

Making A Deal With the Enemy

Joshua 9:1-15

Introduction:

- A. Have you ever made a deal that turned out to be bad? A deal you wish you hadn't made?
- B. We must understand, bad deals always lead to difficult consequences.
- C. News of the victories God had given Israel had spread throughout the land (**vs. 1-2**).

The Craftiness of the Gibeonites (vs. 3-13)

- A. They lied about where they were from (vs. 6, 9).
- B. They lied about their mission (vs. 8-9).
- C. They lied about what they had heard (vs. 9-10).

The Compromise of the Israelites (vs. 14-15)

- A. Joshua made peace and a covenant with them (vs. 14-15).
- B. God had specifically spoken to His people about making covenants with the people of the Promised Land (Deut. 7:1-5; 20:10-18).

The Consequences of the Deal (vs. 16-21)

- A. The people of Israel grumbled against their leaders (v. 18).
- B. The Israelites had to honor the oath and make a covenant with the Gibeonites (v. 19).
- C. The Israelites camp was now in jeopardy (v. 26).

The Important Lesson for Us Today: Don't Make a Deal with the Enemy

- A. Our enemy wants to destroy us (1 Pet. 5:8; Eph. 6:11-13; Jn. 10:10).
- B. Our enemy will deceive us (2 Cor. 11:13-14; Jn. 8:44).
- C. Our enemy always gets the better end of the deal (Ezek. 18:4; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 6:23).

Conclusion:

- A. Joshua and Israel made a deal with the enemy that the people soon regretted.
- B. You may be at a point in your life where you have made deals with the enemy. If so, there is hope. God's grace is bigger than our sins (Rom. 5:20-21).
- C. Why not make the decision to correct your bad deals today?