

Conquering With No Mercy **Joshua 11:1-20**

A sudden attack defeats a northern coalition of kings at Merom. 1-9

- As in 11:7 and in 10:9 = preemptive strikes that work well. Why is this sudden attack so important now? 3x = “horses and chariots.” These were a problem (17:16, Jdgs. 1:19), but . . . Dt. 20:1, Ps. 20:7.
- As in 11:6 and in 6:2, 8:1, 10:8 = promise of success before battle.
- Unlike in ch. 10 and against Jericho, note that there are not any miraculous actions mentioned at all yet the army is even scarier.
- Again, how should God’s promises affect our actions?
- Why hamstring the horses and burn all those chariots? Isa. 31:1

A series of attacks destroy the cities of the northern kings. 10-20

- Huge Hazor is singled out for burning (as Jericho and Ai) while most cities are preserved, Dt. 6:10,11. 200 yrs. later in Jdgs. 4 another King Jabin is at Hazor (Jabin = dynastic name as Pharaoh).
- Joshua’s battle = “a long time” (18). Recall 7 years for conquest.
- Contrast = Joshua’s total obedience to “destroy” (5x) versus the stubborn kings (“No mercy” = grace is over, recall Gen. 15:16)! Their once “melted hearts” (2:11,5:1) have been “hardened” (Ex. 5:2, 7:3, 8:15, I Sam. 6:6).
- What about “hardening” today? Check out II Thess. 2:8-12 and also Heb. 3:13,15, Rom. 9:18.

The goal of the King of Hazor



The result at Hazor

