

No copyright materials are used in this text  
The summary and interpretation of the specific chapter and verses  
are from the Bible, they are religious text that is in the public  
domain.

Free to Copy and Distribute: Spread the Word!

(Peter Lok)駱沅祺

[lokpeter@outlook.com](mailto:lokpeter@outlook.com)

[Bibleao.com](http://Bibleao.com)

## Daily Rice 2023 December 1

YouTube Prayer Link

The covenant should not be made rashly, and the will of God should be sought first, and the covenant should not be amended after the covenant has been made

The Book of Joshua (Chapter 9)

9:15 So Joshua made peace with them, made a covenant with them, and allowed them to live. And the heads of the congregation swore to them.

9:26 So Joshua did to them and delivered them out of the hand of the Israelites, so that the Israelites did not kill them.

The meaning of this statement is that you should think carefully before making a promise or engagement, and you need to consider God's will or your own beliefs and values. And once a promise or agreement is made, it should be kept and cannot be easily modified or broken. This reminds us that we should think carefully before making any commitments and ensure that we have the ability and willingness to fulfill.

Covenants are one of the ways in which people build trust and stable relationships. When we make an engagement with others, we often need to be thoughtful and carefully consider various factors. This cautious attitude is based on respect for oneself, others, and God. Before making any commitments, pray for God's will to help us think about greater morals and values.

When we make a commitment, it becomes a contract between us and others, not just a verbal commitment, but a moral commitment. The existence of this agreement symbolizes our commitment to trust and responsibility, which cannot be changed or given up lightly. This requires our persistence and loyalty, even in the face of difficulties and trials, to keep our promises.

In such a covenant, it is not only an agreement between people, but more importantly a binding relationship with God. By seeking God's will, we are better able to ensure that the covenants we make are ethical, and that we are obedient to God, not only in respect of others, but also in respect and obedience to God.

There are many passages in the Bible that speak of the importance of asking God for His Mind beforehand. Here are a few examples:

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and not in your own understanding, but acknowledge him in all your ways, and he will direct your paths." ┘

James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all and does not rebuke, and the Lord will give it to him." ┘

Psalms 32:8: "I will teach thee, and will direct thee in the way, saith the LORD: I will set my eyes upon thee and admonish thee." ┘

Proverbs 16:3: "Commit to the Lord what you do, and your plan will be established." ┘

These verses teach us to seek God's guidance and wisdom in our lives. Whether we are faced with choices, difficulties, or the affairs of our daily lives, we are encouraged to inquire about God's will in faith and to rely on His guidance and wisdom in all that we do. We should do our best to accomplish what we promise others. This reflects our respect and responsibility for others. When we promise someone, they may rely on our commitment to organize their own life or work. If we fail to deliver on our commitments, we may cause distress or inconvenience to the other party.

In many cases, it is understandable that it is not possible to accomplish what was promised, but it is important to communicate with the other person in the first place, explain the situation honestly and offer a solution or appropriate compensation whenever possible. This allows for a good relationship and shows our integrity and responsibility.

However, it is important to remember that sometimes we may have to change our original commitments, which may be due to unexpected circumstances or unforeseen changes. In this case, we should inform the other party as early as possible and explain the situation in a respectful and honest manner. Although we will not be able to fulfill our original commitments, we can try to make amends or provide other help to make up for the distress caused.

In conclusion, fulfilling commitments to others is an important cornerstone of building trust and good relationships. Even when it is not fully realized, it is important to deal with the situation that cannot be done in an honest and respectful manner.

We pray

Heavenly Father, thank You for showing love and grace in our lives. I ask You to give Christians wisdom and steadfast faith so that they can faithfully follow Your will and teachings. May You

give them the strength to fulfill their commitments to others and to demonstrate love and generosity in their lives.

Help them to show patience and kindness in their daily lives so that their actions can be an example to others. Strengthen their faith and be steadfast in the face of difficulties and trials, for You are with them.

May You give Christians wisdom and guidance so that they can seek Your will at all times in their lives and glorify Your name with their deeds. Preserve and protect them so that they will remain steadfast in their faith toward the hope and promise you have given them.

In the name of Jesus Christ I pray, amen.

## Joshua chapter 9

Jo. 9:1 Now when all the kings west of the Jordan heard about these things — those in the hill country, in the western foothills, and along the entire coast of the Great Sea as far as Lebanon (the kings of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites) —

Jo. 9:2 they came together to make war against Joshua and Israel. Jo. 9:3 However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai,

Jo. 9:4 they resorted to a ruse: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended.

Jo. 9:5 The men put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and mouldy.

Jo. 9:6 Then they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the men of Israel, “We have come from a distant country; make a treaty with us.”

Jo. 9:7 The men of Israel said to the Hivites, “But perhaps you live near us. How then can we make a treaty with you?”

Jo. 9:8 “We are your servants,” they said to Joshua. But Joshua asked, “Who are you and where do you come from?” Jo. 9:9 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, Jo. 9:10 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.

Jo. 9:11 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.”’ Jo.

9:12 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 mouldy it is.

Jo. 9:13 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.”

Jo. 9:14 The men of Israel sampled their provisions but did not enquire of the LORD.

Jo. 9:15 Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.

Jo. 9:16 Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbours, living near them. Jo. 9:17 So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim.

Jo. 9:18 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, Jo. 9:19 but all the leaders answered, “We have given them our oath by the LORD, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now.

Jo. 9:20 This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that wrath will not fall on us for breaking the oath we swore to them.”

Jo. 9:21 They continued, “Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water-carriers for the entire community.” So the leaders’ promise to them was kept.

Jo. 9:22 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?”

Jo. 9:23 You are now under a curse: You will never cease to serve as woodcutters and water-carriers for the house of my God.”

Jo. 9:24 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.

Jo. 9:25 We are now in your hands. Do to us whatever seems good and right to you.”

Jo. 9:26 So Joshua saved them from the Israelites, and they did not kill them.

Jo. 9:27 That day he made the Gibeonites woodcutters and water carriers for the community and for the altar of the LORD at the place the LORD would choose. And that is what they are to this day.

Chapter 9 tells the story of the Gibeonites, a group of people who lived near the Israelites and feared for their lives because they had heard about the Israelites' victories over other cities. Instead of fighting the Israelites, the Gibeonites decide to deceive them. They dress in worn-out clothes and carry old provisions, pretending to come from a far-off land and asking for a treaty of peace with the Israelites.

Joshua and the Israelites are deceived by the Gibeonites' trickery and make a treaty of peace with them, not realizing that they are their neighbors. Three days later, the Israelites learn that the Gibeonites are actually nearby, and they are angry at being deceived. However, Joshua and the Israelite leaders honor their treaty and allow the Gibeonites to live among them as servants.

Chapter 9 emphasizes the importance of being cautious and discerning when making alliances and the consequences of not seeking God's guidance. The story also highlights the idea that even when we make mistakes, we must honor our commitments and keep our promises. Finally, the story shows that God can bring good out of even a bad situation, as the Gibeonites become servants of the Israelites and later play an important role in the history of Israel.

Joshua chapter 9 tells the story of the Gibeonite deception, where the inhabitants of the nearby city of Gibeon trick the Israelites into making a treaty with them. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, they resorted to a ruse: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended." (Joshua 9:3-4)
  2. "Then the Israelites sampled their provisions but did not inquire of the Lord. So Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath." (Joshua 9:14-15)
  3. "Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbors, living near them. So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim." (Joshua 9:16-17)
  4. "But all the leaders answered, 'We have given them our oath by the Lord, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now. 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.'" (Joshua 9:19-20)
- These verses highlight the importance of seeking guidance from the Lord before making important decisions, as the Israelites did not inquire of Him before making a treaty with the Gibeonites. The Gibeonites' deception shows the danger of trusting in appearances and human wisdom instead of seeking the Lord's guidance. The Israelites' commitment to honor their oath, even though it was made under false pretenses, demonstrates the importance of keeping one's word and the severity of breaking an oath made in the Lord's name.

In Joshua chapter 9, we encounter the account of the deceitful treaty made between the Israelites and the inhabitants of Gibeon. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of seeking God's guidance, the consequences of making decisions based on appearances, and the significance of honoring commitments.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of seeking God's guidance and discernment in decision-making. The Gibeonites, fearful of the Israelites' conquests, resort to deception and disguise themselves as travelers from a distant land to make a treaty with the Israelites. The Israelite leaders, without seeking God's counsel, are deceived by the Gibeonites' appearance and make a covenant with them. This event serves as a reminder that we should not rely solely on our own judgment or outward appearances but rather seek God's wisdom and guidance in all our decisions.

The chapter also highlights the consequences of making decisions based on appearances or human reasoning rather than seeking God's guidance. The Israelites realize their mistake when they discover the true identity of the Gibeonites, but they are bound by their oath to honor the treaty. This demonstrates the importance of being cautious and discerning in our decision-making, recognizing that hasty or uninformed choices can have long-term implications.

Furthermore, the chapter emphasizes the significance of honoring commitments and upholding our word. Despite being deceived, the Israelites choose to honor their covenant with the Gibeonites. This shows the importance of integrity and keeping our promises, even when it may be inconvenient or challenging. It highlights the value of trust and maintaining the reputation of God's people.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 9 teaches us several important lessons. It reminds us of the importance of seeking God's guidance and wisdom in all our decisions. It prompts us to be discerning and not to be swayed by appearances or human reasoning alone. Instead, we should rely on God's leading to make sound judgments.

Additionally, the chapter cautions us about the consequences of hasty or uninformed decisions. It reminds us to exercise caution and discernment in our choices, recognizing that they can have far-reaching consequences.

Moreover, the chapter underscores the significance of honoring commitments and maintaining integrity. It calls us to be people of our word and to fulfill our obligations, even when it may be challenging or inconvenient.

Overall, Joshua chapter 9 serves as a reminder to seek God's guidance, exercise discernment, and honor commitments. By reflecting on these lessons, we can cultivate wisdom in decision-making, uphold our integrity, and walk in alignment with God's will.