

## March 26 Questions

- 1) The Gibeonites ( \_\_\_\_\_ of Gibeon) lived about \_\_\_\_\_ miles southwest of Ai, and word of the destruction of Jericho and Ai reached them quickly. Instead of marching out to battle, they decided that \_\_\_\_\_ was the better part of valor. They came to Joshua and asked to make a covenant with Israel. Their tactic has much to teach us about how to avoid being deceived: (1) We should beware of those who \_\_\_\_\_ us or appeal to our sense of vanity (Josh 9:8); (2) We should not \_\_\_\_\_ that everyone who sounds spiritual or professes godliness is genuine (Josh 9:9); (3) We should guard against our tendency to trust what we can \_\_\_\_\_ and touch (Josh 9:12–13). Joshua and the other leaders \_\_\_\_\_ their provisions, “but did not ask \_\_\_\_\_ from the LORD” (Josh 9:14). This teaches us that we will face decisions where we can examine the facts, carefully consider our options, consult godly friends, search the Scriptures (cf. Deut 20:10–15), and yet make a tragic mistake unless we \_\_\_\_\_ ask God for guidance. Such decisions are intended to \_\_\_\_\_ our commitment to put God first in all things. Joshua waged war for \_\_\_\_\_ against the kings of the land, and God \_\_\_\_\_ the Canaanites’ hearts so they would fight Joshua rather than surrender (Josh 11:20). This was in keeping with God’s decision to wipe them out, for they had not repented and their sin was now \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Gen 15:16). This also suggests that the Hivites of Gibeon, one of the ethnic groups chosen for destruction (Deut 20:16–17), were *not* hardened, leaving them free to seek peace, even if through deception (Josh 11:19). This shows that God is \_\_\_\_\_, often sparing sinners until there is no hope of repentance.