

Possessing the Promises of the Kingdom

Beware of Deception

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September 20, 2009

Joshua 9:14-15

Joshua 8 shows us how to move to victory by learning from our mistakes. In Joshua 9, we discover that the enemies of the people of God can devise clever strategies to thwart the plan and purpose of God. The believer must always be on guard. Here we see three themes that the Christian deals with on a daily basis, deception, gullibility, and integrity. Gullibility is a deep spiritual problem.

In this text, we see three forms of gullibility:

1. _____

But the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “Perhaps you live among us; then how can we make a covenant with you?”

Joshua 9:7

They said to Joshua, “We are your servants.” **And Joshua said to them, “Who are you? And where do you come from?”**

Joshua 9:8

Three concerns

a. Joshua thought things were different from what they were.

(_____)

b. Joshua assumed the Gibeonites were telling the truth.

(_____)

c. Joshua concluded he had all the facts. (_____)

2. _____

they on their part acted with cunning and went and **made ready provisions** and took **worn-out sacks** for their donkeys, and **wineskins, worn-out and torn and mended,**

Joshua 9:4

with worn-out, patched sandals on their feet, and **worn-out clothes.**

And all their provisions were **dry and crumbly.**

Joshua 9:5

Two concerns

- a. _____ people who were not _____.
- b. _____ and _____ does not mean one should be trusted.

3. _____

So the **men took some of their provisions,**
but **did not ask counsel from the Lord.**

Joshua 9:14

And **Joshua made peace with them** and made a covenant with them, to let them live, and the **leaders of the congregation swore to them.**

Joshua 9:15

Overconfidence happens when:

- a. We are at the _____.
- b. We trust our _____.
- c. _____ that something is not big enough to ask God's counsel.