

Joshua 11:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.

Analysis

All these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom—The verb **pitched** (חָנַה, chanah) means to encamp for battle, indicating a coordinated military strategy. The **waters of Merom** (מֵרֹם, mei merom, 'waters of the heights') refers to the region near modern Meiron in upper Galilee, strategically chosen for chariot warfare on open terrain.

The coalition's unity—**met together** (יָעַד, ya'ad, appointed assembly)—shows the nations' desperate solidarity against God's people. This pattern recurs throughout Scripture: 'The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed' (Psalm 2:2). Human confederacies, regardless of size, cannot thwart divine purposes.

Historical Context

The Waters of Merom campaign (ca. 1220 BC) was Israel's final major conquest battle in Canaan. The location offered the coalition maximum tactical advantage—flat terrain ideal for chariot warfare and easy water access for large armies. Multiple city-states pooled resources in a last-ditch effort to stop Joshua's southern and central campaign momentum.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 – Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do you respond when opposition to God's purposes appears overwhelming and coordinated?
2. What does the enemy's desperate unity reveal about the certainty of God's victory?
3. How does this coalition prefigure the final gathering of nations against Christ in Revelation 19:19?

Interlinear Text

וְיֻכָּלְתִּי	כִּי	מֶלֶךְ	וְיִמְלָכֵן	וְיִמְלָכֵן	וְיִמְלָכֵן
were met together	H3605	And when all these kings	H4428	they came	H935

לְהַלְּטָה מִמְּרֹם עַמּוֹת יְמִינָה אֶל יְמִינָה וְיְמִינָה וְיְמִינָה

ישראל against Israel