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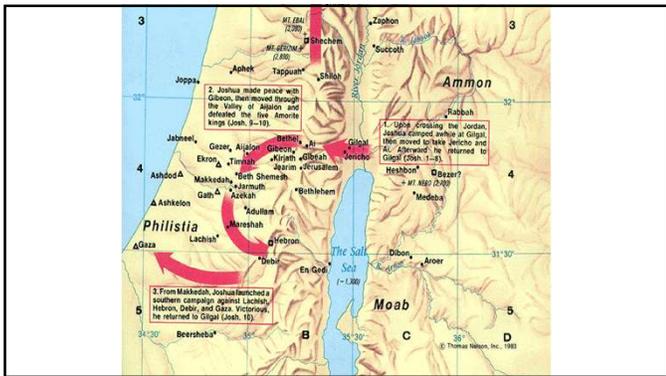
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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- Only five miles separate Jerusalem from Gibeon which made this alliance between Gibeon and Israel a matter of great concern for Adoni-zedek
- Note the hand of God in this that Adoni-zedek brought his forces against Gibeon rather than attacking the Israelites. This made little strategic sense:
  - Gibeon is described as a great city, probably referring both to size and fortifications
  - Gibeon is described as known for its warriors

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- Note the hand of God in this that Adoni-zedek brought his forces against Gibeon rather than attacking the Israelites. This made little strategic sense:
  - Israel was encamped at Gilgal with no walls or fortifications
  - The people of Gibeon would not likely come to the aid of the Israelites as Joshua would come to their aid

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- Note the hand of God in this that Adoni-zedek brought his forces against Gibeon rather than attacking the Israelites. This made little strategic sense:
  - Gibeon would, however, fiercely defend its own territory.
  - This would also deprive all of these key cities of their top leadership and most of their fighting forces which will facilitate their captures after this coalition is destroyed along with their kings.

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- The "men of Gibeon", probably the ones who had originally foisted the deception upon the Israelites came seeking Israel's protection.
- Joshua received a clear word from God assuring victory over the enemies.
- Joshua responded with a quick, surprise attack throwing the armies into a panic.

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- God intervened in the battle by:
  - Bringing a severe hailstorm
  - The hailstones taking out most of the enemy forces and leaving the Israelites unscathed brings back memories of some of the plagues of Egypt.

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- During the late afternoon and early evening hours of 23 July 2010, thunderstorms developed over portions of central South Dakota. A record setting hailstone was ultimately discovered in Vivian, measuring 8.0 inches in diameter, 18.625 inches in circumference, and weighing in at an amazing 1.9375 pounds!!
- This hailstone broke the previous United States hail size record for diameter (7.0 inches - 22 June 2003 in Aurora, NE) and weight (1.67 pounds - 3 September 1970 in Coffeyville, KS). The Aurora, Nebraska hailstone will retain the record for circumference (18.75 inches).  
<https://www.weather.gov/abr/vivianhailstone>

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- God intervened in the battle by:
  - Bringing a severe hailstorm
  - At the request of Joshua, extended the daylight of that day until the battle could be finished.
  - The last word on this needs to remain the last word, "There has been no day like it before or since..."

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- Book of Jashar-Book of the Upright One. Referenced in Joshua 10 and 2 Samuel 1. Seems to be a book of poetry recounting events in Israel. Nothing else is know about this book and it is no longer in known existence.

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- Aftermath of the main battle:
  - The Israelites pursued the remnants of the armies to keep as many as possible from returning to their fortified cities.

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
- Aftermath of the main battle:
  - The five kings were found hiding in a cave and Joshua made a public point of revealing that these powerful kings were powerless against God, the King of Israel.
  - Afterward they were executed, hanged on trees and then taken down and entombed in the cave where they had hidden.

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Conquest of the core of the land of the Promised Land. 10:1-43

- God provided an opportunity to conquer a large swath of the land by bringing a coalition of five kings led by the king of Jerusalem against Gibeon because they had allied with the Israelites.
  - Aftermath of the main battle:
    - The cities then fall like dominos since the bulk of their fighting forces had been depleted.
  - The southern half of the land was now under the control of the Israelites.
  - The main encampment of the Israelites was still in unprotected Gilgal where God protected his people while their fighting force was away on these campaigns.

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Lessons

- God intervenes in the affairs of this world to accomplish His purpose.
- God provides all we need to accomplish His will.
- We can trust God with all that we have as we walk in obedience to Him.

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