

# Joshua 10:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.

## Analysis

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**All these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time**—The phrase "at one time" (pa'am 'echad, פָּעַם אֶחָד) emphasizes the swift, unified nature of this southern campaign. Unlike the forty years of wilderness wandering, when obedience replaced disobedience, conquest replaced defeat. Multiple Canaanite city-states fell in rapid succession because of divine intervention, not merely military superiority.

**Because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel**—This theological explanation is central: YHWH Elohei Yisrael lacham l'Yisrael (יהָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לָחַם לְיִשְׂרָאֵל). The verb lacham (לָחַם) means "to fight, to wage war." Israel's God was not a passive deity but an active warrior who fought for His people. This echoes Exodus 14:14 ("The LORD shall fight for you") and anticipates the New Covenant reality that Christ has won the victory and fights for His church (Romans 8:31-37).

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern warfare typically involved lengthy sieges and protracted campaigns. The rapid conquest described here was militarily extraordinary, requiring divine intervention to explain. Egyptian records from this period show Canaan divided into numerous city-states, each with its own king, making unified resistance difficult but conquest of all simultaneously nearly impossible without supernatural aid.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does recognizing that 'the LORD fought for Israel' change your perspective on battles you face?
2. What is the relationship between human responsibility (Joshua's military leadership) and divine sovereignty (God fighting for Israel)?
3. In what ways does Christ fight for believers today in spiritual warfare?

## Interlinear Text

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לְכָל אֶת־הַמֶּלֶךְ־יְמִינָה  
H853 H3605 And all these kings  
H4428

לְכָל אֶת־בָּא־לָה  
H428 H853 and their land  
H776

לִישְׁרָאֵל: אֱלֹהִים יְהוָה  
did Joshua time at one because the LORD  
H3091 H6471 H259 H3588 H3068 H430

for God for Israel  
H3920 H3478

לִישְׁרָאֵל: נָלַץ  
fought for Israel  
H3898 H3478

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joshua 10:14** (References Lord): 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.

**Psalms 46:7** (References God): The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

**Psalms 80:3** (References God): Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.

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