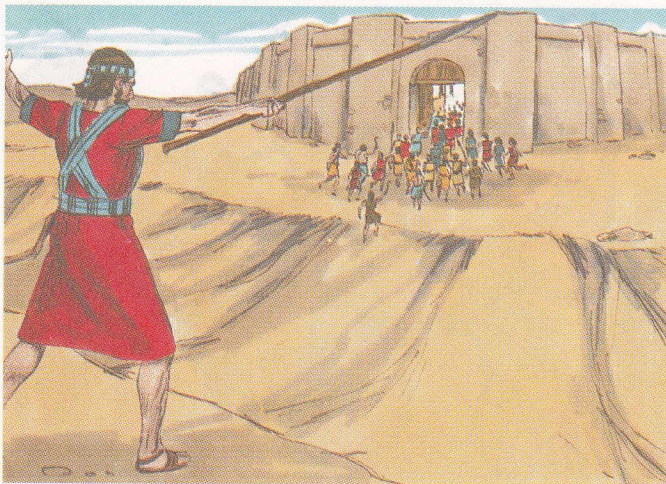
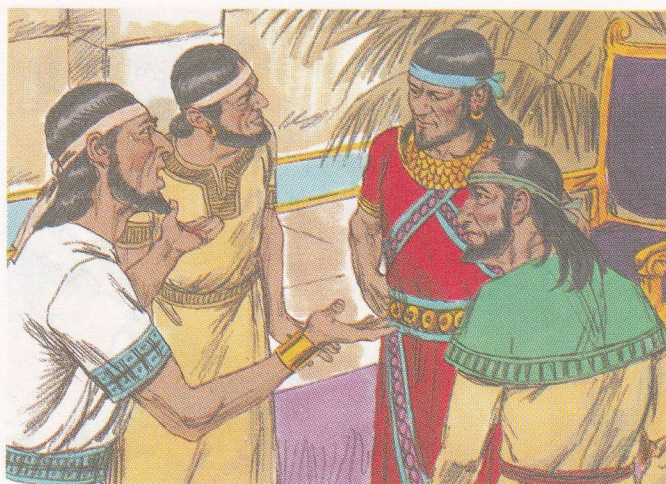


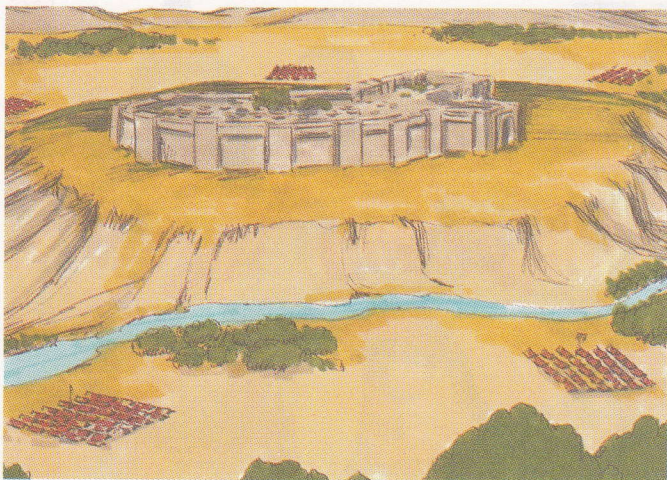
The Sun Stands Still



1 After Jericho, the Israelites destroyed the city of Ai. The news spread throughout Canaan. Then came word that the city of Gibeon had made a peace treaty with the Israelites!



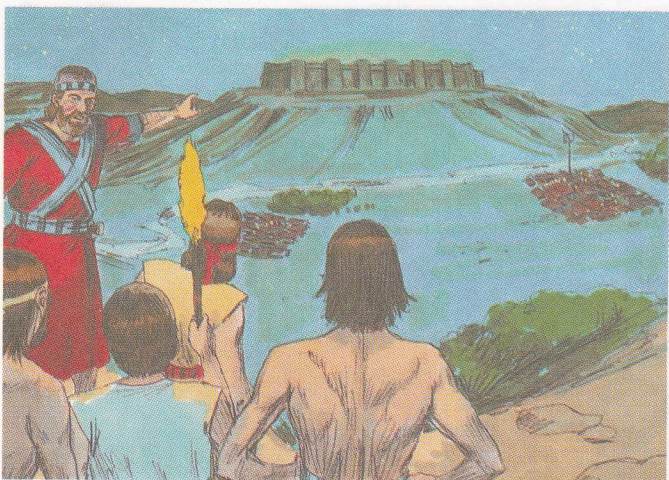
2 When Adonizedek the king of Jerusalem heard that, he became alarmed. Gibeon was a large city and its men were good fighters. Now they might fight on the Israelites' side against the other cities of Canaan.



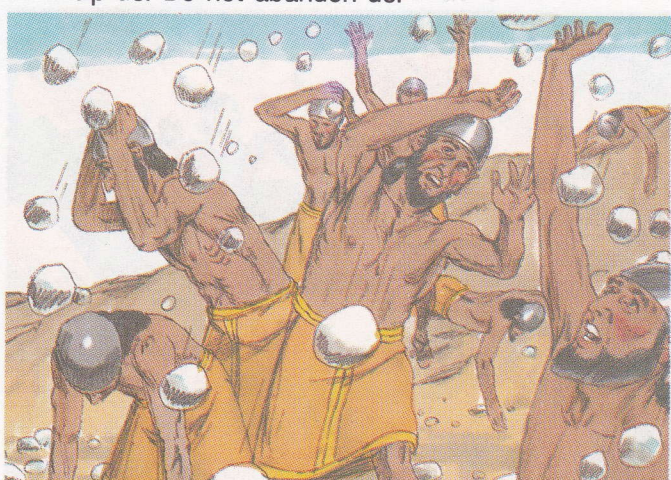
3 So Adonizedek contacted the kings of the cities of Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon, and they agreed to help him. These five kings joined forces and attacked the city of Gibeon.



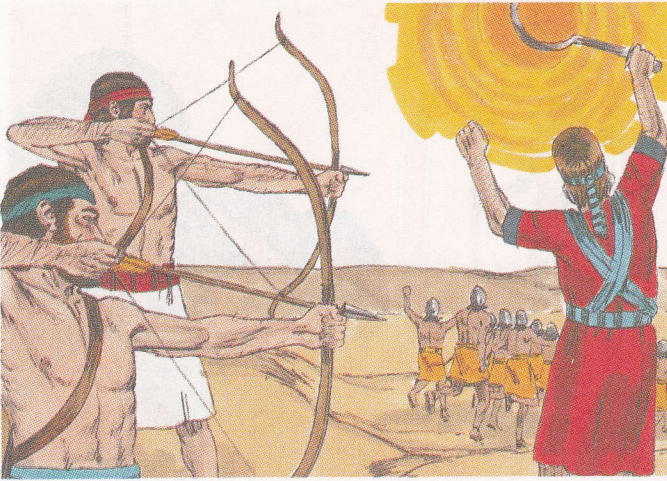
4 Surrounded, the men of Gibeon sent urgent word to Joshua at his camp in Gilgal: "All the Amorite kings in the hill country have attacked us! Come at once and help us! Do not abandon us!"



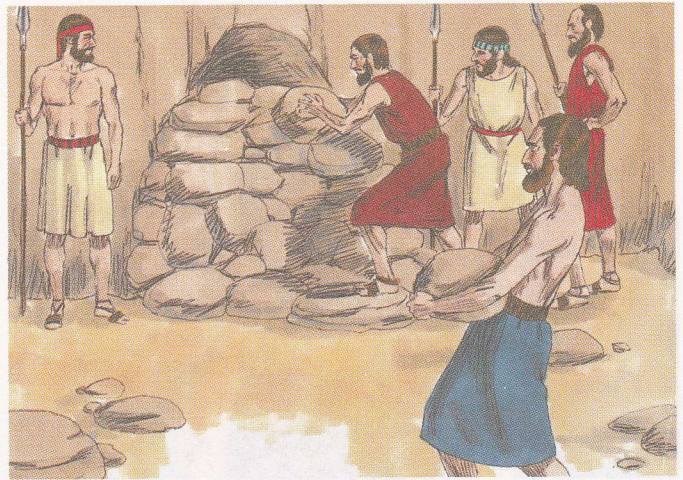
5 Joshua and his army marched all night. When they reached Gibeon, they made a surprise attack on the Amorites. The Amorites panicked and many of them were killed there at Gibeon.



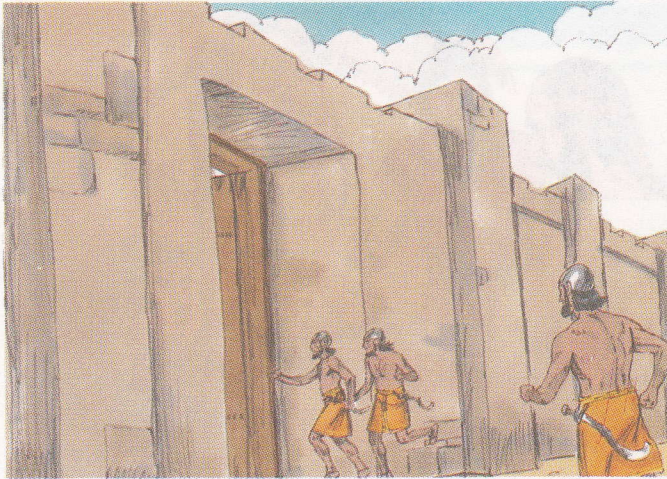
6 Others fled, pursued by the Israelites. Many of the fleeing Amorites were killed by large hailstones which fell on them between the mountain pass at Beth Horon and the city of Azekah.



7 That day Joshua prayed, and the Lord made the sun stand still! The sun did not go down for a whole day, until Israel conquered its enemies. Never before or since has there been a day like that!



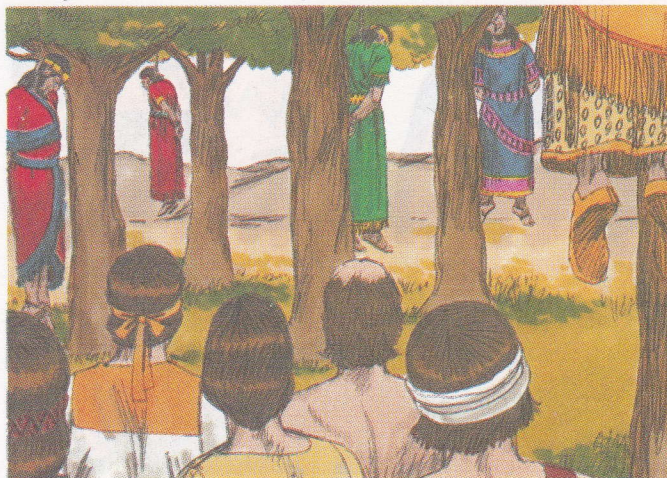
8 Someone came to Joshua and said, "The five Amorite kings have escaped and are hiding in a cave at Makkedah." Joshua ordered that large stones be put in front of the cave so the kings could not get out.



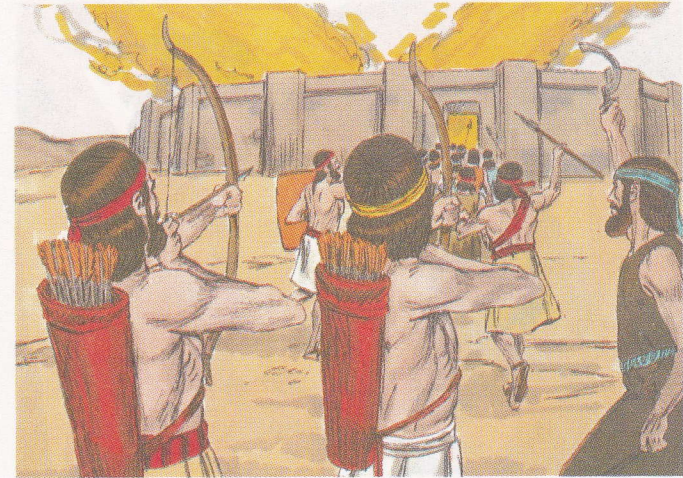
9 The Israelites chased down the Amorites and killed most of them. Only a few reached the safety of their city walls. Then all of Joshua's men came back safely to him at the camp at Makkedah.



10 Joshua ordered the cave opened and the five kings brought to him. He told his officers to put their feet on the necks of the kings, and said, "This is what the Lord will do to your enemies."



11 Then Joshua killed the kings and hanged each of them on a tree. At sundown their bodies were taken down and thrown into the cave where they had tried to hide. The cave was sealed with large stones.



12 Next Joshua attacked the cities of Makkedah, Libnah, Lachish, Eglon, Hebron, and Debir. Everyone in each city was put to death, as the Lord had commanded. Then Joshua and his army returned to Gilgal.