

Joshua 7-24



The 4 movements in the book of Joshua

Movement 1: Joshua first leads Israel into the promised land Ch 1-5

Ch 1 God speaks to Joshua

Joshua speaks to the leaders, The leaders speak to the people, The people speak to Joshua

Big Takeaway – God sets up leaders and leaders need to develop confident leaders!

Ch 2 Israel sends spies into Jericho

Rahab makes a covenant with the spies

Big Takeaway – God is in the business of saving and anyone, even the worst person can be saved.

Ch 3 The miracle of Israel crossing through the Jordan River

Big Takeaway – As We can always look to Jesus for direction. We need to keep our eyes on him. As we do, and step out in faith, rivers of impossibilities will dry up before us.

Movement 1 continued

Ch 4 Israel sets up memorials of the crossing

Big Takeaway- Don't forget to remember, write down what God has done, so that it can be remembered for generations.

Ch 5 Joshua consecrates Israel by setting them apart by circumcision.

Big Takeaway- If God asks you do something, don't let fear or circumstances keep you from doing it.

Movement 2

Battles and Hostility from the Caananites Chapters 6-12

Ch 6 Who's in Charge Here?

Joshua encounters a man, the commander of angels

*This could have been a theophany, or a visible appearance of God (Jesus). This is supported by the burning bush story when Moses met God.

Joshua becomes a participant in God's plan, rather than his own plan

Instructions from God on how to conquer Jericho. Israel obeys and the walls fall

But....Achan stole some of the devoted things and hid them

Movement 2 continued

Ch 7 Achan's Sin and the defeat at the city of Ai

-v2-3 Joshua sends spies who report back that it isn't going to take very many men to conquer this city.

-v3-5 Israel attack them and 36 men die and the rest are chased off.

This showed Israel that they COULD LOSE! They weren't invincible.

-v6-9 Joshua cries out to God.

-v10-15 God responds to Joshua's question and tells them that Israel had acted in disobedience.

1 Cor 5:6 says that a little yeast works through the entire batch

-v16-19 – Joshua and the leaders follow God's plan to find the rood of the sin

-v20 Achan confessed and judgement was served.

The Lord's anger was subdued.

Movement 2 continued

Ch 8 Israel takes the City of Ai

-God reassures Joshua that He is once again for them

-Amazing battle plan

-Joshua held his javelin in place until the battle was over.

-v30-34 Joshua builds an altar to God, an altar according to instructions given to Moses.



Mediterranean Sea

MT. GERIZIM

2,690 ft
881 m
Blessings here

Main caravan path
through the hills

MT. EBAL

Curses here
3,084 ft
940 m

City of Shechem
(Nablus, today)

MOSES: "Go to the twin hills of Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal. Stand on Mount Gerizim and remind everyone about the LORD's blessing. From Mount Ebal, remind them about the curse." Deuteronomy 11:29



Movement 2 continued

Ch 9 The Gibeonite Deception

V1-16 Several Kings that were on the promised land side of the Jordan river were afraid because of what happened at Jericho.

This includes the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

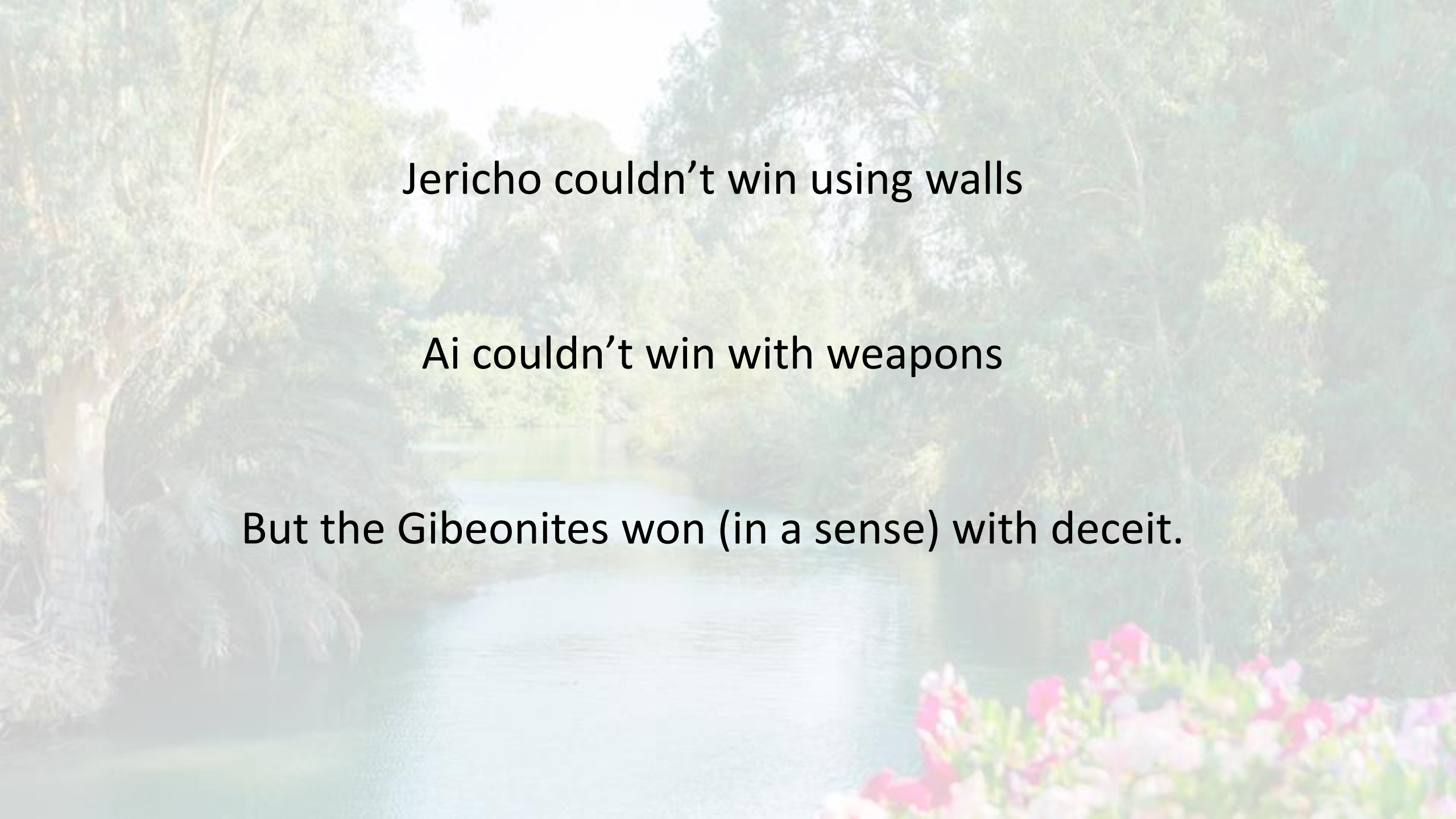
They combined forces to stand unified against Israel. Usually these cities would attack each other, but evil must now unite against God.

The Gibeonites take a different approach – deception

V17-26 Israel advances but cannot attack Gibeon due to the treaty

Joshua confronts them about their deception

Gibeonites are made servants to the work of the Temple



Jericho couldn't win using walls

Ai couldn't win with weapons

But the Gibeonites won (in a sense) with deceit.

Movement 2 continued

Ch 10-11 Attacks of the Canaanite kingdoms

- The Kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon unite to come against Gibeon and attack Gibeon.
- Gibeon sends word to Joshua who they are now united with and Joshua sends up his men.
- God tells Joshua not to be afraid, that they are going to win.

Joshua walks all night and takes them by surprise at night. Joshua was a good military strategist!

The Lord throws all of the enemy armies into confusion and Israel wipes them out. As they are chasing them, God ups the theatrics and throws huge hailstones and more are killed by the hail storm than by all of the fighting men.

God goes a step further and holds the sun in place v12 for a full day!

- During the battle, the Kings of these Cities hid in caves.

-After the pursuit and everyone came back, Joshua had the 5 kings brought out and Joshua kills them. Of the kings, one of them, the king of Jerusalem named Adoni-Zedek is worth mentioning as he is seen as a TYPE of the anti-Christ

His name means, "Lord of Righteousness"

He was the pagan king of Jerusalem.

He led a confederation of kings.

He fought against Joshua.

He resisted God's occupation of the land.

The Bible tells us of a coming false messiah ([Revelation 13:3](#))

who will rule over Jerusalem ([2 Thessalonians 2:3-4](#))

who will lead a confederation of kings ([Revelation 17:12-13](#))

fighting against Yeshua ([Revelation 17:14](#))

resisting His occupation of the land ([Revelation 19:19](#))

and hiding in caves ([Revelation 6:15-17](#)).

All in all, Adoni-Zedek is a fascinating picture of the coming Antichrist.

Movement 2 continued

Ch 12 Israel's Victories by Moses and Joshua



Movement 3 – Chapters 13-22

Chapter 13– Joshua divides up the land and we see a short chapter about Cities of refuge

After their victories Joshua divides up the promise land 13-22 as the inheritance for the 12 tribes of Judah.

To Israel this was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Abraham (Gen 12:6-7) and God’s promise to divide up the land.

Some notable passages

Chapter 14 – Caleb, from the tribe of Judah talks to Joshua about their allotment

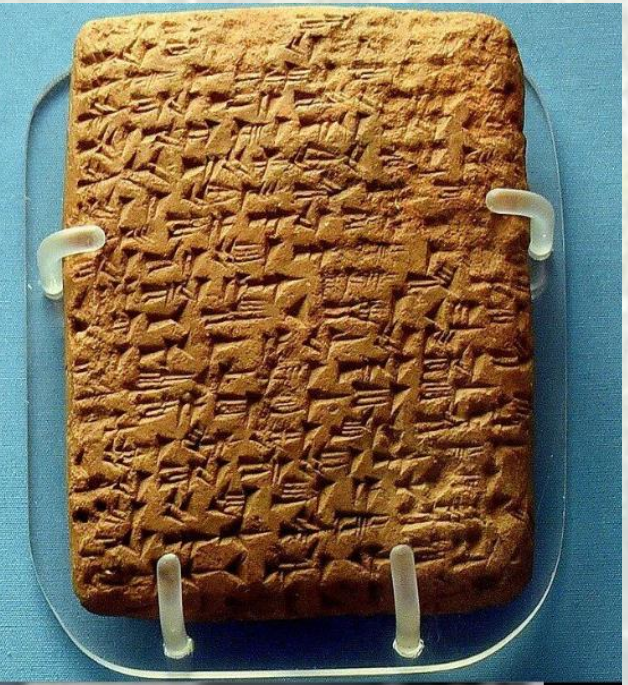
Chapter 21 – Gibeon given to the Levites who cared for the temple and are scattered throughout all of the tribes as priests.

The Ark of the Covenant is kept in Gibeon under the rule of David – 1 Chronicles 16

Apologetics

The defense of faith

THE AMARNA Letters

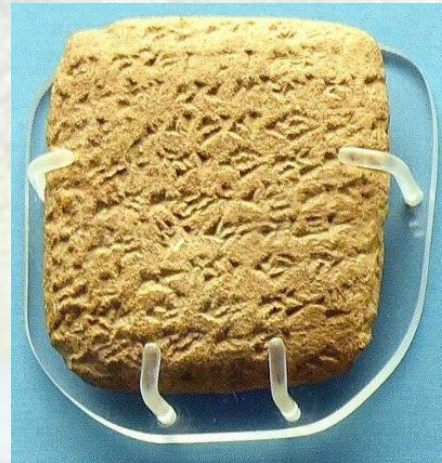


Over the last 150 years, 382 clay tablets have been found in Egypt. These have been called the Amarna Letters because of where they were found

Many are inscribed with text written by regional Canaanite rulers expressing consternation and even terror at the fact that “all the lands” were being overrun by a mysterious people they called the Habiru

These clay letters have been found in a major 1400BC city called Tel el-Amarna and they were letters from kings of cities in Canaan to the Pharaoh of Egypt. In Amarna, there was an administrative center which was abandoned in 1335 BC and these letters have been dated to the exact time as when Israel was taking over Canaan.

THE AMARNA LETTERS




The article shared that of 15 stories of kings reporting what was happening in their city, the Biblical narrative very closely matches those stories, of course with nuances for the point of view of the writer.

This small stone fragment was found in 2009 during an excavation in Jerusalem



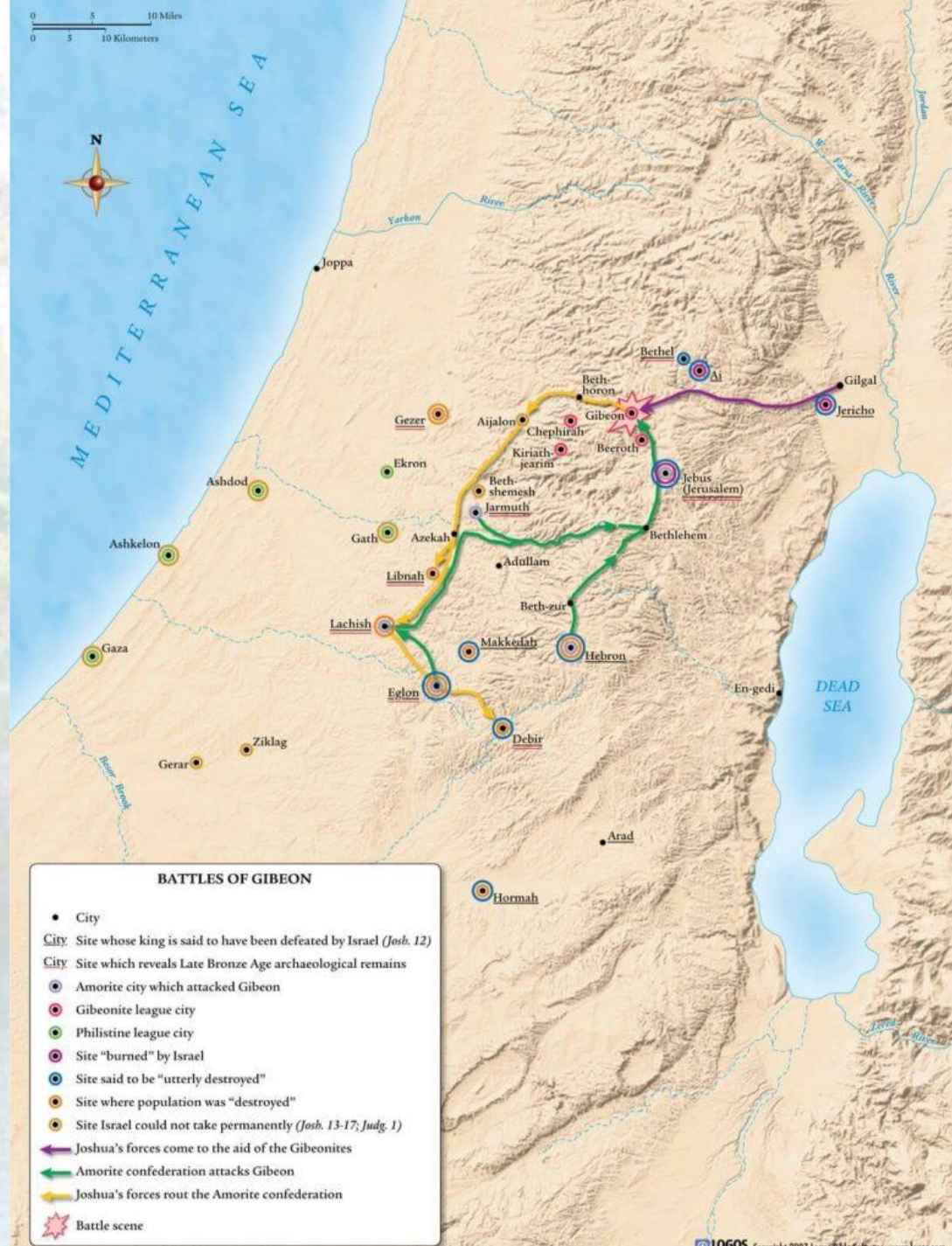
It is believed to have represented an archival copy of Amarna correspondence. It shows evidence of being burned in a fire. Judges 1:8 states that toward the end of the conquest period, the children of Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it and smote it with the edge of the sword and set the city on fire.

An aerial photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there are brown, eroded hills with some green vegetation. In the middle ground, a city is visible on the left, and a rainbow is seen in the distance. The sky is filled with large, grey clouds. Three white labels with arrows point to specific locations: 'Jericho' on the left, 'Jordan Crossing' in the center-right, and 'Dead Sea' on the far right.

Jericho

Jordan Crossing

Dead Sea



BATTLES OF GIBEON

- City
- City Site whose king is said to have been defeated by Israel (*Josh. 12*)
- City Site which reveals Late Bronze Age archaeological remains
- Amorite city which attacked Gibeon
- Gibeonite league city
- Philistine league city
- Site "burned" by Israel
- Site said to be "utterly destroyed"
- Site where population was "destroyed"
- Site Israel could not take permanently (*Josh. 13-17; Judg. 1*)
- ← Joshua's forces come to the aid of the Gibeonites
- ← Amorite confederation attacks Gibeon
- ← Joshua's forces rout the Amorite confederation
- ★ Battle scene

EXTENT OF THE CONQUEST

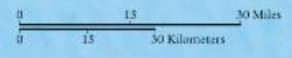
City: Town whose king is said to have been defeated by Israel's forces

- Town inside Israelite control
- Town beyond Israelite control
- Town not captured (*Josh. 13:1-7; 16:10; 17:7-18; Judg. 1*)
- City of refuge
- Town burned by Israelites in conquest
- ★ Major battle sites of Israel's conquest
- Area of Israel's control





- City
- ▲ Mountain
- Territory shared by the tribes of Judah and Simeon



Movement 3 – continued

Chapter 22– Conflict with the tribes East of the Jordan



Movement 4 – Joshua’s Final Words

Chapter 23-24

Joshua’s speech is similar to that of Moses

Takes place at Shechem

Reminds Israel to turn away from Canaanite gods

and be faithful to God or they will be exiled as the

Canaanites have been exiled

Joshua dies at 110 years old.

Only one other patriarchal figure died at 110, Joseph.

The final words of the book of Joshua tie the two leaders together in chapter 24:32

“The bones of Joseph, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at Shechem”

Joseph was responsible for bringing the Israelites down to Egypt. But Joshua has led the people back to the land of Canaan, officially ending the exile and opening a new chapter in Israelite history in which the people inherit their homeland



