

The background of the entire image is a sepia-toned photograph of a mountain range. The mountains are layered, with some peaks in the foreground and others receding into the distance. The overall tone is warm and historical.

# VICTORY OVER DECEPTION

CHICAGO TABERNACLE

TAKING NEW GROUND



Now when all the kings west of the Jordan heard about these things—the kings in the hill country, in the western foothills, and along the entire coast of the Mediterranean Sea as far as Lebanon (the kings of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites)—they came together to wage war against Joshua and Israel.

However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, they resorted to a ruse: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended. They put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and moldy. Then they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the Israelites, “We have come from a distant country; make a treaty with us.”

Joshua 9:1-21

TAKING NEW GROUND



The Israelites said to the Hivites, “But perhaps you live near us, so how can we make a treaty with you?”

“We are your servants,” they said to Joshua.

But Joshua asked, “Who are you and where do you come from?”

They answered: “Your servants have come from a very distant country because of the fame of the Lord your God. For we have heard reports of him: all that he did in Egypt, and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan—Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth. And our elders and all those living in our country said to us, ‘Take provisions for your journey; go and meet them and say to them, “We are your servants; make a treaty with us.”’”

Joshua 9:1-21

**TAKING NEW GROUND**



This bread of ours was warm when we packed it at home on the day we left to come to you. But now see how dry and moldy it is. And these wineskins that we filled were new, but see how cracked they are. And our clothes and sandals are worn out by the very long journey.”

The Israelites sampled their provisions but did not inquire of the Lord.

Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.

Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbors, living near them. So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim. But the Israelites did not attack them, because the leaders of the assembly had sworn an oath to them by the Lord, the God of Israel.

Joshua 9:1-21

**TAKING NEW GROUND**



The whole assembly grumbled against the leaders, but all the leaders answered, “We have given them our oath by the Lord, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now. This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that God’s wrath will not fall on us for breaking the oath we swore to them.” They continued, “Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers in the service of the whole assembly.” So the leaders’ promise to them was kept.

Joshua 9:1-21

TAKING NEW GROUND



The Israelites sampled their provisions **but did not inquire of the Lord.**  
Joshua 9:14 (NIV)

And the men took of their victuals, and **asked not *counsel* at the mouth of the Lord.**  
Joshua 9:14 (KJV)

TAKING NEW GROUND



A sepia-toned photograph of a mountain range, with the peaks and ridges receding into the distance. The image has a warm, brownish-orange hue. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text "There is a Biblical way to have victory over deception." in a white, serif font.

There is a Biblical way to have victory over deception.

TAKING NEW GROUND





## To Have Victory Over Deception We Must:

1. Stay Humble
2. Stay “Sense-itive”
3. Stay Close

TAKING NEW GROUND



## **Stay Humble**

Then they told him this story: “We have come from a very distant land, sir, because we have heard of the Lord your God. We have heard about everything that he did in Egypt and what he did to the two Amorite kings east of the Jordan: King Sihon of Heshbon and King Og of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth.

Joshua 9:9-11





## **Stay Humble**

The Devil will flatter the ego in order to keep the Christian from the stronghold-demolishing platform of humility.

**TAKING NEW GROUND**



## **Stay Humble**

...God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble and oppressed. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand... Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1 Peter 5:5-6, 8



## **Stay Humble**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know. Remember the Lord in everything you do, and he will show you the right way. Never let yourself think that you are wiser than you are; simply obey the Lord and refuse to do wrong.

Proverbs 3:5-7 GNT





## Stay “Sense-itive”

**The Israelites sampled their provisions** but did not inquire of the Lord.

Joshua 9:14

TAKING NEW GROUND





## Stay “Sense-itive”

The battle for maturity is the battle of the senses.

TAKING NEW GROUND



## **Stay “Sense-itive”**

Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:13-14





## Stay Close

The Israelites sampled their provisions **but did not inquire of the Lord.**  
Joshua 9:14

TAKING NEW GROUND






## Stay Close

We never outgrow the altar. The more victorious we are, the closer we need to be.

TAKING NEW GROUND





**Stay Close**  
**Stay Close...ALWAYS.**

**TAKING NEW GROUND**