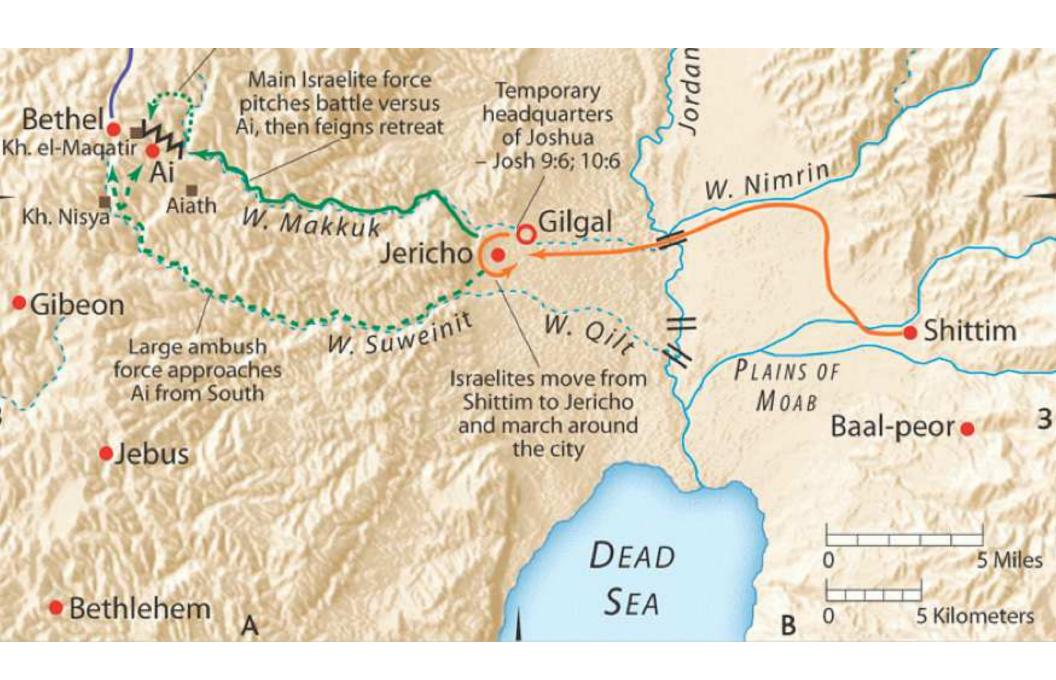


#### GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

- 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!



- 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 Al!
  - 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"



- 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!!!

