

Joshua 9
Good, Better, Best
March 1, 2026

Could God accept a sinner on the basis of his sin offering? Ex. Rehab was saved based on a lie and deception. Was her plea for mercy wrong? Could she have done *better*? What would have been *best*? If good is good enough, why seek better or best?

Analysis of Joshua 9

Vs 1-2 = They all heard and reacted with opposition. Why did they oppose Israel?

Vs 3-7 Fear vs Pride

- Was it a sin to deceive? _____
- Can an unbeliever seek righteousness righteously? _____
- Did Faith and Prudence lead to Mercy? _____

Vs 8-15 Seeking Mercy

- How did they know? Vs 9
- The unedited Facts Vs 10
- Their goal was preservation yet their actions were Sin

Vs 16-18 Honor your Vow, even if it was through deception.

- Sin does not cancel Sin
- Life is not fair
- All have sinned, even you and me
- Matthew 7:1-5 - how big of a cup do you want?

Vs 19-21 Even if it is "unfair"

- Integrity matters
- God does not compromise, we must!!
- Seek the larger glory. What if it costs me though??

Vs 22-27 Mercy

- Consequences or Condemnation? See Joshua 6:18-19; 7-8 sin of Achan
- Compare that to Joshua 1:1-9 Good, Better, Best - could honesty have been "better"?
- Did the Sin of Joshua and the Elders make any difference?

Two Divergent Applications Converging on a third

1. God Saves the Lost, even in the OT and even the Gentiles, and even when sin is involved with both parties. Evangelism is commanded and works, even through broken people.
2. Good IS Good. But remember that Better is also Better and Best is the Best! Sometimes Good is settling. The Gibeonites settled for good when best awaited them.
3. RBC - we can grow, shall we seek what is good??? Think about it