

Sermon Listening Guide (October 26, 2025)

Scripture: Joshua 9

Sermon Title: “Trick and Treaty!”

First Thoughts

There was certainly an ebb and flow to the relationship Israel had with God. Joshua 9 describes a low point in their relationship.

Deception (Verses 1-13)

The Gibeonites fear the Lord and do not want to be destroyed by Joshua. They resort to an elaborate ruse to save their lives. Instead of attacking Israel, the Gibeonites disguise themselves and request a treaty. Satan is the “Father of Lies”, and his attacks often seem harmless and beautiful.

Forgetting (Verses 14 and 15)

Joshua makes a treaty with them before consulting with God. Perhaps he was overconfident and saw little risk in the agreement. How do we “inquire of the Lord” before we make big or small decisions?

Grumbling (Verses 16-21)

Because of Joshua’s foolish decision, the people grumble against him. These same people had a history of grumbling against Moses. What does the Bible say about supporting or attacking leaders God has given to us?

Grace (Verses 26 and 27)

While the Gibeonites are destined for servanthood, they do enter the family of God. While Satan tried to cause chaos, God enlarged his family. Robin Gill said: “Belonging comes before believing.”

Final Thoughts

How do you treat the “Gibeonites” in your life?
How do you invite and welcome people into the family?