

Joshua 9

Intro: Luke 16:1-9

this parable has always confused me a little, Jesus appears to commend dishonesty. I'm not going to do much explaining of this parable,

Tonight we're talking about deception, which we know is getting worse and worse, no surprise

Matthew 24:11 many false prophets will rise up and deceive many **Matthew 24:24** false christ and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive even the elect

Ephesians 4:14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting

1 Timothy 4:1 the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit

What are some areas of our life that satans deception could jeopardize?

- Our relationship with Him
- God's plan and will for us
- our witness
- lives that would bring Him glory

Vs 1-2 because of the defeat at Ai the neighboring nations that once believed they're too strong for us, now consider a coalition; if we band together they can be defeated; One group was not too sure

Vs 3-6 unbeknownst to Joshua and the Israelites these guys live right around the corner, a few miles away, they are trying to yoke up with the Israelites; which is forbidden in both OT & NT

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers

Exodus 23:32-33 You shall make no covenant with them nor with their gods ³³they shall not dwell in your land lest they make you sin against Me. *if you serve their gods it will be a snare to you*
Could Gibeon just surrender (like Rahab)? I can't say, but they weren't going to take the chance

Vs 7-11 in the story we see common wiles of the devil, which Paul told Corinth not to be ignorant of

2 Corinthians 2:11 we're not ignorant of his devices

What are his devices

1. **An incredible way with words**; first they said far **(6)** now **very far**: No mention of Jericho/Ai "we're your servants," We're no threat (we want to help you) because we're loving and merciful, the way we should be, not ruthless killers, he takes advantage of that and knows sometimes we're also gullible
2. **it's gotta happen NOW** (11b)
make a covenant with us NOW! because of our growing inability to wait we're incredibly vulnerable

3. **he makes it all look so enticing** – **2 Corinthians 11:14** satan transforms into an angel of light
Vs 12-13 in this case they made their things look bad, that's how it needed to look to deceive we've become so good at deceiving ,, detecting this is harder than ever: "catfishing"

How much of advertising is just flat out lying?

this will make you look great, this will make you lose weight, this will change your life forever
the devil is not afraid of you taking a look, once we see it we usually want it even more

1 John 2:16 all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world

In God's wisdom we have to choose Jesus despite how he looks, or being a Christian looks

Isaiah 53:2 He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, no beauty that we should desire Him
NIV He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance to make us desire Him

Vs 14-15 if we tried to answer, why not, we could be here all day throwing out endless answers

When Jesus found the disciples sleeping instead of praying, He too asked, why?

Matthew 26:40 He came to the disciples and found them sleeping and said to Peter, What! Could you not watch with Me one hour?

But that may be a reason for prayerlessness:

- Time - take the time to pray but, they needed to know NOW

I assume, they thought they knew all they needed to – they'd seen all the needed to see

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;

⁶In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths

- maybe we don't pray because you know He'll say, "no" – you have your mind made up

You really don't want to have to say, "not my will but thy will be done."

With all the verses that tell us to pray, it's one of the things we do the least?

Let's use this as a reminder about the consequences of not praying:

you realize you got scammed and now you're bound to it...

Vs 16-22 the full answer comes in verses **24-25**. The obvious answer is; "we didn't want to die" but this to me is where the Gibeonites go from being illustrations of the devil to illustrations of the Gentiles: People destined to be destroyed but are brought in to live and serve with the people of God Even if they are just humble servants, it's still something to be grateful for

Vs 23- this reminds me of the hard work going on in the house of God; the amounts of wood and water. Joshua calls this a curse but for those who are being saved they should see it as grace

1 Timothy 1:12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who enabled me, because He counted me faithful putting me into the ministry

Psalms 84:10 a day in Your courts *is* better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness

Understand what I'm saying, you can't earn your way or deceive your way into the Kingdom. Most fail to believe the wrath to come; they believe they can fight God and win, one day it'll be too late

Luke 13:23-27 He went through cities and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem ²³Then one said to Him, Lord, are there few who are saved? And He said to them ²⁴Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many I say to you will seek to enter and will not be able ²⁵When the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock, saying, 'Lord,

Lord, open for us, He will answer and say to you, I do not know you or where you are from ²⁶then you'll begin to say, We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets ²⁷But He will say, I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me all you workers of iniquity
Here comes the full answer to why did you do this...

Vs 24-25 it's not that they didn't know, they were just holding out hope that somehow they'd escape having to surrender, but what an amazing attitude they have now

we're in your hands; do with us as it seems good and right to do to us

Luke 17:9-10 NLT does the master thank the servant for doing what he was told to do? Of course not ¹⁰In the same way, when you obey Me, say, we're unworthy servants who've simply done our duty

Vs 26-27 we will see them serve even to the days of Nehemiah.

We're not completely done with the Gibeonites, next week they will be in trouble, but because they've joined themselves with the Israelites, the Israelites are obligated to help bail them out

The Gibeonites give us many things to learn from and think about:

1 Peter 5:8 the devil walks about looking to devour

Ephesians 5:15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise

Romans 10:13 Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved