

## **ALL BY MYSELF**

### **Joshua 9, 10**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- A. Little Critters Books, “All By Myself.”
  - 1. The little critter can do things all by himself.
  - 2. Until, during his day, he realized he could use some help.
- B. From the time the Israelites left Egypt, they were encountering various trials.
  - 1. Each encounter faced, was conquered when advice was sought from God.
    - a. Red Sea, by the Lord’s instruction, Exodus 14.
    - b. Food and water, the Lord’s instruction, Ex. 16 & 17.
    - c. Enemies (Amalekites), Ex. 17.
  - 2. Notice the result when the Israelites took the attitude “I can do it all by myself.”
- C. Do we sometimes take on the same attitude as that of the Israelites?

#### **I. DECEPTION OF THE GIBEONITES. 9:1-13**

- A. Gibeonites Deceive the Israelites.
  - 1. Traveled as an envoy to the Israelites.
  - 2. Created the deception as from a distant land.
    - a. Worn out sacks and wineskins.
    - b. Worn out sandals and clothes.
    - c. Dry and crumbly bread.
  - 3. Created belief by adding their story.
- B. The World Constantly Striving to Deceive Us.
  - 1. The world comes in little by little.
    - a. Creating doubt: Is there really a God? Salvation in a man?
    - b. The temptation of Eve – doubt in God, Gen. 3:5; John 8:44.
    - c. “I know what is best”, Proverbs 14:12.
  - 2. Jesus warned His apostles of this deception. Matthew 7:15
  - 3. Other warnings to us [apostle Paul]:
    - a. Acts 20:29-30
    - b. Ephesians 4:14
    - c. Colossians 3:2
    - d. 2 Corinthians 11:14

#### **II. ACTION WITHOUT COUNSEL.**

- A. Decision Made Without God’s Counsel.
  - 1. Joshua 9:14-15
  - 2. Should bring decision to God.
  - 3. God has guided thus far.
    - a. Crossing the Jordan.
    - b. Defeating Jericho and Ai.
- B. Allow God To Be Our Guide.
  - 1. Encouraged to do the will of God.
    - a. Ephesians 5:17
    - b. Romans 12:2
    - c. Hebrews 5:14
  - 2. How to know God’s will.
    - a. Psalm 119:11
    - b. 2 Timothy 2:15

### **III. I CAN DO IT ALL BY MYSELF.**

- A. Israelites Felt They Could Make the Right Decision.
  - 1. They put themselves as judges.
  - 2. They “knew” what God would do.
    - a. Cain “knew” God would accept his sacrifice.
    - b. Nadab and Abihu “knew” God’s plan for fire and sacrifice.
    - c. Jonah “knew” the outcome of Ninevah.
- B. Have We Become Too Invincible?
  - 1. Too comfortable as to “knowing” God’s will? Luke 18:10-14
  - 2. Paul had to be humbled. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
  - 3. Humble ourselves. James 4:10

### **CLOSING**

- 1. I can save myself.
  - a. “I believe...”
  - b. But is it an obedient faith?
- 2. Saved by the grace of God. Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3:23-24
- 3. Salvation through the saving grace of God.