

An open Bible is shown at the top and bottom of the image. The top part shows the text of the Bible, and the bottom part shows the spine and pages of the Bible. A wooden gavel is resting on the Bible. The background is a textured, parchment-like surface. The word "JOSHUA" is written in large, dark, serif letters across the middle of the image.

JOSHUA

Called For Such Times

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

- Joshua in **VICTORY!**
 - 2 things will test our character: victories & defeats!
- Joshua has seen both!
 - Jericho, Ai (failure with Achan), Ai (victory with God!)
 - Joshua has written the **WORD**
 - Built an altar...
- Challenge comes!

Chapter 9

- Joshua has 2 things happen...
- All the kings come out and band together... (ch 10)
- A small detachment from a local city...
 - Acted craftily – Deception!
- Which scares us more?
 - Open war?
 - Secret guile?
 - Our enemy is using both!



Gibeon

- **City not far from Ai**
 - See ch 10:2 – a great city, fierce fighters... royal city
 - They knew what God was doing!
 - Worn, torn, mended
 - Dried up food and provisions...
 - Appearance of long travel... vs.6 – “far country”
- **At first they question... (vs. 7)**
 - If it is far, why the hurry?
 - If you are unsure, seek truth!

Flattery and Deception

- **9:9-13 – needs to be studied and considered!**
 - **“we are your servants” (9,11) really?**
 - **Fame of the Lord – Egypt... reality, JERICHO and AI!**
 - **We heard about your God... Not enough!**
 - **Do they want to serve Him?**
 - **Look at what we have... - old, dry, torn, worn out**
- **And what does Israel do???**
 - **“Israel took some of their provisions”????**
 - **What are we settling for? Bean stew?**

The biggest failure

- **The counsel (mouth) of the Lord (9:14b)**
 - **God offers us this, why do we think we know more?**
 - **Pride and ego!**
 - **John 8:44; 2 Cor 4:3,4; 11:14,15; 1Peter 5:8; 1John 3:8**
 - **We NEED HELP!!!**
- **Israel makes and OATH... elders of congregation**
 - **God takes these things VERY seriously!**
 - **Matt 5:34-36; James 5:12**

Truth found out!

- It only takes 3 days...
 - If they had waited...
 - And the people... who took and swore?
 - “grumbled against the leaders”
 - Hewers of wood & fetch water... for the congregation...
- Joshua is wiser –
 - You deceived us using God... cursed!
 - Work for the “house of my God”

We know what God said...

- **This is most interesting!**
 - **How did these people hear? Like Rahab!**
 - **When God moves, EVERYONE LISTENS!**
 - **“we feared... we are in your hands”**
 - **They would not have kept their vow!**
- **“to this day”**
- **Israel failed, BUT GOD!!!**

Next week...

The SUN stands still???