



## CALVARY CHAPEL

### Beware of Deception

Bob Russell

2/5/2025

***Romans 15:4** For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.*

- The failure of others can be a great learning opportunity for us.

***Joshua 9:1-4a** Now when all the kings west of the Jordan heard about these things the kings in the hill country, in the western foothills, and along the entire coast of the Mediterranean Sea as far as Lebanon (the kings of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites)—**2** they came together to wage war against Joshua and Israel. **3** However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, **4a** they resorted to a ruse:*

***Deuteronomy 20:10-11** When you march up to attack a city, make its people an offer of peace. **11** If they accept and open their gates, all the people in it shall be subject to forced labor and shall work for you.*

***Exodus 34:11-12** Obey what I command you today. I will drive out before you the Amorites, Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. **12** Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land where you are going, or they will be a snare among you.*

***Joshua 9:4b-6** They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended. **5** They put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and moldy. **6** Then they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the Israelites, "We have come from a distant country; make a treaty with us."*

- If a person knew they were being deceived, they wouldn't be deceived.

***2 Corinthians 11:13-14 (NLT)** These people are false apostles. They are deceitful workers who disguise themselves as apostles of Christ. **14** But I am not surprised! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*

***2 Timothy 2:15** Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.*

***Joshua 9:7-8** The Israelites said to the Hivites, "But perhaps you live near us, so how can we make a treaty with you?" **8** "We are your servants," they said to Joshua. But Joshua asked, "Who are you and where do you come from?"*

***1 Corinthians 2:13 (ESV)** And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by*

*the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.*

*Joshua 9:9-14* They answered: "Your servants have come from a very distant country because of the fame of the LORD your God. For we have heard reports of him: all that he did in Egypt, **10** and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan—Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth. **11** And our elders and all those living in our country said to us, 'Take provisions for your journey; go and meet them and say to them, "We are your servants; make a treaty with us." ' **12** This bread of ours was warm when we packed it at home on the day we left to come to you. But now see how dry and moldy it is. **13** And these wineskins that we filled were new, but see how cracked they are. And our clothes and sandals are worn out by the very long journey." **14** The Israelites sampled their provisions but did not inquire of the LORD.

*Numbers 27:21* He is to stand before Eleazar the priest, who will obtain decisions for him by inquiring of the Urim before the LORD. At his command he and the entire community of the Israelites will go out, and at his command they will come in.

- Seek the Lord's counsel in every decision.

*Joshua 9:15-16* Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath. **16** Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbors, living near them.

*Matthew 5:43-44 (NKJV)* You have heard that it was said, you shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. **44** But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.

*Joshua 9:17-27* So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim. **18** But the Israelites did not attack them, because the leaders of the assembly had sworn an oath to them by the LORD, the God of Israel. The whole assembly grumbled against the leaders, **19** but all the leaders answered, "We have given them our oath by the LORD, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now. **20** This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that God's wrath will not fall on us for breaking the oath we swore to them." **21** They continued, "Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers in the service of the whole assembly." So the leaders' promise to them was kept. **22** Then Joshua summoned the Gibeonites and said, "Why did you deceive us by saying, 'We live a long way from you,' while actually you live near us? **23** You are now under a curse: You will never be released from service as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God." **24** They answered Joshua, "Your servants were clearly told how the LORD your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you the whole land and to wipe out all its inhabitants from before you. So we feared for our lives because of you, and that is why we did this. **25** We are now in your hands. Do to us whatever seems good and right to you." **26** So Joshua saved them from the Israelites, and they did not kill them. **27** That day he made the Gibeonites woodcutters and water carriers for the assembly, to provide for the needs of the altar of the LORD at the place the LORD would choose. And that is what they are to this day.

- Call **321.574.6970** if you have chosen to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.