

Key Verse

Isa. 43:5

Isaiah 43:5

Fear not:
for I am
with thee.

Lesson

9



Joshua 10:1-43

Joshua's LONG DAY

IS A DAY
MISSING
OUT OF TIME?

Sun and moon
stand still

God sent a hailstorm. More were killed by hail than killed by Israel's men.

GOD PUTS HIS OMNIPOTENCE BEHIND HIS COMMANDS.

"Three stupendous miracles helped Joshua conquer the land: Jordan divided, Jericho's fall and the staying of the sun."
—H. Halley

Scripture to read before next study

Joshua 11-15

Joyful Life® A Beka Book® • Pensacola, FL 32522-7900
an affiliate of PENSACOLA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE®
74667 • ©mmvii Pensacola Christian College • Not to be reproduced.

And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies... the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day. 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.

—Josh. 10:13, 14

MISSING A DAY IN TIME ???

In the first half of the 20th century, Harry Rimmer was a popular lecturer at public universities across America. In his book *Harmony of Science and Scripture*, he included the following about Joshua's long day.

"Sir Edwin Ball, a British astronomer, found that 24 hrs. had been lost of our solar time. Where did that go? How did it happen?"

"There is a place the answer is found, which is tested by scientists of standing. A book by Prof. C. A. Totton of Yale University, written in 1890, establishes the case beyond a shadow of doubt. He wrote of a fellow professor and accomplished astronomer who made the strange discovery that the earth was 24 hours off schedule. That is, 24 hours had been lost out of time.

"In discussing this point with astronomy professors, Professor Totton challenged them to investigate the inspiration of the Bible and said, 'You do not believe the Bible to be the word of God, and I do. Here is an opportunity to prove whether or not the Bible is inspired. Just read as far as need be and see if the Bible can account for your missing time.'

"One astronomer accepted the challenge and began to read. Some time later when the two met on campus, Totton asked if he had proved the question to his satisfaction. His colleague replied, 'I believe I have definitely proved that

CAN THAT BE ???

the Bible is not the word of God. In Josh. 10, I found the missing 24 hours accounted for, then I went back and checked up on the figures and found that in the time of Joshua there was only 23 hrs. and 20 min. lost. If the Bible made a mistake of 40 min., it is not the Book of God.'

"Totton said, 'You are right, in part, but does the Bible say that a whole day was lost at the time of Joshua?' They looked, and the text said about the space of a whole day. The word '**about**' changed the situation.

"The astronomer read again til he came to Isa. 38 —about King Hezekiah who was sick to death. In response to Hezekiah's prayer, God promised to add 15 yrs. to his life and confirmed His promise with a sign. He told Hezekiah to go out in the court and look at the **sun dial** of Ahaz and said 'I will make the **shadow** of the **sun dial back up 10 degrees.**' The king looked, and while he looked, the shadow turned backward 10 degrees, of which 10 degrees had already gone down.

"This settled the case, for 10 degrees on the sun dial is 40 minutes on the face of the clock.

"The accuracy of scripture was established to the satisfaction of this exacting critic. When the astronomer found a day of missing time accounted for, he laid down the Bible and worshiped saying, 'Lord, I believe.'"

Harmony of Science and Scripture
—Harry Rimmer, adapted