

THE JOSHUA JOSHUA FIVE

Part 3 • October 4, 2026 | Pastor Jason Smotherman

GIVE ME MORE DAYLIGHT

JOSHUA 10:8–14 (ESV)

⁸The Lord said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you."

⁹After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise. ¹⁰The Lord threw them into confusion before Israel, so Joshua and the Israelites defeated them completely at Gibeon. Israel pursued them along the road going up to Beth Horon and cut them down all the way to Azekah and Makkedah. ¹¹As they fled before Israel on the road down from Beth Horon to Azekah, the Lord hurled large hailstones down on them, and more of them died from the hail than were killed by the swords of the Israelites.

¹²On the day the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the Lord in the presence of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon." ¹³So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar.

The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. ¹⁴There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the Lord listened to a human being. Surely the Lord was fighting for Israel!

So Joshua prays one of the most audacious prayers in Scripture:

JOSHUA 10:12 (KJV)

Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon

Gibeon was associated with an elevated or hill place, and later in Israel's history it would become known as a significant high place.

Throughout Israel's later history, the high places repeatedly became places where things were allowed to remain that should have been removed.

Israel could be living in the Promised Land while still tolerating things that competed with complete devotion to God. Unbelief is one of the High Places.

1. UNBELIEF SAYS, DO IT FOR ME, FAITH SAYS, GIVE ME MORE DAYLIGHT.

Notice: Joshua doesn't ask God to eliminate his responsibility. He asks God to increase his opportunity. God doesn't make the enemy disappear.

God holds the sun while Joshua keeps fighting.

Sometimes we're asking God to do what He's called us to do.

Faith says: God I am not asking you to do my Job, being obedient, I am asking for you the protect the atmosphere while I do my Job.

The miracle didn't replace Joshua's obedience.

The miracle empowered Joshua's obedience.

Don't ask God for more daylight if you're wasting the daylight He's already given you.

2. UNBELIEF LOOKS AT WHAT IS SETTING.

FAITH SEES WHAT STILL NEEDS TO BE DONE.

Everybody could see the sun going down.

The gift of problem pointer outer has and never will be a Spiritual gift, but it a litmus test to prove you unbelief.

Unbelief says: Look how little daylight we have left.

Faith says: Look how much promise we still have left to possess.

Joshua doesn't deny reality. The sun really is setting. Faith doesn't say: The sun isn't setting. Faith says: The sun is setting, but God isn't finished.

Unbelief becomes consumed with what is disappearing.

Faith remains focused on what God said still needs to happen.

Joshua's attention wasn't captured by the ending day because his heart was captured by the unfinished assignment.

What are we allowing a setting sun to convince us is over? If you haven't seen it, ask God to give you more Daylight!

3. UNBELIEF SETTLES FOR HALF-ACHIEVED PROMISES.

FAITH TAKES GOD AT HIS WORD.

Joshua could have stopped and still had a testimony.

God had confused the enemy. God had sent hailstones.

Israel had experienced victory.

Joshua could have said: That's good enough.

But faith refuses to turn partial possession into complete fulfillment.

God said: I have delivered them into thine hand. Joshua took God at His Word.

If God said delivered, Joshua wasn't satisfied with almost delivered.

If God said victory, Joshua wasn't satisfied with partial victory.

If God said possess, Joshua wasn't satisfied with visit.

There is a difference between experiencing some of what God promised and possessing what God promised.

Joshua 10:8 makes Joshua 10:12 possible.

God said it.

Joshua believed it.

Joshua prayed according to it.

GIVE ME MORE DAYLIGHT

Maybe the prayer isn't: God, make this easier.

Maybe the prayer is: God, give me enough daylight to finish.

Give me enough strength to finish. Enough grace to finish. Enough resources to finish. Enough opportunity to finish. Enough favor to finish.

I refuse to interpret a setting sun as permission to settle for an unfinished promise.

Unbelief says: "Do it for me."

Faith says: "Give me more daylight."

Unbelief says: "Look what's setting."

Faith says: "Look what's still unfinished."

Unbelief says: "This is good enough."

Faith says: "God said more than this."

If God said the battle is ours, don't stop fighting because the sun is setting. Ask God for more daylight.

NOTES:

*Dig deeper into The Book of Joshua with this Bible Study Guide. Also sign up at parkwaycc.com/newsletter. Select **"General (Newsletter + Updates)"** to get notified of additional content.*

