

~MAKKEDAH (161)
(Mak-ke'dah)

- A royal Canaanite city in the Shephelah. It was in the cave of **Makkedah** that the five kings who had allied themselves against the Gibeonites hid and were then temporarily trapped until their execution. Thereafter this cave became their common tomb, and the Israelite army under Joshua captured the city of **Makkedah** and devoted it to destruction. At the time of the division of the Promised Land, **Makkedah** was granted to the tribe of Judah.
- 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)
- After that Joshua and all Israel with him returned to the camp at Gilgal. (Joshua 10:15)
- Meantime these five kings fled and went hiding themselves in the cave at **Makkedah**. (Joshua 10:16)
- Then the report was made to Joshua, saying; The five kings have been found hidden in the cave at **Makkedah**. (Joshua 10:17)
- At that Joshua said; Roll great stones up to the mouth of the cave and assign men over it to guard them. (Joshua 10:18)
- As for you men, do not stand still. Chase after your enemies, and you must strike them in the rear. Do not allow them to enter into their cities, for Yehowah your God has given them into your hands. (Joshua 10:19)
- And it came about that as soon as Joshua and the sons of Israel had finished slaying them with a very great slaughter, until these came to their end, and those who did survive of them escaped and went entering into the fortified cities. (Joshua 10:20)
- All the people then began to return to the camp, to Joshua, at **Makkedah** in peace. Not a man moved his tongue eagerly against the sons of Israel. (Joshua 10:21)

- Then Joshua said; Open the mouth of the cave and bring out these five kings from the cave to me. ([Joshua 10:22](#))
- At that they did so and brought out to him from the cave these five kings, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon. ([Joshua 10:23](#))
- And it came about that as soon as they had brought out these kings to Joshua, Joshua proceeded to call all the men of Israel and to say to the commanders of the men of war that had gone with him; Come forward. Place your feet on the back of the necks of these kings. So they came forward and placed their feet on the back of their necks. ([Joshua 10:24](#))
- And Joshua went on to say to them; Do not be afraid or be terrified. Be courageous and strong, for it is like this that Yehowah will do to all your enemies against whom you are warring. ([Joshua 10:25](#))
- And after that Joshua proceeded to strike them and put them to death and hang them upon five stakes, and they continued hanging upon the stakes until the evening. ([Joshua 10:26](#))
- And it came about that at the time of the setting of the sun Joshua commanded, and they went taking them down off the stakes and throwing them into the cave where they had hid themselves. Then they placed big stones at the mouth of the cave, until this very day. ([Joshua 10:27](#))
- And Joshua captured **Makkedah** on that day and went striking it with the edge of the sword. As for its king, he devoted him and every soul that was in it to destruction. He let no survivor remain. So he did to the king of **Makkedah** just as he had done to the king of Jericho. ([Joshua 10:28](#))
- Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from **Makkedah** to Libnah and warred against Libnah. ([Joshua 10:29](#))
- And these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the sons of Israel defeated on the side of the Jordan toward the west, from Baal-gad in the valley plain of Lebanon and as far as Mount Halak, which goes up to Seir, after which Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as a holding by their shares. ([Joshua 12:7](#))

- In the mountainous region and in the Shephelah and in the Arabah and on the slopes and in the wilderness and in the Negeb, the Hittites, the Amorites and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites. (**Joshua 12:8**)
- The king of **Makkedah**, one. The king of Bethel, one. (**Joshua 12:16**)
- This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Judah by their families. (**Joshua 15:20**)
- In the Shephelah there were Eshtaol and Zorah and Ashnah. (**Joshua 15:33**)
- And Gederoth, Beth-dagon and Naamah and **Makkedah**, sixteen cities and their settlements. (**Joshua 15:41**)
- The exact site of **Makkedah** is uncertain. It has been tentatively identified with **Khirbet el-Kheishum**, about 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) North-Northeast of Azekah. Extensive ruins and nearby caves mark the site.