

Joshua 9-10

Gibeonites heard the story and saw the evidence. (9:3, 9-10)

Immediately <u>received</u> the truth and <u>responded</u> with actions.

no delay... hostility... stubbornness... hesitancy... excuses

Knowing they were targeted and would be destroyed (9:24), they used deception and humility (9:8, 25) to seek peace and friendship.

Israelites were fooled because they did not take time to pray and seek God's leading. (9:14)

After the ruse was discovered, the Gibeonites were assigned work detail, servants of the Israelites. But the friendship held, and Israel considered them an ally.

(10:1-15)

God honored this treaty and many years later demanded punishment for the descendants of King Saul, who had violated it.

(11 Sam. 21:1-6)

Deception often pay <u>TEMPORARILY</u>, but is never the best answer <u>ULTIMAELY</u>.

Deception may buy **safety**, but not **security**.

Integrity always pay <u>ULTIMATELY</u> though it is sometimes costly in the <u>short run</u>.

Admit mistakes. But honor <u>God</u> over <u>human</u> opinion.

When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it. Do not let your mouth lead you into sin. And do not protest to the temple messenger, "My vow was a mistake." Why should God be angry at what you say and destroy the work of your hands? Much dreaming and many words are meaningless. Therefore, stand in awe of God.

GIANTS!

- Anakim (Num. 13:26:23)
- Emim/Zuzim (Deut. 2:8-11, 20-21)
- Rephaim (Duet. 2:11, 20-22, 3:11-13, Josh 12:4, 13:12)

 Descendants of Rapha... Goliath was one of this clan. The **PRIZE** of the land vs. the **SIZE** of the opponent (Numbers 13-14)

CHOICE: <u>Intimidation</u> or <u>Trust</u>.