

Romans 8:31-37 NLT

³¹What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? 32Since he did not spare even his own son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? 33Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one--for God himself has given us right standing with himself. 34Who then will condemn us? No one--for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of



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honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

³⁵Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? ³⁶(As the scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") ³⁷No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.



¹Adoni-zedek, king of Jerusalem, heard that Joshua had captured and completely destroyed Ai and killed its king, just as he had destroyed the town of Jericho and killed its king. He also learned that the Gibeonites had made peace with Israel and were now their allies. ²He and his people became very afraid when they heard all this because Gibeon was a large town—as large as the royal cities and larger than Ai.



And the Gibeonite men were strong warriors.

³So King Adoni-zedek of Jerusalem sent messengers to several other kings: Hoham of Hebron, Piram of Jarmuth, Japhia of Lachish, and Debir of Eglon. ⁴"Come and help me destroy Gibeon," he urged them, "for they have made peace with Joshua and the people of Israel." ⁵So these five Amorite kings combined their armies for a united attack. They moved all their troops into place and attacked Gibeon.



⁶The men of Gibeon quickly sent messengers to Joshua at his camp in Gilgal. "Don't abandon your servants now!" they pleaded. "Come at once! Save us! Help us! For all the Amorite kings who live in the hill country have joined forces to attack us." ₇So Joshua and his entire army, including his best warriors, left Gilgal and set out for Gibeon. 8"Do not be afraid of them," the LORD said to Joshua, "for I have given you victory over them.



Not a single one of them will be able to stand up to you." Joshua traveled all night from Gilgal and took the Amorite armies by surprise. 10 The LORD threw them into a panic, and the Israelites slaughtered great numbers of them at Gibeon. Then the Israelites chased the enemy along the road to Beth-horon, killing them all along the way to Azekah and Makkedah. 11As the Amorites retreated down the road from Beth-horon, the LORD destroyed them with a terrible



hailstorm from heaven that continued until they reached Azekah. The hail killed more of the enemy than the Israelites killed with the sword. 12On the day the LORD gave the Israelites victory over the Amorites, Joshua prayed to the LORD in front of all the people of Israel. He said, "Let the sun stand still over Gibeon, and the moon over the valley of Aijalon." 13So the sun stood still and the moon stayed in place until the nation of Israel had defeated its enemies.



Is this event not recorded in the book of Jashar? The sun stayed in the middle of the sky, and it did not set as on a normal day. 14There has never been a day like this one before or since, when the LORD answered such a prayer. Surely the LORD fought for Israel that day! 15Then Joshua and the Israelite army returned to their camp at Gilgal. ¹⁶During the battle the five kings escaped and hid in a cave at Makkedah. 17When Joshua heard that they had been found,



¹⁸ he issued this command: "Cover the opening of the cave with large rocks, and place guards at the entrance to keep the kings inside. ¹⁹The rest of you continue chasing the enemy and cut them down from the rear. Don't give them a chance to get back to their towns, for the LORD your God has given you victory over them."

²⁰So Joshua and the Israelite army continued the slaughter and completely crushed the enemy.



They totally wiped out the five armies except for a tiny remnant that managed to reach their fortified towns. 21 Then the Israelites returned safely to Joshua in the camp at Makkedah. After that, no one dared to speak even a word against Israel. 22Then Joshua said, "Remove the rocks covering the opening of the cave, and bring the five kings to me." 23So they brought the five kings out of the cave--the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon.



²⁴When they brought them out, Joshua told the commanders of his army, "Come and put your feet on the kings' necks." And they did as they were told.

²⁵"Don't ever be afraid or discouraged," Joshua told his men. "Be strong and courageous, for the LORD is going to do this to all of your enemies."



4 Principles for a Winning Season



1. Remember what God said.

Joshua 10:8 NLT

⁸"Do not be afraid of them," the LORD said to Joshua, "for I have given you victory over them. Not a single one of them will be able to stand up to you."



2. Repeat what God said.

Joshua 10:19 NLT

¹⁹"The rest of you continue chasing the enemy and cut them down from the rear. Don't give them a chance to get back to their towns, for the LORD your God has given you victory over them."



3. Get used to winning.

Joshua 10:24 NLT

²⁴"When they brought them out, Joshua told the commanders of his army, "Come and put your feet on the kings' necks." And they did as they were told."



4. It happens every time.

Joshua 10:25 NLT

²⁵"Don't ever be afraid or discouraged," Joshua told his men. "Be strong and courageous, for the LORD is going to do this to all of your enemies."



Recap

Remember what God said.
Repeat what God said.
Get used to winning.
It happens every time.

