

Joshua 11:1-23 **Conquering the North Country – Summary of the lands taken**

Fear and desperation of the kings of the north

¹ And it came to pass, when Jabin king of Hazor heard these things, that he sent to Jobab king of Madon, to the king of Shimron, to the king of Achshaph, ² and to the kings who were from the north, in the mountains, in the plain south of Chinneroth, in the lowland, and in the heights of Dor on the west, ³ to the Canaanites in the east and in the west, the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite in the mountains, and the Hivite below Hermon in the land of Mizpah. ⁴ So they went out, they and all their armies with them, as many people as the sand that is on the seashore in multitude, with very many horses and chariots. ⁵ And when all these kings had met together, they came and camped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel.

God's promise of Victory

⁶ But the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow about this time I will deliver all of them slain before Israel. You shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire." ⁷ So Joshua and all the people of war with him came against them suddenly by the waters of Merom, and they attacked them. ⁸ And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who defeated them and chased them to Greater Sidon, to the Brook Misrephoth, and to the Valley of Mizpah eastward; they attacked them until they left none of them remaining. ⁹ So Joshua did to them as the LORD had told him: he hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.

Additional Conquest

¹⁰ Joshua turned back at that time and took Hazor, and struck its king with the sword; for Hazor was formerly the head of all those kingdoms. ¹¹ And they struck all the people who were in it with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them. There was none left breathing. Then he burned Hazor with fire. ¹² So all the cities of those kings, and all their kings, Joshua took and struck with the edge of the sword. He utterly destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded. ¹³ But as for the cities that stood on their mounds, Israel burned none of them, except Hazor only, which Joshua burned. ¹⁴ And all the spoil of these cities and the livestock, the children of Israel took as booty for themselves; but they struck every man with the edge of the sword until they had destroyed them, and they left none breathing. ¹⁵ As the LORD had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses.

Summary of Conquest

¹⁶ Thus Joshua took all this land: the mountain country, all the South, all the land of Goshen, the lowland, and the Jordan plain--the mountains of Israel and its lowlands, ¹⁷ from Mount Halak and the ascent to Seir, even as far as Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He captured all their kings, and struck them down and killed them. ¹⁸ Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. ¹⁹ There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon. All the others they took in battle. ²⁰ For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that He might utterly destroy them, and that they might receive no mercy, but that He might destroy them, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Defeat of the Giants the Anakim

²¹ And at that time Joshua came and cut off the Anakim from the mountains: from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel; Joshua

utterly destroyed them with their cities. ²² None of the Anakim were left in the land of the children of Israel; they remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod. ²³ So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had said to Moses; and Joshua gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Then the land rested from war. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Fear and desperation of the kings of the north

☆ ¹ And it came to pass, when **Jabin king of Hazor** heard these things, that he sent to Jobab king of **Madon**, to the king of **Shimron**, to the king of **Achshaph**, ² and to the kings who were from the north, in the mountains, in the plain south of **Chinneroth**, in the lowland, and in the heights of **Dor** on the west, ³ to the **Canaanites** in the east and in the west, the **Amorite**, the **Hittite**, the **Perizzite**, the **Jebusite** in the mountains, and the **Hivite** below **Hermon** in the land of **Mizpah**. ⁴ So they went out, they and all their armies with them, as many people as the sand that is on the seashore in multitude, with very many horses and chariots. ⁵ And when all these kings had met together, **they came and camped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel.** [Joshua 11:1-5]

◇ The nations under the curse for destruction knew very well what was in store for themselves. [Genesis 15:17-21, 17:1-8, 21, 21:12, 26:2-5, 28:13-15, 35:9-12, 48:4, Exodus 3:7-10, 16-17, 6:3-4, 13:3-5, 15:14-17, 23:20-28, 33:1-2, 34:11, Leviticus 25:38, Numbers 33:50-54, 34:2, Deuteronomy 7:1-2, 20:16-18]

◇ The kings of the south country are defeated and the kings of the north know they are next.

◇ The northern kings band together to defend themselves against the God of Israel with the same futile concept as was attempted by the kings of the south. [Joshua 10:1-5]

God's promise of Victory

☆ ⁶ But the LORD said to Joshua, "**Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow about this time I will deliver all of them slain before Israel. You shall hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire.**"

☆ ⁷ So Joshua and all the people of war with him came against them suddenly by the waters of Merom, and they attacked them. ⁸ **And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel**, who defeated them and chased them to Greater **Sidon**, to the **Brook Misrephoth**, and to the **Valley of Mizpah** eastward; they attacked them until they left none of them remaining. ⁹ **So Joshua did to them as the LORD had told him: he hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.** [Joshua 11:6-9]

◇ Israel pursued the vanquished armies as far north as greater **Sidon** which is located on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, about mid way between the present border of Israel and Lebanon and the capital of Lebanon Beirut.

◇ The location of the **Brook Misrephoth** and the **Valley of Mizpah** is not known for certain, but some believe them to be in the same general area of Lebanon near Sidon.

◇ **Misrephoth-Ma'im** is believed to be waters from hot springs called burning waters.

◇ The **Valley of Mizpah** is also believed to be the land of the Hivites under Mount Hermon which would place it near the place where Jacob and Laban made their peace agreement and called it Mizpah in the mountains of Gilead east of the Promised Land. This would place it near the inheritance of Machir the son of Manasseh. [Genesis 31:43-50, Numbers 32:40] This would also seem to agree with the term, "eastward." [Joshua 11:8]

◇ The Hivites were from an area **below Hermon in the land of Mizpah.** [Joshua 11:3]

Additional Conquest

☆ ¹⁰ **Joshua turned back at that time and took Hazor**, and struck its king with the sword; for Hazor was formerly the head of all those kingdoms. ¹¹ And they struck all the people who were in it with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them. There was none left breathing.

Then he burned Hazor with fire. ¹² So all the cities of those kings, and all their kings, Joshua took and struck with the edge of the sword. He utterly destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded. ¹³ But as for the cities that stood on their mounds, Israel burned none of them, except Hazor only, which Joshua burned. ¹⁴ And all the spoil of these cities and the livestock, the children of Israel took as booty for themselves; but they struck every man with the edge of the sword until they had destroyed them, and they left none breathing. ¹⁵ **As the LORD had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did.** He left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses. [Joshua 11:10-15]

✧ Joshua turned back and took Hazor which is located by Lake Merom the highest of the lakes of the Jordan river on Mount Hermon. If they finished the pursuit of the enemy at Mizpah in Gilead, it would not be far to travel to Lake Merom to destroy Hazor.

✧ **Joshua fulfilled the commandment of Moses regarding the people of the Promised Land.**

Summary of Conquest

✧ ¹⁶ Thus Joshua took all this land: the **mountain country**, all the **South**, all the **land of Goshen**, the **lowland**, and the **Jordan plain--the mountains of Israel and its lowlands**, ¹⁷ **from Mount Halak and the ascent to Seir**, even as far as **Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon**.

✧ He captured all their kings, and struck them down and killed them. ¹⁸ Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. ¹⁹ There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, except **the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon**. All the others they took in battle. ²⁰ **For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that He might utterly destroy them, and that they might receive no mercy, but that He might destroy them**, as the LORD had commanded Moses. [Joshua 11:16-20]

✧ Joshua conquered all the **land of the south From the ascent to Seir** which is the border of Edom the descendants of Esau, **to the north as far as Baal Gad** the northern most town of Gilead is in the valley of Lebanon at the western or north western foot of Mount Hermon.

✧ Victory came in abundance because God hardened the hearts of the enemy and caused them to come out in great force against the armies of Israel.

✧ The reason for their destruction was their idolatry and immorality. [Exodus 23:20-33, 34:10-17, Leviticus 18:1-30, Deuteronomy 7:1-5, 8:19-20, 12:1-3, 29-32, 20:16-18]

Defeat of the Giants the Anakim

✧ ²¹ And at that time Joshua came and cut off the **Anakim** from the mountains: from **Hebron**, from **Debir**, from **Anab**, **from all the mountains of Judah**, and **from all the mountains of Israel**; Joshua utterly destroyed them with their cities. ²² None of the Anakim were left in the land of the children of Israel; **they remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod**. ²³ **So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had said to Moses; and Joshua gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Then the land rested from war.** [Joshua 11:21-23]

✧ The **Anakim** were the descendants of Anak the remnant of the Nephilim of whom Goliath was their champion among the Philistines in Gath who David killed with a sling and a stone, then beheaded with Goliath's own sword.

✧ It was fear of the Anakim that caused Israel to wander 40 years in the wilderness. [Numbers 13:28]

✧ The **Nephilim** were the descendants of fallen angels and women. [Genesis 6:1-4, Jud 6]

✧ Joshua completed his task as appointed by Moses, gave the Children of Israel their inheritance, and they rested from war.

