

- The Book of Jasher (Josh 10:12-15)

#1. A Very Great Slaughter (Josh 10:16-20)

- Return to Makkedah (Josh 10:21-23)

#2. Put Your Feet on Their Necks (Josh 10:24-25)

- Through New Testament Eyes (Josh 10:1-27)
- Christ in the Old Testament (2Pet 1:21, Matt 13:34, Heb 10:7, John 5:39, Luke 24:27,44)

#3. Five Cursed Kings (Col 2:15, Josh 10:26-27, Deut 21:22-23, Gal 3:13, Eph 2:3)

- Which Remain Cursed Until This Very Day (Josh 10:27, Heb 7:2, Num 13:22, Isa 14:12, 2Cor 11:14, Isa 25:8, John 16:33, Rom 6:14, Heb 2:14, Gal 3:13)
- Life After Death (Eph 1:4, Rom 6:4-8, 7:4-6, 8:28-30, Heb 2:15, Psalm 103:12, Isa 25:8, 1Cor 15:55, 1John 2:15-17, Matt 1:21, Rom 6:14, Heb 2:14, 6:6, Rom 4:8, John 8:36, Josh 10:27)

Please open your Bibles to the Prophecy of Joshua, Josh 10:12 (2X). We were here in November of last year. It seems such a long time ago that I spoke about the sun standing still for a whole day. But I did not have time to speak about the Book of Jasher. So let us address this today.

- **The Book of Jasher** (Josh 10:12-15)

Josh 10:12-15, **12** Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. **13** And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day. **14** And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel. **15** And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

Let us interpret this carefully. The only way Joshua can command any inanimate object in nature is if Joshua represents the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. And indeed, the Hebrew name Joshua is in the Greek the same name as Jesus. Christ created all these objects in nature, and thus Christ is the only one who can change the laws of nature. Man does not have this power, for God said in Isa 42:8; I am Jehovah: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another. Who is commanding who here? You should know that the Hebrew word **12** literally means, *be silent*. And thus Joshua said to the Sun, representing Christ as the Sun of Righteousness (Mal 4:2), *sun, be silent*. This was a command to Christ during His atonement, for we read in Isa 53:7; He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. Notice that the moon stayed **15** in the valley of Ajalon, where the word **15** literally means *to remain, or to take a stand* for the moon representing the Word of God must remain or take a stand for the saints, for the Valley of Ajalon **15** means the Valley of the Field of deer. The deer represent the saints, for we read in:

Psalm 42:1, As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul for Thee, O God. Josh 10:13; Is not this written in the book of Jasher? What does the name Jasher mean? It means *upright*. And thus Josh 10:13 reads, *Is not this written in the Book of the Upright*? And indeed, this is written in the Bible. There is not a separate book of Jasher, for this is simply another name for the Bible. Here is an example how we should understand the mysteries of the Bible. We should simply trace the meaning of the names we find here, and through the guidance of God the Holy Spirit we are led to the truth of what God intended these passages to mean. Often the Lord used mysteries and parables to hide the truth from the reprobate, and then the Lord revealed only to the saints what these parables mean. Now, let us continue this story of the Battle of Gibeon.

#1. A Very Great Slaughter (Josh 10:16-20)

Josh 10:16-20, **16** But these five kings fled, and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah. **17** And it was told Joshua, saying, The five kings are found hid in a cave at Makkedah. **18** And Joshua said, Roll great stones upon the mouth of the cave, and set men by it for to keep them: **19** And stay ye not, *but* pursue after your enemies, and smite the hindmost of them; suffer them not to enter into their cities: for the LORD your God hath delivered them into your hand. **20** And it came to pass, when Joshua and the children of Israel had made an end of slaying them with a very great slaughter, till they were consumed, that the rest *which* remained of them entered into fenced cities.

What do we see here? What was the first priority of the children of Israel? Their first priority was to protect the new-born believers, the Gibeonites, from their enemies. The first priority was the salvation of the Gibeonites, and after that their sanctification. We have understood that Josh 10:12-14 has to do with salvation, for this was a picture of the atonement of Christ. All the enemies of Christ had to be defeated. Therefore the judgment of the five kings had to be postponed. Where did the five kings hide? They hid in a cave at Makkedah. What is the meaning of Makkedah? It means κ sheepfold̄ These five evil kings tried to hide in the sheepfold of Israel. It would be fatal to leave these five kings alive in that sheepfold. They have to be killed in the manner as Joshua did. And when all the work concerning the salvation of the Gibeonites was complete Israel returned to the sheepfold.

- **Return to Makkedah** (Josh 10:21-23)

Josh 10:21-23, **21** And all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace: none moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel. **22** Then said Joshua, Open the mouth of the cave, and bring out those five kings unto me out of the cave. **23** And they did so, and brought forth those five kings unto him out of the cave, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, *and* the king of Eglon.

Do you remember the title of this sermon? It is there on your outline, **Five Enemies in Our Life**. **Is God warning us for something evil? These five evil kings represent not only five enemies in the life of Israel, but these are five enemies in our life also. And now, in the peace and quiet of the sheepfold Joshua could deal with these five kings in a way that taught the nation of Israel a lesson in sanctification. It is the process of growing in grace after we have gone through the process of salvation, which is also called justification. The first thing Joshua taught them was: Fear them not!**

#2. Put Your Feet on Their Necks (Josh 10:24-25)

Why did Joshua engage in this strange and lengthy ceremony? They were already defeated foes, destined for destruction. They have already been defeated at the cross.

Josh 10:24-25, **24** And it came to pass, when they brought out those kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him, Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings. And they came near, and put

their feet upon the necks of them. 25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.

The purpose of this ceremony was to give Israel assurance and confidence, and it is also designed to give us assurance and confidence that we will overcome these five evil kings. The battle is not over, but the victory has been assured. The battle will be over only on the last day. In the meantime, put your feet on their necks. You shall be victorious over them. If God be for us, who can be against us? God has predestined them to be defeated by the saints.

Now we need to ask ourselves if we need to view the Old Testament through New Testament eyes. Is this not the proper way of studying the Old Testament? How do we harmonize the Old Testament with the New Testament anyway? We must make sure that we stay within the New Testament guidelines, to prevent that we will go astray. And so, let us consider this passage again:

- Through New Testament Eyes (Josh 10:1-27)

All this makes an interesting story. The history of the nation of Israel is interesting, but we need to ask ourselves, why did the Lord put these stories in the Bible? If we find it interesting of what came to pass a long long time ago in a land far far away to a nation that is not even remotely connected to our nation, then in fact we have studied the Bible in a carnal way, like another book. It has not touched our hearts, and it is disconnected from our feelings and emotions. If we cannot apply it to our daily life, if we cannot apply it to our own interests, then God would have missed His purpose of touching our soul. What was God's purpose with all these historical incidents? God's purpose was to bring us the Gospel, for the Bible was written so that people may become saved. The Gospel must touch our souls, so that we can hear of the grace and the mercy of God for wicked mankind. God's great mercy for Gibeon unfolds in Josh 10:1-14. We can see that. Then when we read Josh 10:16-27 we wonder: what has this story to do with the Gospel? Is it not amazing, as soon as God's mercy came upon Gibeon in Josh 9, these five kings showed up. We can sense that these are enemies of the cross. But the clincher comes in verse 27, where we read in Josh 10:27, and it came to pass at the time of the going down of the sun, that Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave's mouth, which remain until this very day. Today there are no caves in Israel which could be identified as such. Almost 3500 years have passed, and the entire land has been turned over by enemy armies many times, so that these artifacts have almost all been destroyed. But God does not lie. And thus we

understand that these words, until this very day must be fulfilled through some spiritual meaning. And thus we start looking for the spiritual meaning. Let us consider this for a moment:

- Christ in the Old Testament (2Pet 1:21, Matt 13:34, Heb 10:7, John 5:39, Luke 24:27,44)

Please turn in your Bibles to the Gospel According to Matthew, Matt 13:34 (2X). Who wrote the Old Testament? God dictated the Old Testament to holy men of old, just like He did when God dictated the New Testament to holy men of old (2Pet 1:21). The same God dictated both parts to holy men of old. We should not expect a change in purpose or a change in Gospel message between the two Testaments. It is all together One Book. Now we know that in the four narrative Gospels the Lord Jesus spoke in parables. And here we read in Matt 13:34, all these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: Did we see that right? The Lord Jesus taught to the untrained multitudes the doctrines of grace in parables. He did not say, well, this is too difficult for beginners, so I am going to wait until later, until the apostle Paul comes on the scene. Immediately in the first two parables of Matt 13 Jesus spoke of election and predestination. He gives us the example that we can teach our children these principles, for they also can understand it without any problems. Moreover we read in Matt 13:34, without a parable spake he not unto them: Does this not mean that we must expect many more parables in the Bible than our churches have made us believe? And indeed, when we turn to the Prophecies of Isaiah and Zechariah almost every verse is a parable. Does this not mean that we must be able to see Christ in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament? Let us use the New Testament as a stepping stone to the OT.

Please turn to the Epistle to the Hebrews, Heb 10:7 (2X). God tells us here that God was not pleased with the burnt offerings and sacrifices of the Old Testament ceremonial law. They were all shadows of good things to come, but it was finally Christ who was pleasing to God. We read in Heb 10:7, When said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Christ said; in the volume of the Book it is written of Me. Does this not mean that the Lord Jesus Christ must be seen throughout the Old Testament in types and figures? God does not lie.

Please turn now to the Gospel According to John, John 5:39 (2X). The Lord Jesus is here debating with the unbelieving Jews who tried to kill Him because He healed a man on the Sabbath. They value Moses more than they value Christ. The Lord Jesus tells them in John 5:39, search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. You search the Scriptures for the law of Moses, but what you find there actually testifies of Me. Does this not mean that the Lord Jesus Christ must be seen throughout the Old Testament? God does not lie.

Please turn now to the Gospel According to Luke, Luke 24:27 (2X). After His resurrection the Lord Jesus appeared to the two disciples who were walking to Emmaus, and He reprimanded them for being slow to believe the report that the women, and Peter, and John brought of His resurrection. Then we read in Luke 24:27, and beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.³ Do we recognize what this means? Moses and all the prophets refers to the entire Old Testament. Does this not mean that the Lord Jesus Christ must be seen throughout the entire Old Testament in types and figures? Should we not be looking for types and figures in the Old Testament and see Christ there? God does not lie.

Please turn in the same chapter of Luke 24 to verse 44. The Lord Jesus appeared to ten of His disciples and the two who have returned from Emmaus. Then the Lord said to them in Luke 24:44,

Luke 24:44, and he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.³ The law of Moses, and the prophets, and the psalms, refers to the entire Old Testament. Does this not mean that the Lord Jesus Christ must be seen throughout the entire Old Testament in types and figures? God does not lie.

Please turn again to Josh 10:26 (2X). And so, what do we see in Josh 10:26-27?

#3. Five Accursed Kings (Col 2:15, Josh 10:26-27, Deut 21:22-23, Gal 3:13, Eph 2:3)

We have seen how Josh 10:12-14 has reference to the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, where the enemies of Christ were soundly defeated at the cross, for we can read in Col 2:15, *And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*³ These five kings represent enemies of the cross. Therefore they are five accursed kings. Josh 10:26-27,

Josh 10:26-27, 26 And afterward Joshua smote them, and slew them, and hanged them on five trees: and they were hanging upon the trees until the evening. 27 And it came to pass at the time of the going down of the sun, *that* Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave's mouth, *which remain until this very day.*³

They were already defeated foes, like the enemies at the cross, destined for the second death. Then Joshua killed those enemies and they were hanged on five separate trees. It means they were separately and individually accursed of God. We read in Deut 21:22-23,

Deut 21:22-23, *And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree: 23 His body shall not*

remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged *is* accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee *for* an inheritance.³

God applied this principle when the Lord Jesus Christ was hanging on the cross, which was cut out of a tree. We read in Gal 3:13, Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:³We were deserving that curse of God, but Christ took the curse of God in our place, because the guilt of our sins was imputed to His account, and He could not go back to heaven unless that guilt was wiped from His account. To be under the curse of God means to be under the wrath of God; not just to be by nature children of the wrath of God like in Eph 2:3, but to be actually under the wrath of God. If this refers to people who are on this side of Judgment Day, it means that they are in a condition of being under the wrath of God; it is the condition of being in hell. If it refers to people on the other side of Judgment Day, it means that they are literally in a place called hell, which means to be in a place under the wrath of God. Presently hell is still empty. Now here in Josh 10:26 we read that these five kings were under the curse of God like the Lord Jesus was under the curse of God. It does not mean that these five kings were representing Christ. These were five wicked kings, whereas Christ was the unspotted Lamb of God. But since Christ was accursed of God it means that Christ suffered the equivalent of an eternity in hell while He hung on the cross. But where were these five kings hiding? They were hiding in a cave at Makkedah. And what is the meaning of Makkedah? Makkedah means κ sheepfold ð a place where shepherds and their sheep are resting. Do we remember the title of this sermon? The title is, **«Eu>Five Enemies in Our LifeX/b>». These five kings represent our enemies which are hiding in our life, and they are hiding in the church. It is fatal to have these five kings stay around. We have to deal with them like Joshua did: Kill them. They are already defeated now, for Christ defeated them at the cross, but they are not dead yet. The final blow will come at the end of the world. To really discover the nature of these five enemies in our life we have to look a little closer at their Hebrew names that God is using here. We have already seen that these enemies are hiding in the sheepfold. What are these kings bringing with them into the fold? It is clear that God is warning us for something. And then we will discover why these five kings remain cursed until this very day.**

- **Remain Cursed Until This Very Day (Josh 10:27, Heb 7:2, Num 13:22, Isa 14:12, 2Cor 11:14, Isa 25:8, John 16:33, Rom 6:14, Heb 2:14, Gal 3:13)**

Josh 10:27 And it came to pass at the time of the going down of the sun, *that* Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave ð mouth, *which remain until this very day.***³**

The first one is Adonizedek, which means ðord of Justice ÿ What a lofty name for a heathen king! Moreover, he is also king of Jerusalem, which is derived from Yarah + Shalam which means teaching of peace. When we look at these impressive names, we are reminded of another

person with a similar name: Melchizedek, who is described in Heb 7:2 as King of Righteousness and King of Peace who is no one else than the Lord Jesus Christ. But wait, Adonizedek is a wicked heathen king. He is the counterfeit of Melchizedek. Melchizedek brings life through mercy and grace, which means a life of peace with God. Adonizedek brings only justice without mercy. His justice requires Death. His kingdom teaches men to have peace with God through the obedience of the law. We know that such a teaching means death for sure! Remarkably, the Jerusalem that now is, is also teaching peace through the obedience of the Law. This is the gospel of Satan. Satan is the accuser of the brethren, for he demands that they be sent to hell for violating the law of God.

The second one is Hoham, king of Hebron. The name Hoham means חָהָם Jehovah impels. That can mean either good or bad, for Satan is also impelled by God to do the evil that he delights in. The other thing that is known about this heathen king is that he is the king of Hebron, and Hebron means חֶבְרוֹן association, or Society. In other words, Hebron is a type of The world. To underscore this, let me refer to a mysterious verse we find in Num 13:22: Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt. Egypt typifies the world that is under the power of Satan. Zoan was one of the main capitals of Egypt at that time. In fact, this was the capital that was best known to the children of Israel, because it is located in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were living in Egypt. God says: Before Zoan was being built, Hebron already existed. In other words, before Zoan as a type of the world came into being, Hebron as a type of the world already existed. But Hebron was not being Judged, because the iniquity of the Amorites was not yet full.

What Adonizedek brought into the sheepfold was a teaching that brought Death. What Hoham brought into the sheepfold was The World. He brings all kinds of worldly things into the congregation.

The third king is Piram, which name means פִּירָם or Funning wild. He is the king of Jarmuth, which means יָרְמוּת elevation, or a height. Piram typifies Sin. Piram is bringing new things into the congregation, but he is out of control. Those who like to be in Piram's kingdom feel that they are king of the heights. That is exactly what Satan promised the woman: you will be like God.

The fourth king is Japhia. Japhia means bright and shining. What is so remarkable about bright and shining for a heathen king? He is like an angel of light! That can only be true if he is representing Lucifer, or Satan, as we read in Isa 14:12! Or we read in 2Cor 11:14, and no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. What is he bringing into the sheepfold? He brings Satan himself. Moreover he is king of Lachish, which means לַחִישׁ invincible. He thinks his kingdom is invincible. He makes people believe that their church is invincible. Did not the

Lord Jesus says, 'I will build My church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' Of course people forget that this promise does not apply if their church is no longer the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The fifth king is Debir, which name means κ Sanctuary.³ What is he a sanctuary of? He is king of Eglon, which means half-like. Debir is ruling over calf-like individuals, which means he rules over those who are sacrifices in the Old Testament law. Is there salvation in obeying the Old Testament law? No! Debir represents the Curse of the Law.

Let us now summarize what we have found. Five enemies were conquered for us by Christ at the cross. They are Death, (Isa 25:8), the World, (John 16:33), Sin, (Rom 6:14), Satan, (Heb 2:14), and the Curse of the Law (Gal 3:13). These are the kings that are under the curse of God until this very day. These are five evil kings who must be rooted out of our life; these five kings must be killed. That is easier said than done. Now we must learn to apply these rules that we have discovered.

- Life After Death (Eph 1:4, Rom 6:4-8, 7:4-6, 8:28-30, Heb 2:15, Psalm 103:12, Isa 25:8, 1Cor 15:55, 1John 2:15-17, Matt 1:21, Rom 6:14, Heb 2:14, 6:6, Rom 4:8, John 8:36, Josh 10:27)

If we belong to Christ because we were placed in Him before the foundation of the world as we read in Eph 1:4, and God gave us the faith to believe this, then we have become Born Again at some point in our life. What does that mean? First of all, it means that God has done a work of regeneration in our soul, totally undeserved, totally a free gift of His grace. It means then that God has given us the understanding from Rom 6, 7 and 8 that we have been crucified with Christ when He was crucified; we have died with Christ when He died; we have been buried with Christ when He was buried; we have been raised with Christ when He was raised from the dead; we have ascended with Christ into heaven when He ascended; we are presently seated with Christ on the right hand of the Father from the time that He was seated there; we are presently reigning with Christ from the time that He is reigning over all creation; and we have been glorified with Christ from the time of His glorification after He completed His atonement for our sins. All this took place during and after His cross experience.

But now let us apply all this to our daily life. When we were Born Again we were born as baby Christians, and we have to be instructed how to live our daily life. These are not new things, for Christ has already paid at the cross for all these honors and powers that He now bestows upon us. First of all we do not fear Death any more, for God said in Heb 2:15 that we are delivered from this bondage of fear of death. We do not fear physical death, for our physical death is no longer seen as a penalty for sin, for all our sins have been paid and have been removed from us as far as the east is from the west (Psalm 103:12). For us physical death is now just a stepping stone into glorious eternity. Death has been swallowed up in victory (Isa 25:8). ♪ death, where

is thy sting? O grave (hades), where is thy victory?³(1Cor 15:55). We might as well say, p hell, where is thy victory? for the Greek word @ades should be translated @ell when we speak of the souls of men. If Christ has paid for all my sins then hell has no more power over me. And thus, not only do we not fear physical death, but we also do not fear the second death, for if we have experienced the first resurrection, then the second death has no power over us. And so, we are presently living a glorious joyful life, full of gratitude of what Christ has done for us, for presently we live for Christ, and to die is only gain.

Secondly, the World has become an enemy in our new life in Christ. Before we were Born Again we were happy living in worldly pleasures. Let us face it squarely, sin is exciting and it gives us great pleasure. In these days of the Internet sin is more available than ever, and it pulls our young people into the arms of the devil more than ever. They reason within themselves that the Internet can do more to fulfill their pleasures in the here and now than Christ can, and so they are drawn to worship the Internet rather than Christ. After we have become Born Again we realize that worldly pleasures have to go. This evil king is harder to kill than any other one. It takes us a long time to repent from the sins that we were engaged in from our youth. But from the progress in our life we can recognize the work of the Lord in our hearts. And this gives us hope, for if Christ be with us, who can be against us?

1John 2:15-17, **15** Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. **17** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.³

No one can be saved without repentance, and thus we realize that the World has to go.

Thirdly, Sin is a chief enemy which hides in many nooks and crannies of our life. This is a wicked king which has taken hold of many areas of our life. God said in Matt 1:21, Thou shalt call Him Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins.³We often delight in saying that Jesus has saved us from the penalty of hell, because He has saved us from our sins. But look now at our present life. Has the Lord Jesus indeed delivered us from the power of sin? Has He taken the desire of sin away from us? And is this also what we strive to do? Do we pray that God will give us the strength to repent and move away from sin in our life, and do we realize that only the grace of God is able to do that? You see, when God says in Rom 6:14, 'or sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace³God says that you are under grace because God has removed the power of sin over you. If we really have died to the law, if we really are living by the grace of God, then sin shall not have dominion over us, for God has removed the power of sin away from us. And through this experience we realize that sin was hiding in many areas of our life, especially in our pride.

Fourthly, the wicked king **Satan** has to be moved out of our life. Satan has already been defeated at the cross, for God says in Heb 2:14, 'orasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.3Does Satan still have any foothold in our life? Many of our friends and acquaintances who have introduced us to sinful practices, such as attend shows and other events that are offensive to God, must be removed out of our life. This includes false gospels. For example, do we have friends who have introduced us to Roman Catholic worship services? The Heidelberg Catechism describes them as kn accursed idolatry.3Let us investigate this matter and see if we would agree with the Heidelberg Catechism. We read in Heb 6:6, Heb 6:6, seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame.3Yes, this is what they believe when they crucify Christ again and again in their Lord's Supper service. Not only the Roman Catholic services are identified with abominations before the Lord, also many other practices are gradually revealed as evil. Therefore we must ask the Lord to give us wisdom and discernment that we may learn what is evil and what is good. But watch out before we are going on a witch-hunt. The devil is waiting for us to make one mistake.

Fifthly, **the Curse of the Law** has been lifted for those who are in Christ. Since we have died with Christ and have died to the law in AD 33, and have been raised with Christ in AD 33, there is no more sin that can be charged to our account. God says in Rom 4:8, *Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.*3It is important to realize this freedom that we have in Christ. The Lord Jesus said in John 8:36; *if the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.*3You know, we have a hymn where the refrain goes as follows: *Trust and obey, for there is no other way to be saved.*3Wait a minute, that is not how the refrain goes. It actually says it this way: *Trust and obey, for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus.*3We should thank the Lord for giving us hymn writers who know the Gospel, for the Gospel of Christ does not say that we are saved if we trust and obey the law of God. We are saved by God's grace alone, and not by our work of obeying the law. The law has served the purpose of leading us to seek for a merciful Redeemer. But once we have found this merciful Redeemer the law can no longer condemn us, because **the Curse of the Law** has been lifted.

These five evil kings, these five enemies of the cross must be killed. These five enemies in our life must be removed forever, for these five kings have been cursed even until this very day. But we only learn of these five enemies of the cross after we have been Born Again, for only then will the Lord reveal them to us. Fighting these enemies and removing them out of our life is the normal Christian life. And that is why we read in Josh 10:27, *Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, gwhich remain until this very day.*

They were cast in the same cave at Makkedah. What does that cave represent? It is a synonym for the grave. They were guarded by great stones. What do those stones represent? They are waiting for

those bodies to be resurrected on the last day. Those stones represent the saints, who will judge the world with Christ on Judgment day.

Now we can understand why these evil kings were hanged on five separate trees. They were separately accursed by God. These represent five separate issues that have to be worked on in the process of our sanctification. Who works on these issues to ban them out of our life? God does all the work, and He gives us the grace to recognize these sins, and then He gives us the praise for having removed them. But actually, it is God who did all the work. What an incredibly merciful God. How can we not be grateful for all these gifts? Let us praise Him for His constant care for our soul.

AMEN. Let us turn to the Lord in prayer.