



When God Switched to
Daylight Savings Time!
Joshua 10:7-15

Observations

- To the believer it is no secret that God created Time, and in heaven Time will be no more
- Since God created Time, are we surprised at the fact that God can stop Time if He so desires? (can't a clockmaker stop his/her own clock?)
- God in the Bible is sometimes pictured as a warrior who will fight for His people (all of your battles are not meant to fight alone)
- In this story we will discover to what great lengths God will go, to deliver victory to His people, Romans 15:4
- If this story is true, then personally, What Can't He Do For You? Romans 8:35

Background

- From the last lesson we learned that Israel's first battle in conquering Canaan was Jericho, then Ai (after taking them for granted initially)
- As Israel continued to grow in faith and success, the devil began to recognize his competition (1 Peter 5:8).
- Remember that Israel had made a peace treaty with the next city to be captured (Gibeon) through a ruse (trickery) and therefore had to live up to their promise of protection for them.
- One of the Canaanite kings who lived in the city of Jerusalem called a meeting with four other kings (a league of nations), and basically said, *"Together we stand, united we fall!" "We need to go after Gibeon because they have sided with that new nation, Israel; and we will be captured next if we don't do something together!"*
- Joshua 10:6 says that the Gibeonites heard about the king's plans, and asked Israel to keep their oath of protection with them. Remember, Christians may have to keep their promises even at their own expense, if it means glorifying God as His representative.

- So Joshua and his fighting men left their base of operation (Gilgal) at night and marched all night about 30 miles (no tanks, or automotives), using the element of surprise
- During the march, Joshua received confidence from the Lord, Joshua 10:7-9, *“I have given them into your hands.”*
- Though God was with His people, it did not free them from personal EFFORT.
- Therefore, the Christian life is not necessarily the Subtraction of problems, but the Addition of POWER and thus the Multiplication of Blessings
- Haven't you ever received confirmation from the Lord through His Word or through prayer that you are on the right track with issues you have faced?
- Their early morning arrival to the enemy caught them by surprise (Remember there were 5 kings and all of their armies to fight) which was pivotal

GOD Does Several Things for Israel That They Could Not Do for Themselves

- **GOD precipitated confusion and panic with Israel's enemies vs. 10**

Point: When we are faced with difficulties, GOD NEVER wants us to panic/become confused as if He is not in control of our problem (Physical enemies, diseases, personal decisions. etc.) Remember, God knows about the problem before we do! Notice that GOD'S people surprised them and not vice versa

- **As the enemy began to run, verse 11 says that GOD began to hurl large hailstones at them and that more died from the hailstorms than the swords of GOD'S people. These were "enemy-directed hailstorms," and not a "general shower" of hailstorms that, "just happened to come up."**
- **When the child of GOD is selected to survive it's not by accident, Proverbs 30:5 (application process, personal record, motor vehicle accidents)**

Observations

- As the Sun was setting, Joshua knew that his time for fighting was coming to the end. Once it was dark the enemy could run away in the cover of darkness
- Would he have lingering problems if he let them get away?
- What Joshua does next is amazing! He delivers a prayer before the congregation, A GOD-SIZED PRAYER, Joshua 10:12

On the day the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the Lord in the presence of Israel:

“Sun stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the valley of Aijalon,” So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies. As it is written in the book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. There has never been a day like it before or since the Lord listened to a human being.”

Observations

- Joshua had the audacity to ask God to do something that was unbelievable and unprecedented
- The fact that Joshua could have even thought of that, was remarkable (Let the sun and moon stand still until we finish)
- The fact that he put his prayer before the congregation shows his boldness of faith before God. He risked God saying NO to him
- He wasn't afraid of being humbled by God (Joshua is teaching Israel and us a lesson as he is praying) This was a "risky prayer"
- He knew God well enough to ask for the sky, so to speak (and God knew him well enough to answer)

Do We Pray the “God Sized Prayers?”

- Do our prayers limit God and generate a “Mundane Faith?”
- Do we only ask God for what we believe is achievable, believable, or the reasonable and decent?

I Suggest This to You:

- One day in your life, at some point, you are going to need to pray, a BIG PRAYER TO A BIG GOD, because of a profound need in your life that, “Oversizes Your Capabilities!” HELP!

Here is the Encouragement We Get to Pray Like That!

“Now unto Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen, Ephesians 3:20-21

With God All Things Are Possible! Matthew 19:26

Christians, If We Believe This, Do We Pray Impossible Prayers?

- Pray for Impossible Cancers to Shrink (Chemotherapies, Radiation Tx., I.V. Infusions, Stroke Rehabilitation)
- Pray for Difficult Medical Operations to be Successful
- Pray for Gene Therapies (Blindness, Downs Syn., M.D.)
- Pray for Difficult Marriages Not to Crumble
- Pray for Tremendous Financial Burdens to be Lifted

Joshua's Success Was Rooted in His Relationship With God! (His Victory Was Due to his faithfulness)

***But Remember:
Sometimes God Doesn't Answer
Our Prayers With Lighter Burdens
But Stronger Backs!***

**What Was God's Answer to Paul's Complaints
of Physical Difficulty? (thorn in the flesh)**

***"But He said unto me, "My grace is sufficient for you,
for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore
I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses,
so that Christ's power may rest on me.... For when
I am weak, then I am strong." 2 Cor. 12:9-10***

The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel **Acts 15:7**

Believe the Gospel **Acts 15:7**

Repent of Sins **Acts 17:30**

Confess Christ **Acts 8:37**

Be Baptized **Acts 8:38**

