

### STUDY QUESTIONS 3

1. Why is Israel instructed to “devote to destruction” (*cherem*) certain nations? Check your map and note which nations are singled out. [Deuteronomy 7]. Why was *complete* eradication for certain clans (rather than subjugation for certain others) considered a holy endeavor?

2. Where have we already seen a design pattern regarding unholy marriages? What is the result of showing contempt for God’s instruction? [Genesis 6:1-4; Numbers 25:1-3]

3. God fought for Israel against the descendants of Ham who had settled in Canaan (Genesis 10). Joshua was mostly successful in his mission to ‘devote to destruction’ all the Anakim (Rephaim) in Canaan. The scripture tells us there were three regions where the Anakim still remained after Israel took and settled in the land. Make note of the regions, and locate them on your map. [Joshua 11:21-22]

4. From what nation and region was Goliath, and who was his god? [1 Samuel 17:4-7; 1 Samuel 5:1-5]

5. Visualize Goliath face-down, dead, with a stone embedded in his head. Now visualize his body lying in the Valley of Rephaim, headless, after David decapitates him. What would both nations have understood concerning the God of Israel? What do we, the children of God, understand today? [1 Samuel 17:48-51; 1 Samuel 5:1-5; Genesis 3:15; Colossians 2:15; Revelation 20:10]

6. Goliath is wearing full-body armor when he comes up against David. The Hebrew word that is translated 'coat of mail' is *qasqasim* which means 'scales' (of a reptile, fish, or sea creature). A few chapters earlier [1 Samuel 11:1-11] it is recorded that King Saul's first victory was over King Nahash of the Ammonites. (Remember, the Hebrew word *nachash* is translated as 'serpent'). What would Saul's defeat of 'King Nahash' and David's defeat of a Rephaim giant wearing impenetrable 'scales' bring to mind to the Israelite? [see also Job 41:15 KJV]

7. Read Psalm 82. Who is being judged, and for what? What is God's verdict on those being judged? What will happen to the nations who 'walk about in darkness' when their wicked rulers are judged? [Isaiah 9:2; Matthew 4:16; Acts 26:18; John 8:12]

8: God did not spare his only son so that he might ultimately inherit the nations and call any who received him “children of God”. [John 1:12]. Take a moment to wonder at this and thank him for all he’s done in bringing you from darkness to light.