

# 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

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**All these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom**—The verb **pitched** (חָנָה, chanah) means to encamp for battle, indicating a coordinated military strategy. The **waters of Merom** (מֵי מְרוֹם, 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

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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

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**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

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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

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וַיָּקָדְדוּ were met together H3259	כָּל H3605	הַמְּלָכִים And when all these kings H4428	הָאֵלֶּה H428	וַיָּבֹאוּ they came H935		
וַיִּסָּבּוּ and pitched H2583	יַחְדָּו together H3162	אֶל H413	מַיִם at the waters H4325	מֵרֹם of Merom H4792	לְהִלָּחֵם to fight H3898	עִם H5973
יִשְׂרָאֵל: against Israel H3478						

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