



WAY TO VICTORY
A STUDY OF JOSHUA
#9: AVOIDING THE WEB OF DECEPTION
JOSHUA 9:1-27
JIM HINTON



Life is a sum of all your choices
Albert Camus

I. THOUGHTS ON CHOICE

1. Modern culture is overwhelming us with choices

Choice no longer liberates, but debilitates. It might even be said to tyrannize.

Barry Schwartz in The Paradox of Choice

2. The enemy is all about tricking us into making the wrong choices

The devil...has never been truthful...He's a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44 (GOD'S WORD)

Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

2 Corinthians 11:14 (NIV)

II. AN OVERVIEW OF JOSHUA 9:1-27

- 1. Most of Israel's enemies unite for battle (v.1-2)**
- 2. Gibeon tries to survive through trickery (v.3-13)**
- 3. Joshua makes a peace treaty with the Gibeonites (v.14-15)**
- 4. Israel discovers the ruse – but keeps their word (v.16-20)**
- 5. The Gibeonites agree to be servants of Israel (v.21-27)**

III. ISRAEL'S MISTAKE: THEY DID NOT CONSULT THE LORD

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

Call to me and I will answer you. I'll tell you marvelous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own.

Jeremiah 33:3 (MSG)

IV. HOW TO HEAR FROM GOD AND AVOID BEING DECEIVED

1. Desire God's guidance above all else

I long for your instructions more than I can tell.
Psalm 119:20 (TLB)

2. Remove the distractions from my life

Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him.
Psalm 62:5 (NLT)

3. Seek the direction of God's Word

Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.
Joshua 1:8 (NLT)

4. Ask for the Lord's Guidance in prayer

If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask him, and he will gladly tell you, for he is always ready to give a bountiful supply of wisdom to all who ask him; he will not resent it.
James 1:5 (TLB)

5. Be sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit

But when the Friend comes, the Spirit of the Truth, he will take you by the hand and guide you into all the truth there is. He won't draw attention to himself, but will make sense out of what is about to happen and, indeed, out of all that I have done and said.
John 16:13 (MSG)

6. Listen to the wisdom of Godly people

Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.
Proverbs 15:22 (NLT)

7. Patiently wait for God's best timing

Plan carefully and you will have plenty; if you act too quickly, you will never have enough.
Proverbs 21:5 (TEV)

Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen. You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near.
James 5:7-8 (NLT)

If you want to be distressed – look within
If you want to be defeated – look back
If you want to be distracted – look around
If you want to be dismayed – look ahead
If you want to be delivered – look up!
John Maxwell