (2 Samuel 21:3)
- So the **Gibeonites** said to him; It is not a matter of silver or gold for us in connection with Saul and his household, neither is it ours to put a man to death in Israel. At that he said; Whatever you are saying I shall do for you. (2 Samuel 21:4)
- At this they said to the king; The man that exterminated us and that schemed to annihilate us from subsisting in any of the territory of Israel. (2 Samuel 21:5)
- Let there be given to us seven men of his sons, and we must expose them to Yehowah in **Gibeah** of Saul, the chosen one of Yehowah. Accordingly the king said; I myself shall give them. (2 Samuel 21:6)
- However, the king felt compassion upon Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan the son of Saul on account of the oath of Yehowah that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul. (2 Samuel 21:7)
- Consequently the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth, and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul whom she bore to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholahite. (2 Samuel 21:8)
- Then he gave them into the hand of the **Gibeonites** and they proceeded to expose them on the mountain before Yehowah, so that the seven of them fell together, and they themselves were put to death in the first days of harvest, at the start of the barley harvest. (2 Samuel 21:9)
- However, Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself upon the rock from the start of harvest until water poured down upon them from the heavens, and she did not allow the fowls of the heavens to rest upon them by day nor the wild beasts of the field by night. (2 Samuel 21:10)

- In that event this would not be a case of sons dying for the sins of their fathers.
- Fathers should not be put to death on account of children, and children should not be put to death on account of fathers. Each one should be put to death for his own sin. ([Deuteronomy 24:16](#))
- But would involve the administration of retributive justice in harmony with the law, soul will be for soul.
- And your eye should not feel sorry, soul will be for soul, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. ([Deuteronomy 19:21](#))
- During David's lifetime, the tabernacle was moved to **Gibeon**.
- And Zadok the priest and his brothers the priests before the tabernacle of Yehowah on the high place that was at **Gibeon**. ([1 Chronicles 16:39](#))
- But the tabernacle of Yehowah that Moses had made in the wilderness and the altar of burnt offering were at that time on the high place at **Gibeon**. ([1 Chronicles 21:29](#))
- And David had not been able to go before it to consult God, for he had been terrified because of the sword of Yehowah's angel. ([1 Chronicles 21:30](#))
- It was there that Solomon offered sacrifices early in his reign. Also at **Gibeon** Yehowah appeared to him in a dream, inviting him to request anything that he might desire.
- Accordingly the king went to **Gibeon** to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. A thousand burnt sacrifices Solomon proceeded to offer upon that altar. ([1 Kings 3:4](#))
- In **Gibeon** Yehowah appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God proceeded to say; Request what I should give you. ([1 Kings 3:5](#))
- And it came about that, as soon as Solomon had finished building the house of Yehowah and the house of the king and every desirable thing of Solomon that he took delight in making. ([1 Kings 9:1](#))

- Then Yehowah appeared to Solomon the second time, the same as he had appeared to him in **Gibeon**. (1 Kings 9:2)
- Then Solomon and all the congregation with him went to the high place that was at **Gibeon**, for there was where the tent of meeting of the true God, which Moses the servant of Yehowah had made in the wilderness, happened to be. (2 Chronicles 1:3)
- Solomon now made offerings there before Yehowah upon the copper altar that belonged to the tent of meeting, and he proceeded to offer upon it a thousand burnt offerings. (2 Chronicles 1:6)
- So Solomon came from the high place that was at **Gibeon**, from before the tent of meeting, to Jerusalem and continued to reign over Israel. (2 Chronicles 1:13)
- Years later, the prophet,
- For Yehowah will rise up just as at Mount Perazim, he will be agitated just as in the low plain near Gibeon, that he may do his deed, his deed is strange, and that he may work his work, his work is unusual. (Isaiah 28:21)
- And now do not show yourselves scoffers, in order, that your bands may not grow strong, for there is an extermination, even something decided upon, that I have heard of from the Sovereign Lord, Yehowah of armies, for all the land. (Isaiah 28:22)
- In foretelling Yehowah's strange deed and unusual work of rising up against his own people, parallels this with what happened in the Low Plain of **Gibeon**. Likely the allusion is to David's God-given victory over the Philistines.
- So David did just as the true God had commanded him, and they went striking down the camp of the Philistines from **Gibeon** to Gezer. (1 Chronicles 14:16)
- If not also to the much earlier defeat of the Amorite league in the time of Joshua.
- At this they gathered together and went on up, five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of

Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, these and all their camps, and they proceeded to camp against **Gibeon** and to war against it. (**Joshua 10:5**)

- Upon that the men of **Gibeon** sent to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal, saying; Do not let your hand relax from your slaves. Come up to us quickly and do save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites inhabiting the mountainous region have collected together against us. (**Joshua 10:6**)
- And Yehowah went throwing them into confusion before Israel, and they began to slay them with a great slaughter at **Gibeon** and went pursuing them by way of the ascent of Bethhoron and slaying them as far as Azekah and Makkedah. (**Joshua 10:10**)
- And it came about that while they were fleeing from before Israel and were on the descent of Beth-horon, Yehowah hurled great stones from the heavens upon them as far as Azekah, so that they died. There were more who died from the hailstones than those whom the sons of Israel killed with the sword. (**Joshua 10:11**)
- It was then that Joshua proceeded to speak to Yehowah on the day of Yehowah's abandoning the Amorites to the sons of Israel, and he went on to say before the eyes of Israel; Sun, be motionless over **Gibeon**, and, moon, over the low plain of Aijalon. (**Joshua 10:12**)
- Accordingly the sun kept motionless, and the moon did stand still, until the nation could take vengeance on its enemies. Is it not written in the book of Jashar? And the sun kept standing still in the middle of the heavens and did not hasten to set for about a whole day. (**Joshua 10:13**)
- And no day has proved to be like that one, either before it or after it, in that Yehowah listened to the voice of a man, for Yehowah himself was fighting for Israel. (**Joshua 10:14**)
- The prophecy had a fulfillment in **607 B.C.E.**, when Yehowah allowed the Babylonians to destroy Jerusalem and its temple.
- At Mizpah, not long after the foretold destruction, Ishmael murdered Gedaliah, the governor appointed by Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon.

- The assassin and his men also took the remaining people of Mizpah captive. But Johanan, with his men, overtook Ishmael by the abundant waters in **Gibeon** and recovered the captives.
- Then Ishmael the son of Nethaniah and the ten men that happened to be with him rose up and struck down Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan with the sword. So he put to death the one whom the king of Babylon had commissioned over the land. (**Jeremiah 41:2**)
- And all the Jews who happened to be with him, that is, with Gedaliah, in Mizpah, and the Chaldeans who were found there, that is, the men of war, Ishmael struck down. (**Jeremiah 41:3**)
- Then Ishmael took captive all the remnant of the people who were in Mizpah, the daughters of the king and all the people who were remaining over in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard had put in the custody of Gedaliah the son of Ahikam. So Ishmael the son of Nethaniah took them captive and went off to cross over to the sons of Ammon. (**Jeremiah 41:10**)
- In time Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces who were with him got to hear all the bad that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had done. (**Jeremiah 41:11**)
- Consequently they took all the men and went off to fight against Ishmael the son of Nethaniah and found him by the abundant waters that were in **Gibeon**. (**Jeremiah 41:12**)
- Then it came about that as soon as all the people that were with Ishmael saw Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces who were with him, they began to rejoice. (**Jeremiah 41:13**)
- And all the people whom Ishmael had led captive from Mizpah proceeded to turn around and return and go to Johanan the son of Kareah. (**Jeremiah 41:14**)
- And as for Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, he escaped with eight men from before Johanan, that he might go to the sons of Ammon. (**Jeremiah 41:15**)
- Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military

forces who were with him now took all the remnant of the people whom they brought back from Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, from Mizpah, after he had struck down Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, able-bodied men, men of war, and the wives and the little children and the court officials, whom he brought back from **Gibeon**. (**Jeremiah 41:16**)

- Men of **Gibeon** were among those returning from Babylonian exile in **537 B.C.E.**, and certain ones later shared in repairing Jerusalem's wall.
- And at their side Melatiah the **Gibeonite** and Jadon the Meronothite, did repair work, men of **Gibeon** and Mizpah, belonging to the throne of the governor beyond the River. (**Nehemiah 3:7**)
- These are the sons of the jurisdictional district who came up out of the captivity of the exiled people whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had taken into exile and who later returned to Jerusalem and to Judah, each to his own city. (**Nehemiah 7:6**)
- Those who came in with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel: (**Nehemiah 7:7**)
- The sons of **Gibeon**, ninety-five. (**Nehemiah 7:25**)