



1 And it came to pass, when all the kings^{H4428} which were on this side^{H5676} Jordan^{H3383}, in the hills^{H2022}, and in the valleys^{H8219}, and in all the coasts^{H2348} of the great^{H1419} sea^{H3220} over against^{H4136} Lebanon^{H3844}, the Hittite^{H2850}, and the Amorite^{H567}, the Canaanite^{H3669}, the Perizzite^{H6522}, the Hivite^{H2340}, and the Jebusite^{H2983}, heard^{H8085} thereof; 2 That they gathered^{H6908} themselves together^{H3162}, to fight^{H3898} with Joshua^{H3091} and with Israel^{H3478}, with one^{H259} accord^{H6310}.

3 And when the inhabitants^{H3427} of Gibeon^{H1391} heard^{H8085} what Joshua^{H3091} had done^{H6213} unto Jericho^{H3405} and to Ai^{H5857}, 4 They did work^{H6213} wilily^{H6195}, and went^{H3212} and made as if they had been ambassadors^{H6737}, and took^{H3947} old^{H1087} sacks^{H8242} upon their asses^{H2543}, and wine^{H3196} bottles^{H4997}, old^{H1087}, and rent^{H1234}, and bound up^{H6887}; 5 And old^{H1087} shoes^{H5275} and clouted^{H2921} upon their feet^{H7272}, and old^{H1087} garments^{H8008} upon them; and all the bread^{H3899} of their provision^{H6718} was dry^{H3001} and mouldy^{H5350}. 6 And they went^{H3212} to Joshua^{H3091} unto the camp^{H4264} at Gilgal^{H1537}, and said^{H559} unto him, and to the men^{H376} of Israel^{H3478}, We be come^{H935} from a far^{H7350} country^{H776}: now therefore make^{H3772} ye a league^{H1285} with us. 7 And the men^{H376} of Israel^{H3478} said^{H559} unto the Hivites^{H2340}, Peradventure^{H194} ye dwell^{H3427} among^{H7130} us; and how shall we make^{H3772} a league^{H1285} with you? 8 And they said^{H559} unto Joshua^{H3091}, We are thy servants^{H5650}. And Joshua^{H3091} said^{H559} unto them, Who are ye? and from whence come^{H935} ye? 9 And they said^{H559} unto him, From a very^{H3966} far^{H7350} country^{H776} thy servants^{H5650} are come^{H935} because of the name^{H8034} of the LORD^{H3068} thy God^{H430}: for we have heard^{H8085} the fame^{H8089} of him, and all that he did^{H6213} in Egypt^{H4714}, 10 And all that he did^{H6213} to the two^{H8147} kings^{H4428} of the Amorites^{H567}, that were beyond^{H5676} Jordan^{H3383}, to Sihon^{H5511} king^{H4428} of Heshbon^{H2809}, and to Og^{H5747} king^{H4428} of Bashan^{H1316}, which was at Ashtaroth^{H6252}. 11 Wherefore our elders^{H2205} and all the inhabitants^{H3427} of our country^{H776} spake^{H559} to us, saying^{H559}, Take^{H3947} victuals^{H6720} with you^{H3027} for the journey^{H1870}, and go^{H3212} to meet^{H7125} them, and say^{H559} unto them, We are your servants^{H5650}: therefore now make^{H3772} ye a league^{H1285} with us. 12 This our bread^{H3899} we took hot^{H2525} for our provision^{H6679} out of our houses^{H1004} on the day^{H3117} we came forth^{H3318} to go^{H3212} unto you; but now, behold, it is dry^{H3001}, and it is mouldy^{H5350}. 13 And these bottles^{H4997} of wine^{H3196}, which we filled^{H4390}, were new^{H2319}; and, behold, they be rent^{H1234}: and these our garments^{H8008} and our shoes^{H5275} are become old^{H1086} by reason of the very^{H3966} long^{H7230} journey^{H1870}. 14 And the men^{H582} took^{H3947} of their victuals^{H6718}, and asked^{H7592} not counsel at the mouth^{H6310} of the LORD^{H3068}.

15 And Joshua^{H3091} made^{H6213} peace^{H7965} with them, and made^{H3772} a league^{H1285} with them, to let them live^{H2421}: and the princes^{H5387} of the congregation^{H5712} sware^{H7650} unto them. 16 And it came to pass at the end^{H7097} of three^{H7969} days^{H3117} after^{H310} they had made^{H3772} a league^{H1285} with them, that they heard^{H8085} that they were their neighbours^{H7138}, and that they dwelt^{H3427} among^{H7130} them. 17 And the children^{H1121} of Israel^{H3478} journeyed^{H5265}, and came^{H935} unto their cities^{H5892} on the third^{H7992} day^{H3117}. Now their cities^{H5892} were Gibeon^{H1391}, and Chephirah^{H3716}, and Beeroth^{H881}, and Kirjathjearim^{H7157}. 18 And the children^{H1121} of Israel^{H3478} smote^{H5221} them not, because the princes^{H5387} of the congregation^{H5712} had sworn^{H7650} unto them by the LORD^{H3068} God^{H430} of Israel^{H3478}. And all the congregation^{H5712} murmured^{H3885} against the princes^{H5387}. 19 But all the princes^{H5387} said^{H559} unto all the congregation^{H5712}, We have sworn^{H7650} unto them by the LORD^{H3068} God^{H430} of Israel^{H3478}: now therefore we may^{H3201} not touch^{H5060} them. 20 This we will do^{H6213} to them; we will even let them live^{H2421}, lest wrath^{H7110} be upon us, because of the oath^{H7621} which we sware^{H7650} unto them. 21 And the princes^{H5387} said^{H559} unto them, Let them live^{H2421}; but let them be hewers^{H2404} of wood^{H6086} and drawers^{H7579} of water^{H4325} unto all the congregation^{H5712}; as the princes^{H5387} had promised^{H1696} them.

22 And Joshua^{H3091} called^{H7121} for them, and he spake^{H1696} unto them, saying^{H559}, Wherefore have ye beguiled^{H7411} us,

saying^{H559}, We are very^{H3966} far^{H7350} from you; when ye dwell^{H3427} among^{H7130} us? **23** Now therefore ye are cursed^{H779}, and there shall none of you be freed^{H3772} from being bondmen^{H5650}, and hewers^{H2404} of wood^{H6086} and drawers^{H7579} of water^{H4325} for the house^{H1004} of my God^{H430}. ⁴ **24** And they answered^{H6030} Joshua^{H3091}, and said^{H559}, Because it was certainly^{H5046} told^{H5046} thy servants^{H5650}, how that the LORD^{H3068} thy God^{H430} commanded^{H6680} his servant^{H5650} Moses^{H4872} to give^{H5414} you all the land^{H776}, and to destroy^{H8045} all the inhabitants^{H3427} of the land^{H776} from before^{H6440} you, therefore we were sore^{H3966} afraid^{H3372} of our lives^{H5315} because^{H6440} of you, and have done^{H6213} this thing^{H1697}. **25** And now, behold, we^{H2009} are in thine hand^{H3027}: as it seemeth^{H5869} good^{H2896} and right^{H3477} unto thee to do^{H6213} unto us, do^{H6213}. **26** And so did^{H6213} he unto them, and delivered^{H5337} them out of the hand^{H3027} of the children^{H1121} of Israel^{H3478}, that they slew^{H2026} them not. **27** And Joshua^{H3091} made^{H5414} them that day^{H3117} hewers^{H2404} of wood^{H6086} and drawers^{H7579} of water^{H4325} for the congregation^{H5712}, and for the altar^{H4196} of the LORD^{H3068}, even unto this day^{H3117}, in the place^{H4725} which he should choose^{H977}. ⁵

Fußnoten

1. accord: Heb. mouth
2. with you: Heb. in your hand
3. the men...: or, they received the men by reason of their victuals
4. none...: Heb. not be cut off from you
5. made: Heb. gave, or, delivered to be