

AI-generated. These interlinears were produced by a large language model (Claude). Each chapter is structurally validated and self-reviewed, but the Greek text, parsing, syntactic, semantic-force, and lexical analysis are *not* human-verified — useful for study and orientation, not a substitute for a critical edition, lexicon, or commentary.

GREEK TEXT · TRANSLATION · INTERLINEAR · DISCOURSE STRUCTURE

The Book of Joshua, Chapter 8

ΙΗΣΟΥΣ Η΄

Each verse opens with the running Greek, an English translation, and a **discourse note** (its connective, relation, and role in the argument). Below follows the word-by-word breakdown in six tiers: gloss, case (color), parsing, *syntax*, **semantic force**, and a **|** lexical note.

CASE ■ Nominative ■ Genitive ■ Dative ■ Accusative ■ Vocative ■ Verb (no case) ■ Indeclinable

Discourse notes head each verse: **relation** · connective · clause-flow. Indentation marks prominence — flush-left = main line of argument; indented = supporting / subordinate material.

Theme

The Lord gives Ai to Israel by ambush, then Joshua renews the law on the mountain.

Translation & textual notes

The Greek text of Joshua 8 follows the standard critical text of the Septuagint as established in the Rahlfs–Hanhart edition (Septuaginta, rev. ed. 2006), an ancient and public-domain text; the critical apparatus is not reproduced. The LXX of Joshua is notably shorter than the Masoretic Text, and its versification diverges accordingly: this chapter contains 27 verses but has NO verse 13 and NO verse 26 (the numbering of the reference text runs 1–12, 14–25, 27–29). The shorter Greek omits the MT's military doublets (e.g. the second detachment and the recapitulation at MT 8:12–13) and compresses the ambush instructions. A further structural difference: the Ebal covenant-renewal pericope (MT Josh 8:30–35 —

Joshua's altar of unhewn stones on Mount Gebal/Ebal, the writing of τὸ δευτερονόμιον on the stones, and the public reading of the blessing and the curse before all Israel, fulfilling Deut 27) does NOT stand here in Rahlfs; it is transposed to follow 9:2 (numbered 9:2a–f), so Joshua 8 in the LXX closes with the hanging and burial of the king of Ai. The chapter narrates the capture of Ai (Γαι) by ambush (ἔνεδρον): YHWH reassures Joshua (μὴ φοβηθῆς), promising the king and land of Ai into his hands as Jericho was given (v.2); Joshua sets an ambush west of the city while feigning a retreat with the main force (vv.3–12); the king of Ai sallies out in pursuit (v.14), the ambush fires the city (vv.18–19), and Israel turns and annihilates the men of Ai between the two forces (vv.20–22); the king is taken alive (v.23), the whole population put to the sword (vv.24–25), only the livestock and spoil taken as plunder by divine sanction (v.27, κατὰ πρόσταγμα κυρίου); the city is burned to a perpetual mound (χῶμα ἀοίκητον εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, v.28); and the king is hanged on a tree (ἐκρέμασεν ἐπὶ ξύλου) and at sunset taken down and buried under a heap of stones (v.29) — a deliberate enactment of the law of Deut 21:22–23 (a hanged body not to remain on the tree overnight). κύριος throughout renders the Tetragrammaton יהוה.

Discourse structure of the chapter

A · 8:1–2

Divine command: take Ai by ambush as Jericho was taken

YHWH addresses Joshua with the reassurance formula μὴ φοβηθῆς μηδὲ δειλιάσης ('do not fear nor be cowardly') and the gift-formula ἰδοὺ δέδωκα εἰς τὰς χεῖράς σου ('behold, I have given into your hands') the king and land of Ai (v.1). Ai is to be treated ὃν τρόπον ('in the manner') Jericho was — under the ban — but here the livestock and spoil may be taken as plunder for Israel, and an ambush (ἔνεδρον) is to be set behind the city (v.2).

B · 8:3–12

Joshua deploys the ambush and the main force

Joshua sends thirty thousand picked warriors by night to lie in ambush behind the city (vv.3–4), planning a feigned retreat that will draw the men of Ai out so the ambush can seize the empty, open city and fire it (vv.5–8). The ambush is set between Bethel and Ai, to the west (v.9); Joshua rises early, musters the people, and goes up with the elders, the main force taking position east of the city while the ambush lies to the west (vv.10–12).

C · 8:14–23

The feigned retreat, the firing of Ai, and the king captured

The king of Ai, seeing Israel, hurries out to battle 'straight ahead,' unaware of the ambush behind the city (v.14); Joshua and Israel feign flight and the men of Ai are drawn out in pursuit, leaving the city open (vv.15–17). At YHWH's word Joshua stretches out his javelin (γαῖος) toward the city; the ambush rises swiftly, takes the city, and burns it (vv.18–19). When the men of Ai see the smoke ascending to heaven they have no place to flee; Israel turns on them, and the two forces crush them between, leaving no survivor (vv.20–22). The king of Ai is taken alive and brought to Joshua (v.23).

D · 8:24–29

Total destruction of Ai; the king hanged and buried under stones

When Israel has finished killing all the inhabitants of Ai, Joshua turns back and smites the city with the edge of the sword (v.24); twelve thousand fall that day, the whole population of Ai (v.25). Only the livestock and spoil are taken as plunder, by the command of YHWH (v.27). Joshua burns the city to a perpetual desolate mound (v.28), and hangs the king of Ai on a double tree until evening; at sunset the body is taken down, cast into the pit, and covered with a great heap of stones that remains 'to this day' (v.29) — fulfilling the law of Deut 21:22–23.

1 καὶ εἶπεν κύριος πρὸς Ἰησοῦν μὴ φοβηθῆς μηδὲ δειλιάσης λαβὲ μετὰ σοῦ τοὺς ἄνδρας πάντας τοὺς πολεμιστὰς καὶ ἀναστὰς ἀνάβηθι εἰς Γαι ἰδοὺ δέδωκα εἰς τὰς χεῖράς σου τὸν βασιλέα Γαι καὶ τὴν γῆν αὐτοῦ

And the LORD said to Joshua, 'Do not fear nor be cowardly. Take with you all the men of war, and arise, go up to Ai. Behold, I have given into your hands the king of Ai and his land.'

New divine speech-act opening the Ai campaign (main narrative)

καὶ εἶπεν κύριος πρὸς Ἰησοῦν

The chapter opens with the standard LXX speech-formula καὶ εἶπεν κύριος πρὸς + accusative, here directed to Joshua, reactivating the divine-warrior reassurance that framed the Jericho narrative. After the defeat at Ai in ch. 7 (the sin of Achan), the renewed command μὴ φοβηθῆς signals divine restoration; the perfect δέδωκα ('I have given') presents the conquest as already accomplished in the divine will.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction (Hebraizing καὶ-parataxis)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

εἶπεν
said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introducing formula)

→ **constative aorist (single completed speech-act)**

λέγω: the aorist εἶπεν introduces direct YHWH-speech; the formula καὶ εἶπεν κύριος πρὸς Ἰησοῦν recurs at each new divine commission in Joshua (cf. 1:1; 3:7; 7:10), binding the conquest to ongoing divine direction.

κύριος
LORD

Nominative

subject

κύριος: the standard LXX rendering of the Tetragrammaton יהוה; the nominative subject of the speech-formula marks this as unmediated YHWH-speech to Joshua.

πρὸς
to

preposition + accusative (direction of speech)

πρὸς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

Ἰησοῦν
Joshua

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς (recipient of speech)

Ἰησοῦς: the Greek form of Hebrew יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yehoshua, 'YHWH saves'); declined as a contracted noun in the LXX (gen./dat. Ἰησοῦ, acc. Ἰησοῦν), hence treated as declinable (kind 'n'); the same name later renders Ἰησοῦς in the NT for Jesus, making Joshua a typological forerunner.

μὴ
not

negative particle (with prohibitive subjunctive)

μὴ: the negative used with the subjunctive to form a prohibition; μὴ φοβηθῆς is the classic divine-warrior reassurance idiom (cf. Gen 15:1; Josh 1:9; 10:8).

φοβηθῆς
you should fear

Aor Pass Subj 2 Sg · φοβέομαι

prohibitive subjunctive (negative command)

→ **ingressive aorist subjunctive (prohibition: do not become afraid)**

φοβέομαι: 'fear / be afraid'; renders נִלֵּץ; the aorist-subjunctive prohibition with μὴ forbids the onset of fear; the formula reassures Joshua after the demoralizing rout at Ai in ch. 7.

μηδὲ
nor

coordinating negative (continuing the prohibition)

μηδὲ: 'and not / nor'; couples a second prohibitive subjunctive to the first, intensifying the reassurance.

δειλιάσης

you should be cowardly

Aor Act Subj 2 Sg · δειλιάω

prohibitive subjunctive (second negative command)

→ *ingressive aorist subjunctive (prohibition: do not lose courage)*

δειλιάω: 'be cowardly / lose heart / be timid'; renders תַּחַת ('be dismayed / shattered'); the pairing φοβέομαι / δειλιάω is a fixed LXX hendiadys of encouragement (cf. Deut 31:8; Josh 1:9; 10:25).

λαβέ

take

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · λαμβάνω

main verb (divine imperative)

→ *ingressive aorist imperative (decisive command to act)*

λαμβάνω: 'take / receive'; renders תִּקַּח; the aorist imperative λαβέ opens the operational command — Joshua is to mobilize the whole fighting force, in contrast to the small contingent sent against Ai in the failed first assault (7:3–4).

μετά

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment)

μετά: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

σοῦ

you

Genitive

genitive object of μετά (accompaniment: 'with you')

σοῦ: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄνδρας

men

Accusative

direct object of λαβέ

ἄνθρωπος (acc. pl. ἄνδρας): 'man / male / warrior'; renders נָשִׂים; here the fighting men of Israel; the totality (πάντας) corrects the under-commitment of the first failed attack on Ai.

πάντας

all

Accusative

attributive adjective (modifying ἄνδρας: 'all the men')

πᾶς: 'all / every'; the universal πάντας stresses full mobilization — the whole army, not a token detachment.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article (with attributive πολεμιστάς)

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πολεμιστάς

men of war

Accusative

attributive substantive (in apposition: 'the warriors')

πολεμιστής: 'warrior / man of war'; renders נִשְׂרָא / מַלְחָמָה; the article-noun construction τοὺς ἄνδρας ... τοὺς πολεμιστάς specifies the men as the trained fighting force.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἀναστὰς

having arisen

Aor Act Ptc Nom Masc Sg · ἀνίστημι

circumstantial participle (attendant circumstance / Hebraistic auxiliary)

→ *ingressive aorist participle (setting out: 'arise and ...')*

ἀνίστημι: 'rise up / stand up'; the participle ἀναστὰς + finite imperative is a Hebraism rendering קום + verb (קוּם וְעֹלָה), where 'arise' functions as an auxiliary of initiation ('set out and go up').

ἀνάβηθι

go up

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · ἀναβαίνω

main verb (imperative of the command)

→ *ingressive aorist imperative (decisive movement)*

ἀναβαίνω: 'go up / ascend'; renders תָּעַל; Ai lay in the hill country above the Jordan valley, so the verb is topographically literal ('go up') as well as the standard idiom for a military advance.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (goal of motion)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

Γαι

Ai

accusative object of εἰς (indeclinable place-name)

Γαι: transliteration of Hebrew 'עַי ('the Ai', 'the ruin / heap'); indeclinable in the LXX; the city east of Bethel whose capture is the subject of the chapter; the name itself ('ruin / heap') ironically anticipates its fate as a χῶμα ('mound'; v.28).

ἰδοῦ

behold

presentative particle (drawing attention to the gift-formula)

ἰδοῦ: 'behold / see'; renders הִנֵּה; the presentative particle heightens the immediacy of the divine gift-declaration that follows.

δέδωκα

I have given

Perf Act Indic 1 Sg · δίδωμι

main verb (divine gift-formula)

→ perfect of accomplished fact (prophetic / declarative perfect)

δίδωμι: 'give'; renders יתַּן; the perfect δέδωκα ('I have given') is a declarative/prophetic perfect — the conquest is presented as already settled in the divine will before the battle is fought; the same gift-formula governs the Jericho and the Ai narratives (cf. 6:2; 8:18).

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (idiomatic: 'into the hands')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὰς

the

Accusative

article

τὰς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χεῖρας

hands

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (idiom of conquest: 'into your hands')

χείρ (acc. pl. χεῖρας): 'hand'; the idiom δίδωμι εἰς (τὰς) χεῖρας renders תַּנֵּן יָדַי ('give into the hand of'), the standard OT formula for delivering an enemy to a conqueror's power.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession (with χεῖρας)

σου: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέα

king

Accusative

direct object of δέδωκα

βασιλεύς (acc. βασιλέα): 'king'; renders מֶלֶךְ; the king of Ai is the named object of the divine gift, foreshadowing his capture (v.23) and execution (v.29).

Γαι

of Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival relationship: 'king of Ai')

Γαι: indeclinable; here in genitival relationship to βασιλέα ('the king of Ai'), the case unmarked because the name does not decline.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὴν the Accusative <i>article</i> τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.	γῆν land Accusative <i>direct object (second member of the gift: 'and his land')</i> γῆ: 'land / earth / territory'; renders γῆ; the gift extends beyond the king to the city's whole territory, signalling total conquest.	αὐτοῦ his Genitive <i>genitive of possession (the king's land)</i> αὐτοῦ: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.
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2 καὶ ποιήσεις τὴν Γαι ὃν τρόπον ἐποίησας τὴν Ιεριχω καὶ τὸν βασιλέα αὐτῆς καὶ τὴν προνομὴν τῶν κτηνῶν προνομεύσεις σεαυτῷ κατάστησον δὲ σεαυτῷ ἔνεδρα τῇ πόλει εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω

And you shall do to Ai as you did to Jericho and its king; but the plunder of the cattle you shall take as spoil for yourself. And set yourself an ambush for the city, to the rear.

Continuation of the divine command (instruction on ban, spoil, and ambush) καὶ ποιήσεις

v.2 specifies the manner of the conquest: Ai is to be treated as Jericho — under the ban — but with a key concession (the livestock and spoil may be taken, unlike Jericho where everything was devoted). The closing imperative κατάστησον introduces the tactical heart of the chapter: the ambush (ἔνεδρα) set behind the city, which the rest of the narrative executes.

καὶ and <i>coordinate conjunction</i> καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.	ποιήσεις you shall do Fut Act Indic 2 Sg · ποιέω <i>main verb (imperative future: command)</i> → imperative future (command expressed as prediction) ποιέω: 'do / make'; renders ποιή; the future ποιήσεις functions imperatively (a Hebraism reflecting the Hebrew imperfect of command); the instruction binds Ai's fate to the precedent of Jericho.	τὴν the Accusative <i>article (with indeclinable Γαι, marking it as accusative object)</i> The feminine article τὴν with the indeclinable place-name Γαι supplies the grammatical case (accusative) the name itself cannot show; the LXX often supplies articles to decline foreign toponyms.	Γαι Ai <i>indeclinable place-name (object of ποιήσεις, case marked by article)</i> Γαι: indeclinable; the accusative force is carried by the preceding article τὴν.
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ὅν

which

Accusative

relative pronoun (with *τρόπον*: 'in which manner')

ὅς: relative pronoun; the phrase ὅν τρόπον ('in the manner which / just as') is an adverbial accusative of manner, a fixed LXX comparative idiom rendering רַשָּׁאֲנָא.

τρόπον

manner

Accusative

adverbial accusative of manner (with ὅν: 'in the manner that')

τρόπος: 'manner / way'; ὅν τρόπον = 'just as'; the comparison binds the destruction of Ai to that of Jericho as the normative pattern of holy war.

ἐποίησας

you did

Aor Act Indic 2 Sg · ποιέω

verb of the comparative clause (referring back to Jericho)

→ constative aorist (completed past action: the destruction of Jericho)

ποιέω (aor.): the aorist ἐποίησας looks back to ch. 6, the fall of Jericho; the manner of Ai's destruction is to replicate that precedent.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article (with indeclinable *Ιεριχω*, marking accusative)

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Ιεριχω

Jericho

indeclinable place-name (object of *ἐποίησας*, case by article)

Ιεριχω: transliteration of Hebrew יִרְיָח; indeclinable in the LXX; the first city of the conquest (ch. 6), here invoked as the template for Ai's destruction.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέα

king

Accusative

accusative (parallel object: 'and its king')

βασιλεύς: the king of Jericho, killed in the earlier conquest, is the parallel precedent for the king of Ai's coming execution (v.29).

αὐτῆς

its

Genitive

genitive of possession (Jericho's king)

αὐτῆς: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

καὶ

but

coordinate conjunction (here mildly adversative, introducing the concession)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

προνομὴν

plunder

Accusative

direct object (fronted: 'the plunder of the cattle')

προνομή: 'plunder / spoil / booty'; the cognate noun with προνομεύσεις forms a figura etymologica (cognate construction), a Hebraism intensifying the idea of plundering; the concession to take spoil distinguishes Ai from the total ban on Jericho (where all was devoted, 6:18–19).

τῶν

the

Genitive

article

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κτηνῶν

cattle

Genitive

genitive (objective/partitive: 'plunder consisting of the cattle')

κτῆνος (gen. pl. κτηνῶν): 'cattle / livestock / beast'; renders כְּבָדָה; the livestock and spoil of Ai are released for Israelite use, the concession YHWH grants here (cf. Deut 20:14).

προνομεύσεις

you shall take as spoil

Fut Act Indic 2 Sg · προνομεύω

main verb (cognate construction with προνομήν)

→ imperativ future (permission/command to plunder)

προνομεύω: 'plunder / take as booty'; the cognate verb with προνομήν renders the Hebrew figura etymologica (object + cognate verb, e.g. רָבַד רָבַד), intensifying the permission to seize the spoil.

σεαυτῷ

for yourself

Dative

dative of advantage (reflexive: 'for yourself')

σεαυτοῦ: reflexive pronoun 'yourself'; the dative of advantage marks the spoil as accruing to Joshua and Israel — the benefit they could not take at Jericho.

κατάστησον

set / station

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · καθίστημι

main verb (imperative introducing the ambush tactic)

→ ingressive aorist imperative (decisive command to deploy)

καθίστημι: 'set / appoint / station'; renders כָּנָן / סָוֵן; the imperative κατάστησον introduces the central military device of the chapter, the ἔνεδρα ('ambush') set behind the city.

δὲ

and

narrative continuative / mild adversative (post-positive)

δέ: post-positive particle marking the transition from the rules of engagement to the tactical instruction.

σεαυτῷ

for yourself

Dative

dative of advantage (reflexive, repeated)

σεαυτοῦ: the repeated reflexive dative underlines that Joshua himself is to arrange the stratagem.

ἔνεδρα

an ambush

Accusative

direct object of κατάστησον

ἔνεδρον (pl./neut. ἔνεδρα): 'ambush / men lying in wait'; renders מְצַדִּים / צִדִּים; the key military term of the chapter, denoting both the act and the men set in concealment behind the city; the neuter plural can function as a collective ('an ambush-force').

τῇ

for the

Dative

article (with πόλει)

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλει

city

Dative

dative of disadvantage / reference ('against the city')

πόλις: 'city'; renders יָרֵי; the dative τῇ πόλει marks Ai as the target against which the ambush is laid.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (locative direction: 'to the rear')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (substantivizing the adverb ὀπίσω)

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὀπίσω

rear / behind

adverb substantivized by τὰ (object of εἰς: 'to the parts behind')

ὀπίσω: 'behind / after / to the rear'; renders ἱγῶν / ἱγῶν; here substantivized by the neuter article (εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω, 'to the rear') to locate the ambush behind/west of the city.

3 καὶ ἀνέστη Ἰησοῦς καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ὁ πολεμιστὴς ὥστε ἀναβῆναι εἰς Γαι ἐπέλεξεν δὲ Ἰησοῦς τριάκοντα χιλιάδας ἀνδρῶν δυνατοὺς ἐν ἰσχύι καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτοὺς νυκτός

And Joshua arose, and all the fighting people, to go up to Ai; and Joshua picked out thirty thousand men, mighty in strength, and sent them by night.

Narrative execution: Joshua mobilizes and dispatches the ambush (main narrative)

καὶ ἀνέστη Ἰησοῦς

v.3 begins the narrative fulfilment of the command. The aorist ἀνέστη resumes the ἀναστάς of v.1; Joshua and the whole army set out, and the picked detachment of thirty thousand 'mighty in strength' is dispatched νυκτός ('by night') to take up the ambush position under cover of darkness.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἀνέστη

arose

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀνίστημι

main verb (narrative aorist)

→ *ingressive aorist (setting out)*

ἀνίστημι (aor. ἀνέστη): 'rise up / set out'; renders ἰῶν; resumes the command ἀναστάς (v.1); here the inceptive sense ('set out') of a military mobilization.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: nominative subject; Joshua leads the mobilization in person.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (compound subject)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

πᾶς

all

Nominative

attributive adjective (with λαός: 'all the people')

πᾶς: 'all'; the total mobilization (πᾶς ὁ λαός) again contrasts with the small force of the failed first attack (7:3–4).

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

λαός

people

Nominative

subject (in apposition to Joshua: the army)

λαός: 'people'; renders ΠΥ; here the assembled host of Israel as a fighting body.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (attributive position with πολεμιστής)

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πολεμιστής

fighting / of war

Nominative

attributive substantive ('the people of war')

πολεμιστής: 'warrior / of war'; the article-repetition (ὁ λαὸς ὁ πολεμιστής) specifies the people as the fighting men, the standing phrase for the army throughout the chapter.

ὥστε

so as

conjunction introducing infinitive of purpose/result

ὥστε: 'so that / so as to'; here with the infinitive ἀναβῆναι expressing purpose ('in order to go up').

ἀναβῆναι

to go up

Aor Act Inf · ἀναβαίνω

infinitive of purpose (with ὥστε)

→ aorist infinitive (the intended advance on Ai)

ἀναβαίνω: 'go up / advance'; the purpose infinitive states the goal of the mobilization — the ascent against Ai in the hill country.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (goal)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

Γαι

Ai

accusative object of εἰς (indeclinable place-name)

Γαι: indeclinable; the objective of the advance.

ἐπέλεξεν

picked out

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐπιλέγω

main verb (selection of the ambush detachment)

→ constative aorist (single act of selection)

ἐπιλέγω: 'choose / pick out / select'; renders ΓΠΔ; the verb describes Joshua's selection of the elite detachment for the ambush — picked men, not the general levy.

δὲ

and

narrative continuative (post-positive)

δὲ: function word shaping the local clause or phrase relation in this oracle.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

τριάκοντα

thirty

indeclinable numeral (modifying χιλιάδας)

τριάκοντα: 'thirty'; indeclinable cardinal; the figure τριάκοντα χιλιάδας ('thirty thousand') is the size of the ambush detachment (the MT and some witnesses vary in the numbers of the Ai stratagem).

χιλιάδας

thousands

Accusative

direct object of ἐπέλεξεν (with τριάκοντα: 'thirty thousand')

χιλιάς: 'thousand / unit of a thousand'; renders גָּלוּל; the accusative quantifies the detachment selected.

ἀνδρῶν

of men

Genitive

partitive/descriptive genitive ('thousands of men')

ἀνὴρ (gen. pl. ἀνδρῶν): 'man'; the partitive genitive specifies the thousands as fighting men.

δυνατοῦς

mighty

Accusative

adjective (in apposition to the men: 'mighty ones')

δυνατός: 'mighty / able / powerful'; renders גִּבּוֹר; δυνατοῦς ἐν ἰσχύι ('mighty in strength') marks the detachment as elite warriors fit for the surprise assault.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (respect: 'in strength')

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

ἰσχύι

strength

Dative

dative of respect (with δυνατούς)

ἰσχύς: 'strength / might'; renders כֹּחַ / לִי; δυνατοὶ ἐν ἰσχύι is a fixed phrase for valiant warriors (cf. גִּבּוֹרֵי הַכּוֹחַ).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἀπέστειλεν

sent

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀποστέλλω

main verb (dispatch of the ambush)

→ *constative aorist (single act of sending)*

ἀποστέλλω: 'send / send off'; renders שָׁלַח; the dispatch of the detachment by night (νυκτός) is the first operational step of the ambush stratagem.

αὐτούς

them

Accusative

direct object (the picked men)

αὐτούς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

νυκτός

by night

Genitive

genitive of time (within which: 'by night / during the night')

νύξ (gen. νυκτός): 'night'; the genitive of time expresses the period within which the action occurs ('by night'); the nocturnal dispatch ensures the ambush reaches position undetected.

4 καὶ ἐνετείλατο αὐτοῖς λέγων ὑμεῖς ἐνεδρεύσατε ὀπίσω τῆς πόλεως μὴ μακρὰν γίνεσθε ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως καὶ ἔσεσθε πάντες ἔτοιμοι

And he commanded them, saying, 'You, lie in ambush behind the city; do not be far from the city, and be all of you ready.'

Embedded command: Joshua's orders to the ambush detachment καὶ ἐνετείλατο αὐτοῖς

Joshua's direct instructions to the ambush open with the emphatic pronoun ὑμεῖς ('you'), distinguishing the detachment's role from his own (ἐγώ, v.5). The orders are precise: conceal yourselves close behind the city, and stand ready — the proximity (μὴ μακρὰν γίνεσθε) is essential so the ambush can seize the city the moment its defenders are drawn out.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐνετείλατο

commanded

Aor Mid Indic 3 Sg · ἐντέλλομαι

main verb (command-introducing)

→ constative aorist (single act of commissioning)

ἐντέλλομαι: 'command / give orders / charge'; renders ἡϛ; a deponent middle; introduces the formal military orders to the ambush detachment.

αὐτοῖς

to them

Dative

dative indirect object (the detachment)

αὐτοῖς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

λέγων

saying

Pres Act Ptc Nom Masc Sg · λέγω

circumstantial participle (introducing direct speech — Hebraism for אָמַר)

→ present participle (speech-framing)

λέγω (ptc. λέγων): the participle λέγων marks the onset of direct speech, a calque of Hebrew אָמַר ('saying'), the standard LXX quotation-marker.

ὕμεῖς

you

Nominative

emphatic subject pronoun (2nd person plural)

σύ (nom. pl. ὑμεῖς): the emphatic plural pronoun foregrounds the ambush detachment's distinct task in contrast to Joshua's force (ἐγώ καὶ πάντες οἱ μετ' ἐμοῦ, v.5).

ἐνεδρεύσατε

lie in ambush

Aor Act Impv 2 Pl · ἐνεδρεύω

main verb (imperative of the order)

→ **ingressive aorist imperative** (take up the ambush)

ἐνεδρεύω: 'lie in wait / set an ambush'; cognate with ἐνεδρα (v.2); renders בָּרַח; the verb governs the whole tactic — the detachment is to conceal itself behind the city.

ὀπίσω

behind

improper preposition + genitive (location: 'behind the city')

ὀπίσω: 'behind / to the rear of'; functioning as an improper preposition governing the genitive τῆς πόλεως; the ambush lies west of (behind) Ai.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive governed by ὀπίσω

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, behind which the ambush is concealed.

μὴ

not

negative particle (with prohibitive imperative)

μὴ: negative with the present imperative γίνεσθε, forbidding a continuing state ('do not be / do not keep being far').

μακρὰν

far

adverb of distance (predicate with γίνεσθε)

μακρὰν: 'far / at a distance'; adverbial; the order μὴ μακρὰν γίνεσθε keeps the ambush close enough to rush the city the instant its defenders pursue the feigned retreat.

γίνεσθε

be / become

Pres Mid Impv 2 Pl · γίνομαι

main verb (prohibitive present imperative)

→ **durative present imperative** (do not remain/become far)

γίνομαι: 'become / be'; the present imperative with μὴ forbids the ongoing state of being far off; the detachment must stay close to the city.

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (separation)

ἀπὸ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive of separation (governed by ἀπὸ)

πόλεως: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἔσεσθε

you shall be

Fut Mid Indic 2 Pl · εἰμί

main verb (imperative future: command to be ready)

→ imperative future (standing order: remain ready)

εἰμί (fut. ἔσεσθε): 'be'; the future functions imperatively ('be ready'), a Hebraism reflecting the Hebrew imperfect/weqatal of command; the detachment must hold itself in constant readiness.

πάντες

all

Nominative

adjective (subject-complement: 'all of you')

παῖς: 'all'; emphasizes that the whole detachment, without exception, must stand ready.

ἔτοιμοι

ready

Nominative

predicate adjective (with ἔσεσθε: 'be ready')

ἔτοιμος: 'ready / prepared'; renders יָצִי; the watchword of the ambush — poised to strike the moment the signal comes (v.18).

5 καὶ ἐγὼ καὶ πάντες οἱ μετ' ἐμοῦ προσάξομεν πρὸς τὴν πόλιν καὶ ἔσται ὥς ἂν ἐξέλθωσιν οἱ κατοικοῦντες
Γαι εἰς συνάντησιν ἡμῖν καθάπερ καὶ πρῶην καὶ φευξόμεθα ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν

And I and all who are with me will draw near to the city; and it shall be, when the inhabitants of Ai come out to meet us as also before, then we will flee from before them.

Continuation of Joshua's plan: the feigned retreat by the main force καὶ ἐγὼ

The emphatic ἐγὼ now answers the ὑμεῖς of v.4: while the ambush hides, Joshua's main force will advance and then feign flight. The temporal-conditional ὥς ἂν + subjunctive (ἐξέλθωσιν) sets up the trap; the comparison καθάπερ καὶ πρῶην ('as also before') exploits Ai's memory of Israel's earlier defeat (ch. 7) to make the feigned retreat convincing.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐγώ
I

Nominative

emphatic subject pronoun (contrast with ὑμεῖς, v.4)

ἐγώ: the emphatic first-person pronoun sets Joshua's role (the visible advance and feigned flight) over against the hidden ambush (ὑμεῖς, v.4).

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction (compound subject)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

πάντες
all

Nominative

subject (substantivized: 'all those')

παῖς: 'all'; with the article-phrase οἱ μετ' ἐμοῦ ('those with me'), denoting the whole main force accompanying Joshua.

οἱ
those

Nominative

article substantivizing the prepositional phrase μετ' ἐμοῦ

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

μετ'
with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment, elided before vowel)

μετά (elided μετ'): 'with'; the phrase οἱ μετ' ἐμοῦ ('those with me') = Joshua's main force.

ἐμοῦ
me

Genitive

genitive object of μετά

ἐμοῦ: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

προσάξομεν
we will draw near

Fut Act Indic 1 Pl · προσάγω

main verb (the planned advance)

→ predictive future (the intended approach to the city)

προσάγω: 'bring/draw near, approach'; here intransitive ('draw near, advance'); renders שָׁגַב / בָּרַק; the main force's open approach is the bait of the stratagem.

πρὸς
to

preposition + accusative (direction)

πρὸς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὴν
the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν
city

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς (goal of advance)

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, toward which the decoy force advances.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction (introducing apodosis-formula)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἔσται

it shall be

Fut Mid Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

main verb (Hebraistic καὶ ἔσται formula introducing a temporal clause)

→ predictive future (formulaic 'and it shall come to pass')

εἰμί (fut. ἔσται): the formula καὶ ἔσται renders Hebrew הָיָה, a temporal-introductory marker ('and it shall come to pass') anticipating the following ὥς ἄν-clause.

ὥς

when

temporal conjunction (with ἄν + subjunctive)

ὥς: 'when / as'; with ἄν and the subjunctive forms an indefinite temporal clause ('whenever / at the point when').

ἄν

ever

modal particle (with subjunctive, indefinite temporal)

ἄν: modal particle marking the temporal clause as contingent/indefinite.

ἐξέλθωσιν

they come out

Aor Act Subj 3 Pl · ἐξέρχομαι

verb of the indefinite temporal clause

→ aorist subjunctive (anticipated sally of the defenders)

ἐξέρχομαι: 'come/go out'; renders נִצָּץ; the defenders' sortie out of the city is the very moment that empties Ai for the ambush to seize it.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (substantivizing the participle)

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κατοικοῦντες

inhabitants

Pres Act Ptc Nom Masc Pl · κατοικέω

substantival participle (subject of ἐξέλθωσιν: 'the dwellers')

→ durative present participle (the settled inhabitants)

κατοικέω: 'dwell / inhabit'; the substantival participle οἱ κατοικοῦντες ('the inhabitants/dwellers') renders יֹשְׁבֵי; the men of Ai who will be lured out.

Γαι

of Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival: 'inhabitants of Ai')

Γαι: indeclinable; in genitival relation to κατοικοῦντες ('the inhabitants of Ai').

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (purpose: 'to meet')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

συνάντησιν

a meeting / encounter

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (idiom: 'to meet us')

συνάντησις: 'meeting / encounter'; the idiom εἰς συνάντησιν + dative renders תִּקְרָא ('to meet'), here of a hostile sortie into battle.

ἡμῖν

us

Dative

dative complement of συνάντησιν ('to meet us')

ἡμῖν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καθάπερ

just as

comparative conjunction

καθάπερ: 'just as / exactly as'; introduces the comparison to the earlier engagement, exploiting Ai's confidence from the previous Israelite rout.

καὶ

also

adverbial/intensive (with πρόην: 'as also before')

καὶ: function word shaping the local clause or phrase relation in this oracle.

πρώην

before / formerly

temporal adverb ('previously')

πρώην: 'recently / formerly / the day before'; refers back to the first, failed assault on Ai (ch. 7), the precedent that makes the feigned flight credible to the defenders.

καὶ

then

apodotic conjunction (introducing the consequence)

καί: here apodotic ('then'), introducing the planned response after the temporal clause.

φευξόμεθα

we will flee

Fut Mid Indic 1 Pl · φεύγω

main verb (the feigned retreat)

→ predictive future (the planned, staged flight)

φεύγω: 'flee / run away'; renders פָּנּוּ; the future φευξόμεθα announces the feigned retreat — the deliberate, staged flight that will draw the defenders away from the city.

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (separation, idiom 'from before')

ἀπὸ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

προσώπου

presence / face

Genitive

genitive (idiom: ἀπὸ προσώπου = 'from before')

πρόσωπον: 'face / presence'; the idiom ἀπὸ προσώπου renders יָצָא ('from before / away from the face of'), a Hebraism for retreat before an enemy.

αὐτῶν

them

Genitive

genitive (the men of Ai before whom they flee)

αὐτῶν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

6 καὶ ὥς ἂν ἐξέλθωσιν ὀπίσω ἡμῶν ἀποσπάσομεν αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως καὶ ἔροῦσιν φεύγουσιν οὗτοι ἀπὸ προσώπου ἡμῶν ὃν τρόπον καὶ ἔμπροσθεν

And when they come out after us, we will draw them away from the city; for they will say, 'These men are fleeing from before us as also formerly.'

Continuation of the plan: the purpose and the enemy's misjudgment καὶ ὥς ἂν ἐξέλθωσιν

The second ὥς ἂν-clause states the goal of the feint: to detach the defenders from the city (ἀποσπάσομεν ... ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως). Joshua even quotes the words the men of Ai will say (ἐροῦσιν ... φεύγουσιν οὗτοι) — their fatal misreading of the retreat as a genuine rout 'as also formerly' (ὃν τρόπον καὶ ἔμπροσθεν), echoing v.5's πρώην.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ὡς
when

temporal conjunction (with ἄν + subjunctive)

ὡς: 'when'; with ἄν and the subjunctive, a second indefinite temporal clause continuing the plan.

ἄν
ever

modal particle (indefinite temporal)

ἄν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐξέλθωσιν
they come out

Aor Act Subj 3 Pl · ἐξέρχομαι

verb of the temporal clause

→ aorist subjunctive (the defenders' pursuit)

ἐξέρχομαι: 'come out'; here of the defenders coming out in pursuit (ὀπίσω ἡμῶν, 'after us').

ὀπίσω
after

improper preposition + genitive ('after us')

ὀπίσω: 'after / behind'; here temporal-spatial ('in pursuit of us'), governing the genitive ἡμῶν.

ἡμῶν
us

Genitive

genitive governed by ὀπίσω

ἡμῶν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

ἀποσπάσομεν
we will draw away

Fut Act Indic 1 Pl · ἀποσπάω

main verb (the tactical purpose)

→ predictive future (the intended detachment of the enemy)

ἀποσπάω: 'draw/drag away, detach'; renders Πη; the decisive aim of the feint — to pull the defenders away from the city so the ambush can seize it; the compound ἀπο- stresses separation.

αὐτοὺς
them

Accusative

direct object (the men of Ai)

αὐτοὺς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

ἀπὸ
from

preposition + genitive (separation)

ἀπὸ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῆς
the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως
city

Genitive

genitive of separation (governed by ἀπό)

πόλις: 'city'; the goal is to separate the defenders from Ai, leaving it undefended.

καὶ
for

conjunction (here explanatory: introducing the enemy's reasoning)

καί: here introduces the reason the defenders will pursue — their own (mistaken) words.

ἐροῦσιν

they will say

Fut Act Indic 3 Pl · λέγω (εἶρω)

main verb (introducing the enemy's quoted misjudgment)

→ predictive future (the words the defenders will say)

λέγω / εἶρω (fut. ἐροῦσιν): 'say'; Joshua anticipates the defenders' own words — the dramatic irony that their confident misreading of the retreat seals their destruction.

φεύγουσιν

are fleeing

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · φεύγω

main verb of the quoted speech

→ progressive present (the action as the enemy perceives it: 'they are fleeing')

φεύγω (pres.): the present tense in the quoted speech presents the retreat as the defenders perceive it in progress — a genuine flight, not a feint.

οὗτοι

these men

Nominative

subject of φεύγουσιν (within the quotation)

οὗτος (nom. pl. οὗτοι): 'these'; the demonstrative in the defenders' mouths refers contemptuously to the (apparently) fleeing Israelites.

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (idiom 'from before')

ἀπὸ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

προσώπου

presence / face

Genitive

genitive (idiom ἀπὸ προσώπου = 'from before')

πρόσωπον: the idiom ἀπὸ προσώπου ('from before us', rendering נִגַּחַנּוּ) is here the defenders' boast of having routed Israel a second time.

ἡμῶν

us

Genitive

genitive (within the quotation: 'from before us')

ἡμῶν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

ὃν

which

Accusative

relative pronoun (with τρόπον: 'in which manner')

ὃς: relative; ὃν τρόπον ('just as') again binds the present (feigned) flight to the earlier (real) defeat.

τρόπον

manner

Accusative

adverbial accusative of manner ('just as')

τρόπος: 'manner'; ὃν τρόπον καὶ ἔμπροσθεν = 'just as also before'.

καὶ

also

adverbial/intensive (with ἔμπροσθεν)

καὶ: function word shaping the local clause or phrase relation in this oracle.

ἔμπροσθεν

before / formerly

temporal adverb ('previously')

ἔμπροσθεν: 'before / formerly / in front'; here temporal ('previously'), synonymous with πρῶην (v.5), reinforcing the trap built on the defenders' memory of the earlier Israelite rout.

7 ὑμεῖς δὲ ἐξαναστήσεσθε ἐκ τῆς ἐνέδρας καὶ πορεύσεσθε εἰς τὴν πόλιν

But you shall rise up out of the ambush and go into the city.

Return to the ambush detachment: their decisive move

ὑμεῖς δὲ

The emphatic ὑμεῖς δὲ swings the address back to the hidden detachment (cf. v.4): at the decisive moment they are to spring from concealment and seize the emptied city. The two futures (ἐξαναστήσεσθε ... πορεύσεσθε) function imperatively, anticipating their literal fulfilment at v.19.

ὑμεῖς

you

Nominative

emphatic subject pronoun (address to the ambush)

σύ (nom. pl. ὑμεῖς): the emphatic pronoun returns the order to the ambush detachment, contrasting their role with the main force's flight.

δὲ

but

adversative (post-positive, marking the contrast of roles)

δέ: post-positive; here adversative, distinguishing the ambush's task from the decoy force's.

ἐξαναστήσεσθε

you shall rise up

Fut Mid Indic 2 Pl · ἐξανίστημι

main verb (imperative future: the ambush springs)

→ *imperative future (command: rise up out of concealment)*

ἐξανίστημι: 'rise up / stand up out of'; the compound ἐξ- ('up out of') suits the springing of the ambush from concealment; the same verb describes the fulfilment at vv.18–19 (ἐξαναστήσονται / ἐξανέστησαν).

ἐκ

out of

preposition + genitive (source: 'out of the ambush')

ἐκ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐνέδρας

ambush

Genitive

genitive of source (governed by ἐκ)

ἐνέδρα: 'ambush / place of concealment'; the feminine form here (alongside neuter ἐνεδρα elsewhere in the chapter) denotes the hiding-position from which the detachment springs.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

πορεύσεσθε

you shall go

Fut Mid Indic 2 Pl · πορεύομαι

main verb (imperative future: enter the city)

→ *imperative future (command: advance into the city)*

πορεύομαι: 'go / proceed'; renders / הָלַךְ אִלַּי; the detachment's entry into the undefended city, fulfilled at v.19 (ἦλθοσαν ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν).

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (goal)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν

city

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (goal of entry)

πόλις: 'city'; the now-undefended Ai, which the ambush is to occupy and burn.

8 κατὰ τὸ ῥῆμα τοῦτο ποιήσετε ἰδοὺ ἐντέταλμαι ὑμῖν

According to this word you shall do. Behold, I have commanded you.

Conclusion of Joshua's orders (sealing-formula)

κατὰ τὸ ῥῆμα τοῦτο

Joshua closes the briefing with a summary command (κατὰ τὸ ῥῆμα τοῦτο ποιήσετε) and the authoritative sealing-formula ἰδοὺ ἐντέταλμαι ὑμῖν ('behold, I have commanded you'), the perfect tense stressing the settled, binding force of the orders just given.

κατὰ

according to

preposition + accusative (norm/standard)

κατά + acc.: 'according to / in conformity with'; introduces the standard governing the detachment's action — Joshua's spoken word.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ῥῆμα

word / command

Accusative

accusative object of κατὰ

ῥῆμα: 'word / saying / thing commanded'; renders רַצַּף; κατὰ τὸ ῥῆμα τοῦτο ('according to this word') sums up the whole briefing as binding instruction.

τοῦτο

this

Accusative

demonstrative adjective (modifying ῥῆμα)

οὗτος: 'this'; the near demonstrative points to the orders just delivered (vv.4–7).

ποιήσετε

you shall do

Fut Act Indic 2 Pl · ποιέω

main verb (imperative future: command to comply)

→ *imperative future (binding command)*

ποιέω: 'do / act'; the imperative future commands exact compliance with the briefing.

ἰδοὺ

behold

presentative particle (sealing-formula)

ἰδοὺ: 'behold'; renders ἰδὼν; introduces the authoritative closing declaration.

ἐντέταλμαι

I have commanded

Perf Mid Indic 1 Sg · ἐντέλλομαι

main verb (perfect of settled, binding command)

→ *perfect of abiding result (the command stands as given)*

ἐντέλλομαι (perf. ἐντέταλμαι): 'command / charge'; the perfect stresses the abiding, settled force of the orders — they are now fixed and binding; the sealing-formula ἰδοὺ ἐντέταλμαι recurs in commissioning contexts (cf. 1:9).

ὕμῖν

you

Dative

dative indirect object (the commanded detachment)

ὕμῖν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

9 καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτοὺς Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν εἰς τὴν ἐνέδραν καὶ ἐνεκάθισαν ἀνὰ μέσον Βαιθηλ καὶ ἀνὰ μέσον Γαι ἀπὸ θαλάσσης τῆς Γαι

And Joshua sent them, and they went into the ambush position and lay in wait between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai.

Narrative execution: the ambush takes position (main narrative)

καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτοὺς Ἰησοῦς

The orders of vv.4–8 are now carried out: the detachment goes and takes up its concealed position. The geographical notice (ἀνὰ μέσον Βαιθηλ καὶ ἀνὰ μέσον Γαι, 'between Bethel and Ai', west of the city — ἀπὸ θαλάσσης, lit. 'from the sea' = the western direction) precisely fixes the trap behind Ai.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἀπέστειλεν

sent

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀποστέλλω

main verb (dispatch of the detachment)

→ *constative aorist (single act of sending)*

ἀποστέλλω: 'send off / dispatch'; the execution of the order — the detachment is sent to its ambush position.

αὐτοὺς

them

Accusative

direct object (the picked men)

αὐτοὺς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐπορεύθησαν
they went

Aor Pass Indic 3 Pl · πορεύομαι

main verb (the detachment's movement)

→ *constative aorist (completed movement)*

πορεύομαι (aor. pass. dep. ἐπορεύθησαν): 'go / proceed'; the detachment moves to its concealed position, fulfilling the command πορεύεσθε (v.7).

εἰς
to

preposition + accusative (goal)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὴν
the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐνέδραν
ambush

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (the ambush position)

ἐνέδρα: 'ambush / place of concealment'; here the position the detachment occupies (cf. ἐνεδρα, v.2).

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐνεκάθισαν
they lay in wait

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἐγκάθημαι / ἐγκαθίζω

main verb (taking the concealed position)

→ *constative aorist (settling into ambush)*

ἐγκαθίζω / ἐγκάθημαι: 'sit/settle in, lie in wait'; the compound ἐν- ('in') denotes settling into a hidden position; renders בַּשָּׁרָץ / in ambush contexts.

ἀνὰ
up / amid

preposition (in the idiom ἀνὰ μέσον = 'between')

ἀνά: distributive preposition; the idiom ἀνὰ μέσον + genitive ('in the midst of / between') renders יְנִיב; the doubled ἀνὰ μέσον ... ἀνὰ μέσον calques the Hebrew יְנִיב יְנִיב ... construction.

μέσον
midst

Accusative

accusative (in the idiom ἀνὰ μέσον: 'between')

μέσος: 'middle / midst'; part of the fixed phrase ἀνὰ μέσον ('between').

Βαιθηλ
Bethel

indeclinable place-name (first term of ἀνὰ μέσον)

Βαιθηλ: transliteration of Hebrew בֵּית־אֵל ('house of God'); indeclinable in the LXX; the town just west of Ai, between which and Ai the ambush is set.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἀνὰ
amid

preposition (second ἀνὰ μέσον: 'and Ai')

ἀνά: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

μέσον

midst

Accusative

accusative (idiom ἀνὰ μέσον, second member)

μέσον: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

Γαι

Ai

indeclinable place-name (second term of ἀνὰ μέσον)

Γαι: indeclinable; the city to the east of the ambush position.

ἀπὸ

from / on the side of

preposition + genitive (directional: 'on the west of')

ἀπό: 'from'; the phrase ἀπὸ θαλάσσης ('from the sea') is the standard Hebraic idiom for 'on the west', the Mediterranean lying west of the land.

θαλάσσης

sea / west

Genitive

genitive (governed by ἀπό; idiom for the western direction)

θάλασσα: 'sea'; renders יָם, which in Hebrew also means 'west' (the direction of the sea); ἀπὸ θαλάσσης = 'to/on the west', locating the ambush west of Ai.

τῆς

of

Genitive

article with indeclinable Γαι (genitival: 'of Ai')

The genitive article τῆς supplies case to the indeclinable Γαι, yielding 'on the west of Ai'.

Γαι

Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival, case by article)

Γαι: indeclinable; 'west of Ai' fixes the ambush position behind the city.

10 καὶ ὀρθρίσας Ἰησοῦς τὸ πρωὶ ἐπεσκέψατο τὸν λαόν καὶ ἀνέβησαν αὐτὸς καὶ οἱ πρεσβύτεροι κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ λαοῦ ἐπὶ Γαι

And Joshua, rising early in the morning, mustered the people, and they went up — he and the elders — at the head of the people, against Ai.

Narrative: the dawn muster and advance of the main force (main narrative)

καὶ ὀρθρίσας Ἰησοῦς

The day of battle opens with Joshua's early rising (ὀρθρίσας τὸ πρωί, a doubled time-marker stressing dawn readiness), the mustering of the army (ἐπεσκέψατο), and the advance of Joshua and the elders at the head of the people against Ai. The leadership 'before the face of the people' marks Joshua as the visible commander of the decoy force.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ὀρθρίσας

having risen early

Aor Act Ptc Nom Masc Sg · ὀρθρίζω

circumstantial participle (temporal: 'rising early')

→ **ingressive aorist participle (the early-morning start)**

ὀρθρίζω: 'rise early / do at daybreak'; renders օ־רִצָּ (Hiphil, 'rise early'); a frequent LXX marker of prompt, resolute obedience; with τὸ πρωὶ it doubly stresses the dawn timing of the assault.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

τὸ
the

Accusative

article (with adverbial πρωὶ)

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πρωὶ

morning / early

adverb of time (accusative of time with article: 'in the morning')

πρωὶ: 'early / in the morning'; adverb; τὸ πρωὶ ('at dawn') reinforces ὀρθρίσας — the assault begins at first light.

ἐπεσκέψατο

mustered

Aor Mid Indic 3 Sg · ἐπισκέπτομαι

main verb (military muster/inspection)

→ **constative aorist (single act of mustering)**

ἐπισκέπτομαι: 'visit / inspect / muster'; renders עִיִּן ; in military contexts 'to muster / review (troops)'; Joshua reviews the army before the advance.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

λαόν

people

Accusative

direct object of ἐπεσκέψατο (the mustered army)

λαός: 'people'; here the army of Israel mustered for battle.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἀνέβησαν

they went up

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀναβαίνω

main verb (the advance)

→ **constative aorist (completed ascent)**

ἀναβαίνω: 'go up / advance'; renders עָלוּ ; the plural verb with the compound subject (Joshua and the elders) describes the advance up to Ai.

αὐτὸς

he himself

Nominative

intensive pronoun (subject: 'he himself')

αὐτός: intensive 'himself'; foregrounds Joshua's personal leadership of the advance.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction (compound subject)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

οἱ the Nominative <i>article</i> οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.	πρεσβύτεροι elders Nominative <i>subject (second member of compound subject)</i> πρεσβύτερος: 'elder'; renders יִזְרָאֵל; the elders of Israel accompany Joshua at the head of the army, sharing in the leadership of the campaign.	κατὰ before / at the head of <i>preposition + accusative (idiom 'before the face of')</i> κατὰ + acc.: in the idiom κατὰ πρόσωπον ('before the face of / at the head of'), rendering יְהוֹשֻׁעַ; Joshua and the elders lead from the front.	πρόσωπον face Accusative <i>accusative (idiom κατὰ πρόσωπον: 'at the head of')</i> πρόσωπον: 'face'; in κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ λαοῦ ('before the people'), denoting the position of command at the front of the host.
τοῦ the Genitive <i>article</i> τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.	λαοῦ people Genitive <i>genitive (with πρόσωπον: 'the face of the people')</i> λαός: 'people'; the army Joshua leads.	ἐπὶ against <i>preposition + accusative (hostile direction: 'against Ai')</i> ἐπὶ + acc.: here of hostile movement 'against / up to' the city.	Γαι Ai <i>accusative object of ἐπὶ (indeclinable place-name)</i> Γαι: indeclinable; the objective of the advance.

11 καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ὁ πολεμιστὴς μετ' αὐτοῦ ἀνέβησαν καὶ πορευόμενοι ἦλθον ἐξ ἐναντίας τῆς πόλεως ἀπ' ἀνατολῶν

And all the fighting people with him went up, and as they marched they came opposite the city, from the east.

Narrative: the main force takes position east of Ai (main narrative)

καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ὁ πολεμιστὴς

The main force takes up position ἐξ ἐναντίας τῆς πόλεως ('opposite the city') and ἀπ' ἀνατολῶν ('from the east'), the deliberate counterpoint to the ambush's western position (v.9, ἀπὸ θαλάσσης). The two forces thus flank Ai east and west, sealing the trap.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

πᾶς

all

Nominative

attributive adjective (with λαός)

πᾶς: 'all'; the whole fighting force accompanies Joshua.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

λαός

people

Nominative

subject

λαός: 'people'; the army of Israel.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (attributive with πολεμιστής)

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πολεμιστής

fighting / of war

Nominative

attributive substantive ('the people of war')

πολεμιστής: 'warrior / of war'; the recurring phrase ὁ λαός ὁ πολεμιστής designates the fighting men (cf. vv.1, 3).

μετ'

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment, elided)

μετ': preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

αὐτοῦ

him

Genitive

genitive object of μετὰ ('with him', i.e. Joshua)

αὐτοῦ: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

ἀνέβησαν

went up

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀναβαίνω

main verb (the advance)

→ constative aorist (completed ascent)

ἀναβαίνω: 'go up / advance'; the main force ascends toward Ai.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

πορεύομενοι

marching

Pres Mid Ptc Nom Masc Pl · πορεύομαι

circumstantial participle (manner/attendant: 'as they marched')

→ durative present participle (the ongoing march)

πορεύομαι (ptc.): 'go / march'; the present participle describes the army on the move as it reaches its position opposite the city.

ἦλθον

they came

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἔρχομαι

main verb (arrival at position)

→ constative aorist (completed arrival)

ἔρχομαι (aor. ἦλθον): 'come / arrive'; the force arrives at its station opposite Ai.

ἐξ

from / opposite

preposition + genitive (in the idiom ἐξ ἐναντίας: 'opposite')

ἐκ (ἐξ): 'from'; in the fixed phrase ἐξ ἐναντίας ('opposite / over against'), rendering כִּנְגַל / דָּגִנְגַל.

ἐναντίας

opposite

Genitive

genitive (in the idiom ἐξ ἐναντίας: 'over against')

ἐναντίος: 'opposite / facing'; ἐξ ἐναντίας ('opposite, over against') places the main force directly facing the city to draw the defenders out.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive (governed by ἐξ ἐναντίας: 'opposite the city')

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, opposite which the decoy force stations itself.

ἀπ'

from

preposition + genitive (directional, elided: 'from the east')

ἀπ': preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

ἀνατολῶν

the east

Genitive

genitive (governed by ἀπό; idiom for the eastern direction)

ἀνατολή (pl. ἀνατολαί): 'rising (of the sun) / east'; renders ἀνατολή / ἀνατολῶν ('from the east') sets the main force east of Ai, opposite the western ambush — the city is now flanked on both sides.

12 καὶ τὰ ἔνεδρα τῆς πόλεως ἀπὸ θαλάσσης

And the ambush of the city was to the west.

Narrative note: restating the ambush's western position (verbless clause)

καὶ τὰ ἔνεδρα

A brief verbless clause restates the ambush's location west of Ai (ἀπὸ θαλάσσης), balancing the main force's eastern position in v.11 and rounding off the deployment before the battle proper begins at v.14. The shorter LXX here lacks the MT's fuller second-detachment notice (MT 8:12–13), the source of the missing verse 13.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὰ

the

Nominative

article (with ἔνεδρα, subject of the verbless clause)

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἔνεδρα

ambush

Nominative

subject of the verbless clause ('the ambush was ...')

ἔνεδρον (neut. pl. ἔνεδρα): 'ambush / ambush-force'; the collective neuter plural for the concealed detachment; the verbless clause supplies an implied 'was'.

τῆς

of the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive (relationship: 'the ambush of/for the city')

πόλις: 'city'; the ambush set against Ai.

ἀπὸ

on the side of / to the west

preposition + genitive (directional idiom)

ἀπό: in ἀπὸ θαλάσσης ('to/on the west'), the Hebraic directional idiom (the sea = west).

θαλάσσης

sea / west

Genitive

genitive (governed by ἀπό; idiom for the western direction)

θάλασσα: 'sea'; ἀπὸ θαλάσσης = 'to the west' (ⲓⲛ meaning both 'sea' and 'west'); restates the ambush's western position (v.9).

14 καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς εἶδεν βασιλεὺς Γαι ἔσπευσεν καὶ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτοῖς ἐπ' εὐθείας εἰς τὸν πόλεμον αὐτὸς καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ὁ μετ' αὐτοῦ καὶ αὐτὸς οὐκ ᾔδει ὅτι ἔνεδρα αὐτῷ ἐστὶν ὀπίσω τῆς πόλεως

And it came to pass, when the king of Ai saw it, that he hurried and went out to meet them straight on, to battle — he and all the people that were with him; and he did not know that there was an ambush for him behind the city.

Narrative pivot: the king of Ai takes the bait (main narrative); NO verse 13 precedes

καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς εἶδεν

The chapter's numbering jumps from 12 to 14 (NO verse 13 in the LXX). The καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ('and it came to pass, when') temporal formula (rendering ⲕⲏⲓⲛⲓ) marks the decisive pivot: the king of Ai, seeing the advancing decoy, rushes out 'straight on' to battle — and the narrator's parenthetical (καὶ αὐτὸς οὐκ ᾔδει, 'but he did not know') discloses the fatal ignorance that the trap exploits.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐγένετο

it came to pass

Aor Mid Indic 3 Sg · γίνομαι

main verb (temporal-formula head: καὶ ἐγένετο ὥς)

→ constative aorist (narrative pivot-marker)

γίνομαι (aor. ἐγένετο): 'become / happen'; the formula καὶ ἐγένετο ὥς renders Hebrew עַל יְדִי ('and it came to pass when'), a standard LXX temporal pivot introducing a decisive narrative turn.

ὥς

when

temporal conjunction

ὥς: 'when / as'; introduces the temporal clause of the king's perception.

εἶδεν

saw

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ὁράω

verb of the temporal clause

→ constative aorist (the king's act of seeing)

ὁράω (aor. εἶδεν): 'see / perceive'; the king of Ai sees the advancing Israelite decoy force and reacts.

βασιλεὺς

king

Nominative

subject of εἶδεν (anarthrous: 'the king of Ai')

βασιλεὺς: 'king'; the king of Ai, the central antagonist, whose sortie springs the trap and whose execution closes the chapter (v.29).

Γαί

of Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival: 'king of Ai')

Γαί: indeclinable; in genitival relation to βασιλεὺς.

ἔσπευσεν

hurried

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · σπεύδω

main verb (the king's hasty response)

→ ingressive aorist (the rush into action)

σπεύδω: 'hasten / hurry'; renders רָחַץ; the king's haste — eager to repeat the earlier rout of Israel — is precisely the rashness the ambush exploits.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐξῆλθεν

went out

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐξέρχομαι

main verb (the sortie out of the city)

→ constative aorist (the sally to battle)

ἐξέρχομαι: 'go out'; the king's sortie out of Ai — the very movement that empties the city for the ambush (fulfilling the plan of vv.5–6).

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (purpose: 'to meet')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

συνάντησιν

a meeting / encounter

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (idiom 'to meet them')

συνάντησις: 'meeting'; εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτοῖς ('to meet them', i.e. the Israelites) = a hostile encounter, a sortie to battle.

αὐτοῖς

them

Dative

dative complement of συνάντησιν ('to meet them')

αὐτοῖς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

ἐπ'

on / straight

preposition + genitive (in the idiom ἐπ' εὐθείας: 'straight on')

ἐπί (elided ἐπ'): in the idiom ἐπ' εὐθείας ('straight ahead / directly'); the king advances headlong, without flanking caution — exposing his rear to the ambush.

εὐθείας

straight

Genitive

genitive (in the idiom ἐπ' εὐθείας: 'straight on')

εὐθύς (fem. εὐθεΐα): 'straight / direct'; ἐπ' εὐθείας ('straight ahead') stresses the king's headlong, unwary advance — the rashness the trap is built on.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (goal/purpose)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεμον

battle / war

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (goal: 'to battle')

πόλεμος: 'war / battle'; renders πολεῖν; the king goes out 'to the battle', confident of victory.

αὐτός

he himself

Nominative

intensive pronoun (resumptive subject: 'he himself')

αὐτός: intensive 'himself'; resumes the king as subject, heading the compound 'he and all the people with him'.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (compound subject)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

πᾶς

all

Nominative

attributive adjective (with λαός)

πᾶς: 'all'; the whole population of Ai sallies out with the king — leaving the city defenseless.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

λαός

people

Nominative

subject (the people of Ai)

λαός: 'people'; here the men of Ai, drawn out with their king.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (attributive with the phrase μετ' αὐτοῦ)

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

μετ'

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment, elided)

μετ': preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

αὐτοῦ

him

Genitive

genitive object of μετ' ('the people with him')

αὐτοῦ: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καὶ

but

conjunction (here adversative, introducing the narrator's parenthetical)

καί: here adversative ('but'), introducing the crucial parenthetical of the king's ignorance.

αὐτός

he

Nominative

subject pronoun (emphatic: 'he himself')

αὐτός: emphatic 'he'; spotlights the king's fatal ignorance of the trap.

οὐκ

not

negative particle (with ἴδεν)

οὐ (οὐκ): negative; the king 'did not know' — the dramatic-ironic key to the whole stratagem.

ἤδει

knew

Plupf Act Indic 3 Sg · οἶδα

main verb of the parenthetical (state of ignorance)

→ pluperfect-as-imperfect (stative: 'he did not know')

οἶδα (plupf. ἤδει, functioning as imperfect): 'know'; the stative pluperfect describes the king's settled ignorance — he was unaware of the ambush behind him; the dramatic irony is the hinge of the chapter.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (introducing object clause of ἤδει)

ὅτι: 'that'; introduces the content of what the king did not know.

ἐνεδρα

an ambush

Nominative

subject of ἔστιν (within the ὅτι-clause)

ἐνεδρον (neut. pl./collective ἐνεδρα): 'ambush'; the hidden detachment whose existence the king fails to perceive.

αὐτῷ

for him / against him

Dative

dative of disadvantage (an ambush against him')

αὐτός (dat.): the dative of disadvantage marks the ambush as set against the king's own interest.

ἔστιν

is / there is

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

verb of the ὅτι-clause (existential: 'there is')

→ stative present (existence of the ambush)

εἰμί: 'be'; existential 'there is an ambush'; the present tense within the report renders the situation vividly real as the king fails to grasp it.

ὀπίσω

behind

improper preposition + genitive (location: 'behind the city')

ὀπίσω: 'behind'; governs τῆς πόλεως; the ambush lies behind/west of Αἰ, exactly where the unwary king cannot see it.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive governed by ὀπίσω

πόλις: 'city'; Αἰ, behind which the trap is set.

15 καὶ εἶδεν καὶ ἀνεχώρησεν Ἰησοῦς καὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν

And Joshua and Israel saw it and withdrew from before them.

Narrative: the feigned retreat begins (main narrative)

καὶ εἶδεν καὶ ἀνεχώρησεν

Joshua and Israel begin the staged withdrawal (ἀνεχώρησεν ... ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν, 'withdrew from before them'), executing the feigned flight planned in v.5. The singular εἶδεν followed by the compound subject Ἰησοῦς καὶ Ἰσραὴλ reflects the loose LXX concord; the retreat is deliberate and controlled, not a real rout.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

εἶδεν

saw

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ὁράω

main verb (perception triggering the retreat)

→ *constative aorist (the act of seeing the sortie)*

ὁράω (aor. εἶδεν): 'see'; Joshua/Israel see the king of Ai coming out — the signal to begin the feigned flight; the singular verb precedes the compound subject (common LXX concord).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἀνεχώρησεν

withdrew

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀναχωρέω

main verb (the staged retreat)

→ *constative aorist (the deliberate withdrawal)*

ἀναχωρέω: 'withdraw / retreat / give way'; here the controlled, feigned retreat — a deliberate withdrawal, not a panicked rout (contrast the real flight of ch. 7); fulfils φευξόμεθα (v.5).

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject (first of compound subject)

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (compound subject)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

Ἰσραηλ

Israel

indeclinable proper noun (subject: the army of Israel)

Ἰσραηλ: transliteration of Hebrew יִשְׂרָאֵל; indeclinable in the LXX; here the people/army of Israel as a collective, joined with Joshua in the feigned retreat.

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (idiom 'from before')

ἀπὸ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

προσώπου

presence / face

Genitive

genitive (idiom ἀπὸ προσώπου: 'from before them')

πρόσωπον: 'face'; ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν ('from before them', rendering מִלְּפָנֶימָה), the standard idiom for retreat before an enemy — here a feigned one.

αὐτῶν

them

Genitive

genitive (the men of Ai before whom Israel withdraws)

αὐτῶν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

16 καὶ κατεδίωξαν ὀπίσω τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραηλ καὶ αὐτοὶ ἀπέστησαν ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως

And they pursued after the sons of Israel, and they themselves drew away from the city.

Narrative: the men of Ai pursue and abandon the city (main narrative) καὶ κατεδίωξαν

The defenders of Ai take the bait fully: they pursue (κατεδίωξαν) the retreating Israelites and in doing so draw away (ἀπέστησαν) from the city — the precise outcome Joshua planned (ἀποσπάσομεν αὐτούς ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως, v.6). The intensive compound κατα-διώκω ('pursue hard') conveys the eagerness that seals their doom.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

κατεδίωξαν

they pursued

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · καταδιώκω

main verb (the pursuit)

→ *constative aorist (the act of pursuit)*

καταδιώκω: 'pursue closely / chase down'; renders ἡΤῇ; the intensive κατα- conveys hot, eager pursuit; the men of Ai chase the retreating Israelites, abandoning their defensive position.

ὀπίσω

after

improper preposition + genitive ('after the sons of Israel')

ὀπίσω: 'after / behind'; here in pursuit, governing the genitive τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραηλ.

τῶν

the

Genitive

article

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱῶν

sons

Genitive

genitive governed by ὀπίσω ('after the sons of Israel')

υἱός (gen. pl. υἱῶν): 'son'; the phrase οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραηλ ('the sons of Israel') renders יְהוּדָאֵי, the standard designation of the people.

Ἰσραηλ

of Israel

indeclinable proper noun (genitival: 'sons of Israel')

Ἰσραηλ: indeclinable; here in genitival relation to υἱῶν.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

αὐτοὶ

they themselves

Nominative

intensive subject pronoun (the men of Ai)

αὐτός (nom. pl. αὐτοί): intensive 'they themselves'; underscores that the defenders' own act of pursuit is what strips the city of protection.

ἀπέστησαν

drew away

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀφίστημι

main verb (the fatal separation from the city)

→ *constative aorist (the completed withdrawal from the city)*

ἀφίστημι: 'withdraw / depart / stand away from'; the intransitive aorist ἀπέστησαν ('they drew away') marks the defenders' fatal separation from Ai, fulfilling the aim of v.6 (ἀποσπάσομεν ... ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως).

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (separation)

ἀπὸ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive of separation (governed by ἀπό)

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, now left undefended as its men pursue Israel.

17 οὐ κατελείφθη οὐθὲς ἐν τῇ Γαι ὃς οὐ κατεδίωξεν ὀπίσω Ἰσραὴλ καὶ κατέλιπον τὴν πόλιν ἀνεωγμένην καὶ κατεδίωξαν ὀπίσω Ἰσραὴλ

Not one was left in Ai who did not pursue after Israel; and they left the city open and pursued after Israel.

Narrative emphasis: the city left totally undefended (main narrative)

οὐ κατελείφθη οὐθὲς

The verse drives home the completeness of the trap with an emphatic double negative (οὐ ... οὐθὲς ... ὃς οὐ, 'not one ... who did not'): the entire population pursues, leaving the city ἀνεωγμένην ('open / wide open'). The repetition κατεδίωξεν ... κατεδίωξαν frames the verse, stressing the total, fatal exodus of Ai's defenders.

οὐ

not

negative particle (with κατελείφθη)

οὐ: negative; part of the emphatic double-negative construction stressing total participation in the pursuit.

κατελείφθη

was left

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · καταλείπω

main verb (passive: 'was left behind')

→ constative aorist passive (resultant state: none remained)

καταλείπω: 'leave behind / leave remaining'; the aorist passive κατελείφθη ('was left') with οὐθείς states that no defender at all stayed behind in Ai.

οὐθείς

no one

Nominative

subject (negative pronoun: 'no one')

οὐθείς (= οὐδεῖς): 'no one / not one'; the Hellenistic spelling with -θ- is common in the LXX; reinforces the double negative — every single man of Ai joined the pursuit.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (locative)

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῇ

the

Dative

article (with indeclinable Γαί, marking dative)

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Γαί

Ai

indeclinable place-name (locative, case by article)

Γαί: indeclinable; the dative force ('in Ai') is supplied by the article τῇ.

ὅς

who

Nominative

relative pronoun (subject of κατεδίωξεν, modifying οὐθείς)

ὅς: relative; ὅς οὐ ('who did not') completes the emphatic double negative — there was no one who failed to pursue.

οὐ

not

negative particle (in the relative clause)

οὐ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κατεδίωξεν

pursued

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · καταδιώκω

verb of the relative clause

→ constative aorist (each man's pursuit)

καταδιώκω: 'pursue closely'; the singular agrees with οὐθείς/ὅς; the litotes 'no one who did not pursue' = 'every single one pursued'.

ὀπίσω

after

improper preposition + genitive ('after Israel')

ὀπίσω: 'after'; in pursuit, governing Ἰσραηλ.

Ἰσραηλ

Israel

indeclinable proper noun (genitival object of ὀπίσω)

Ἰσραηλ: indeclinable; the object of the pursuit.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

κατέλιπον

they left

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · καταλείπω

main verb (abandonment of the city)

→ **constative aorist (the completed abandonment)**

καταλείπω (aor. act. κατέλιπον): 'leave / abandon'; the men of Ai abandon the city — and crucially leave it 'open' (ἀνεωγμένην), defenseless before the ambush.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν

city

Accusative

direct object of κατέλιπον

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, left undefended.

ἀνεωγμένην

open / standing open

Perf Pass Ptc Acc Fem Sg · ἀνοίγω

predicative participle (object complement: 'left the city open')

→ **perfect passive participle (resultant state: standing open)**

ἀνοίγω (perf. pass. ptc. ἀνεωγμένην): 'open'; the perfect participle denotes the resultant state — the city left standing wide open, its gates unguarded, ripe for the ambush to seize.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (resumptive)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

κατεδίωξαν

they pursued

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · καταδιώκω

main verb (resumptive: the pursuit continues)

→ **constative aorist (the renewed/continued pursuit)**

καταδιώκω: 'pursue closely'; the repeated verb (cf. v.16) frames the verse, hammering the point: every defender is now committed to the pursuit, far from the city.

ὀπίσω

after

improper preposition + genitive ('after Israel')

ὀπίσω: 'after'; governs Ἰσραηλ.

Ἰσραηλ

Israel

indeclinable proper noun (genitival object of ὀπίσω)

Ἰσραηλ: indeclinable; the object of the pursuit.

18 καὶ εἶπεν κύριος πρὸς Ἰησοῦν ἔκτεινον τὴν χειρὰ σου ἐν τῷ γαῖσῳ τῷ ἐν τῇ χειρὶ σου ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν εἰς γὰρ τὰς χειράς σου παραδέδωκα αὐτήν καὶ τὰ ἔνεδρα ἐξαναστήσονται ἐν τάχει ἐκ τοῦ τόπου αὐτῶν καὶ ἐξέτεινεν Ἰησοῦς τὴν χειρὰ αὐτοῦ τὸν γαῖσον ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν

And the LORD said to Joshua, 'Stretch out your hand with the javelin that is in your hand toward the city, for into your hands I have delivered it, and the ambush shall rise up quickly out of their place.' And Joshua stretched out his hand, the javelin, toward the city.

Divine command and its immediate execution: the javelin-signal (main narrative)

καὶ εἶπεν κύριος πρὸς Ἰησοῦν

At the climactic moment YHWH again speaks (cf. v.1), commanding the javelin-signal. The gift-formula recurs (εἰς ... τὰς χειράς σου παραδέδωκα αὐτήν, echoing δέδωκα of v.1), and the stretching-out of the weapon (ἔκτεινον ... τὴν χειρὰ) is the agreed sign for the ambush to spring. The command is fulfilled at once (καὶ ἐξέτεινεν Ἰησοῦς), the gesture recalling Moses' outstretched hand/staff in the Exodus victories (Exod 14:16, 26).

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

εἶπεν
said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introducing formula)

→ constative aorist (single divine speech-act)

λέγω (aor. εἶπεν): introduces the second divine speech of the chapter, at the decisive moment of the battle.

κύριος
LORD

Nominative

subject

κύριος: rendering of the Tetragrammaton יהוה; YHWH directs the timing of the decisive blow, underscoring that the victory is his gift.

πρὸς
to

preposition + accusative (direction of speech)

πρὸς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

Ἰησοῦν

Joshua

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς (recipient of speech)

Ἰησοῦς (acc. Ἰησοῦν): the recipient of the divine signal-command.

ἔκτεινον

stretch out

Aor Act Impv 2 Sg · ἐκτείνω

main verb (divine imperative: the signal-gesture)

→ **ingressive aorist imperative (decisive command)**

ἐκτείνω: 'stretch out / extend'; renders הִנֵּךְ; the command to stretch out the hand/javelin recalls Moses' outstretched hand over the sea (Exod 14:16, 26); here it is the prearranged signal for the ambush.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χεῖρά

hand

Accusative

direct object of ἔκτεινον

χεῖρ: 'hand'; the outstretched hand bearing the javelin is the visible signal to the ambush.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession (with χεῖρα)

σου: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

ἐν

with

preposition + dative (instrumental: 'with the javelin')

ἐν + dat.: here instrumental ('with'), a Hebraizing use rendering אֶ of means.

τῷ

the

Dative

article

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

γαῖσῶ

javelin

Dative

dative of instrument (with ἐν: 'with the javelin')

γαῖσος: 'javelin / spear' (a Celtic/Gallic loanword for a heavy throwing-spear); renders הַיָּדָוִן; the weapon Joshua extends as the battle-signal — the same word the MT uses for the sign held aloft until Ai was destroyed.

τῷ

the

Dative

article (attributive, introducing the relative-like phrase)

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (locative: 'in your hand')

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῇ

the

Dative

article

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χειρί

hand

Dative

dative of place (locative: 'in your hand')

χεῖρ (dat. χειρί): 'hand'; the attributive phrase τῷ ἐν τῇ χειρί σου ('that is in your hand') specifies the javelin Joshua holds.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession (with χειρῖ)

σου: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

ἐπὶ

toward / against

preposition + accusative (direction: 'toward the city')

ἐπί + acc.: 'toward / against'; the javelin is pointed at the city as the directional signal.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν

city

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπί

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, the target of the signal-gesture.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (idiom 'into your hands')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

γάρ

for

causal particle (post-positive, giving the ground of the command)

γάρ: 'for'; introduces the reason for the signal — the city has already been given into Joshua's hands.

τὰς

the

Accusative

article

τὰς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χεῖράς

hands

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (idiom of conquest: 'into your hands')

χεῖρ (acc. pl. χεῖρας): the idiom εἰς τὰς χεῖρας παραδίδωμι ('deliver into the hands') = grant total victory (cf. v.1, δέδωκα εἰς τὰς χεῖράς σου).

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession (with χεῖρας)

σου: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

παραδέδωκα

I have delivered

Perf Act Indic 1 Sg · παραδίδωμι

main verb (divine gift-formula, perfect)

→ perfect of accomplished fact (declarative/prophetic perfect)

παραδίδωμι: 'hand over / deliver up'; renders יָדַבַּר (in the 'give into the hand' idiom); the perfect παραδέδωκα ('I have delivered') restates the gift-formula of v.1 (δέδωκα), assuring victory as already accomplished in the divine will.

αὐτήν

it

Accusative

direct object of παραδέδωκα (the city)

αὐτός (acc. fem. αὐτήν): refers to ἡ πόλις, the city Ai, delivered into Joshua's hands.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (within the divine speech)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὰ

the

Nominative

article (with ἔνεδρα)

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἔνεδρα

ambush

Nominative

subject of ἐξαναστήσονται

ἔνεδρον (collective neut. pl. ἔνεδρα): 'ambush-force'; the detachment that will spring at the javelin-signal.

ἐξαναστήσονται

shall rise up

Fut Mid Indic 3 Pl · ἐξανίστημι

main verb (prediction of the ambush springing)

→ predictive future (the imminent springing of the ambush)

ἐξανίστημι: 'rise up out of'; the future predicts what the signal will trigger; fulfilled immediately at v.19 (ἐξανέστησαν); echoes the command of v.7 (ἐξαναστήσεσθε).

ἐν

in / with

preposition + dative (manner: 'quickly')

ἐν + dat.: in the adverbial phrase ἐν τάχει ('quickly / in haste').

τάχει

haste / quickly

Dative

dative of manner (ἐν τάχει: 'quickly')

τάχος: 'speed / haste'; ἐν τάχει = 'quickly'; the suddenness of the ambush's rising is essential to seizing the city before the defenders can return.

ἐκ

out of

preposition + genitive (source)

ἐκ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

τόπου

place

Genitive

genitive of source (governed by ἐκ: 'out of their place')

τόπος: 'place / position'; the concealed position from which the ambush will spring.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession (with τόπου)

αὐτῶν: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (introducing the execution of the command)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐξέτεινεν

stretched out

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐκτείνω

main verb (immediate fulfilment of ἔκτεινον)

→ constative aorist (the completed signal-gesture)

ἐκτείνω (aor. ἐξέτεινεν): 'stretch out'; the immediate execution of the command ἔκτεινον — Joshua extends the javelin toward the city, springing the ambush.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

τὴν the Accusative article τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.	χεῖρα hand Accusative direct object of ἐξέτεινεν χεῖρ: 'hand'; the hand bearing the javelin, extended as the signal.	αὐτοῦ his Genitive genitive of possession (with χεῖρα) αὐτοῦ: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.	τὸν the Accusative article (with γαῖσον, in apposition to χεῖρα) τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.
γαῖσον javelin Accusative accusative in apposition ('his hand, the javelin') γαῖσος (acc. γαῖσον): 'javelin'; in apposition to χεῖρα — the hand and the weapon it holds are stretched out together as the signal.	ἐπὶ toward preposition + accusative (direction) ἐπὶ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.	τὴν the Accusative article τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.	πόλιν city Accusative accusative object of ἐπὶ πόλις: 'city'; Ai, toward which the signal is given.

19 καὶ τὰ ἔνεδρα ἐξανέστησαν ἐν τάχει ἐκ τοῦ τόπου αὐτῶν καὶ ἐξήλθοσαν ὅτε ἐξέτεινεν τὴν χεῖρα καὶ ἦλθοσαν ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν καὶ κατελάβοντο αὐτὴν καὶ σπεύσαντες ἐνέπρησαν τὴν πόλιν ἐν πυρί

And the ambush rose up quickly out of their place and came out when he stretched out his hand, and they came to the city and seized it, and hurrying they set the city on fire.

Narrative climax: the ambush springs and fires the city (main narrative)

καὶ τὰ ἔνεδρα ἐξανέστησαν

The ambush executes its commission in a rapid chain of aorists (ἐξανέστησαν ... ἐξήλθοσαν ... ἦλθοσαν ... κατελάβοντο ... ἐνέπρησαν), the staccato verbs conveying the speed of the assault. The temporal ὅτε ἐξέτεινεν ('when he stretched out') ties the springing precisely to Joshua's signal (v.18). The firing of the city (ἐνέπρησαν ... ἐν πυρί) is the visible sign that turns the battle (v.20).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὰ

the

Nominative

article (with ἔνεδρα)

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἔνεδρα

ambush

Nominative

subject of ἐξανέστησαν

ἔνεδρον (collective neut. pl. ἔνεδρα): 'ambush-force'; the concealed detachment now springs into action.

ἐξανέστησαν

rose up

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἐξανίστημι

main verb (the ambush springs)

→ *ingressive aorist (the sudden rising)*

ἐξανίστημι (aor. ἐξανέστησαν): 'rise up out of'; fulfils the prediction ἐξαναστήσονται (v.18) and the command ἐξαναστήσεσθε (v.7) — the ambush springs from concealment.

ἐν

in / with

preposition + dative (manner: 'quickly')

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τάχει

haste / quickly

Dative

dative of manner (ἐν τάχει: 'quickly')

τάχος: 'speed'; ἐν τάχει ('quickly') echoes v.18 verbatim — the ambush moves with the prescribed speed.

ἐκ

out of

preposition + genitive (source)

ἐκ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

τόπου

place

Genitive

genitive of source (ἐκ τοῦ τόπου: 'out of their place')

τόπος: 'place / position'; the ambush's concealed position west of the city.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession (with τόπου)

αὐτῶν: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐξήλθοσαν

came out

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἐξέρχομαι

main verb (the ambush emerges)

→ *constative aorist (the emergence from concealment)*

ἐξέρχομαι (aor. ἐξήλθοσαν): 'come out'; the Hellenistic -οσαν 3rd-pl. ending (for classical ἐξῆλθον) is characteristic of the LXX; the ambush emerges from hiding.

ὅτε

when

temporal conjunction

ὅτε: 'when'; ties the ambush's emergence precisely to the moment of Joshua's signal.

ἐξέτεινεν

he stretched out

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐκτείνω

verb of the temporal clause (the signal-moment)

→ *constative aorist (the signal-gesture)*

ἐκτείνω: 'stretch out'; refers back to Joshua's javelin-signal (v.18); the ambush springs the instant the hand is extended.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χεῖρα

hand

Accusative

direct object of ἐξέτεινεν

χεῖρ: 'hand'; the signal-hand of Joshua.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἦλθοσαν

they came

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἔρχομαι

main verb (arrival at the city)

→ *constative aorist (the completed advance into the city)*

ἔρχομαι (aor. ἦλθοσαν): 'come!'; again the Hellenistic -οσαν ending; the ambush reaches the now-open city, fulfilling πορεύσεσθε εἰς τὴν πόλιν (v.7).

ἐπὶ

to / upon

preposition + accusative (goal)

ἐπὶ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν

city

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπὶ (goal of the assault)

πόλις: 'city'; the undefended Ai.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

κατελάβοντο

they seized

Aor Mid Indic 3 Pl · καταλαμβάνω

main verb (the capture of the city)

→ *constative aorist (the completed seizure)*

καταλαμβάνω: 'seize / take possession of / capture'; renders τῶν; the middle κατελάβοντο stresses the ambush's taking the city for themselves; the decisive capture.

αὐτήν

it

Accusative

direct object of κατελάβοντο (the city)

αὐτός (acc. fem. αὐτήν): the city Ai, now seized.

καὶ and <i>narrative conjunction</i> καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.	σπεύσαντες hurrying Aor Act Ptc Nom Masc Pl · σπεύδω <i>circumstantial participle (manner: 'in haste')</i> → <i>ingressive aorist participle (acting quickly)</i> σπεύδω (ptc. σπεύσαντες): 'hasten / hurry'; the participle stresses the urgency — the city must be fired at once so its smoke can signal Israel to turn (v.20).	ἐνέπρησαν they set on fire Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἐμπίμπρημι / ἐμπρήθω <i>main verb (the firing of the city)</i> → <i>constative aorist (the completed burning)</i> ἐμπίμπρημι (aor. ἐνέπρησαν): 'set on fire / burn up'; renders תַּצַּד־ / הִלָּחֵץ; the firing of Ai produces the column of smoke that is the agreed signal to the main force (cf. v.20).	τὴν the Accusative <i>article</i> τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.
πόλιν city Accusative <i>direct object of ἐνέπρησαν</i> πόλις: 'city'; Ai, set ablaze by the ambush.	ἐν with <i>preposition + dative (instrumental: 'with fire')</i> ἐν + dat.: instrumental ('with fire'), a Hebraizing rendering of שֶׁבַע.	πυρί fire Dative <i>dative of instrument (ἐν πυρί: 'with fire')</i> πῦρ (dat. πυρί): 'fire'; renders שֶׁבַע; the instrument of the city's destruction; the rising smoke becomes the battle-signal.	

20 καὶ περιβλέψαντες οἱ κάτοικοι Γαι εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω αὐτῶν καὶ ἐθεώρουν καπνὸν ἀναβαίνοντα ἐκ τῆς πόλεως εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν καὶ οὐκέτι εἶχον ποῦ φύγωσιν ὧδε ἢ ὧδε

And the inhabitants of Ai, looking back behind them, saw the smoke going up from the city to heaven; and they no longer had anywhere to flee, this way or that.

Narrative reversal: the men of Ai realize the trap (main narrative) καὶ περιβλέψαντες

The reversal lands: the men of Ai, looking back, see the smoke of their own city rising εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν ('to heaven') and realize they are trapped between two forces with nowhere to flee (οὐκέτι εἶχον ποῦ φύγωσιν, ὧδε ἢ ὧδε, 'this way or that'). The imperfect ἐθεώρουν dwells on their dawning horror; the merism ὧδε ἢ ὧδε underlines the totality of the encirclement.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

περιβλέψαντες

looking around / back

Aor Act Ptc Nom Masc Pl · περιβλέπω

circumstantial participle (temporal: 'when they looked back')

→ *ingressive aorist participle (the act of turning to look)*

περιβλέπω (ptc. περιβλέψαντες): 'look around / look back'; the compound περι- ('around') suits the men of Ai turning to look behind them — and seeing the catastrophe.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with κάτοικοι)

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κάτοικοι

inhabitants

Nominative

subject (the men of Ai)

κάτοικος: 'inhabitant / dweller'; renders בָּשׂוּרִי; the men of Ai who had sallied out and now see their city aflame behind them.

Γαι

of Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival: 'inhabitants of Ai')

Γαι: indeclinable; in genitival relation to κάτοικοι.

εἰς

to / toward

preposition + accusative (direction of looking: 'behind them')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὰ

the

Accusative

article (substantivizing ὀπίσω)

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὀπίσω

behind

adverb substantivized by τὰ (εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω: 'to the rear / behind them')

ὀπίσω: 'behind / to the rear'; εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω αὐτῶν ('behind them'), the direction in which they glimpse their burning city.

αὐτῶν

them

Genitive

genitive (with τὰ ὀπίσω: 'behind them')

αὐτῶν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (resuming after the participle)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐθεώρουν

they saw / beheld

Impf Act Indic 3 Pl · θεωρέω

main verb (durative perception of the disaster)

→ *durative imperfect (the dawning, horrified beholding)*

θεωρέω: 'behold / gaze at / observe'; the imperfect ἐθεώρουν dwells on the men of Ai gazing in dawning horror at the smoke of their city.

καπνὸν

smoke

Accusative

direct object of ἐθεώρουν

καπνός: 'smoke'; renders בָּשָׁן; the rising smoke of Ai is both the proof of the city's fall and the agreed signal turning the battle.

ἀναβαίνοντα

going up / ascending

Pres Act Ptc Acc Masc Sg · ἀναβαίνω

attributive participle (modifying καπνόν: 'smoke ascending')

→ durative present participle (the ongoing ascent of the smoke)

ἀναβαίνω (ptc. ἀναβαίνοντα): 'go up / ascend'; the present participle pictures the smoke continuously rising — a vivid, ongoing sign of doom.

ἐκ

from

preposition + genitive (source)

ἐκ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive of source (the smoke's origin)

πόλις: 'city'; their own Αἰ, ablaze.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (direction: 'to heaven')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

οὐρανόν

heaven / sky

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (direction of the smoke)

οὐρανός: 'heaven / sky'; renders οὐρανὸν; εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν ('up to heaven') stresses the height and visibility of the smoke-column — unmistakable to both armies.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

οὐκέτι

no longer

adverb of time (negative: 'no longer')

οὐκέτι: 'no longer / no more'; marks the decisive turn — escape, once possible, is now gone.

εἶχον

they had

Impf Act Indic 3 Pl · ἔχω

main verb (durative: 'they had [no place]')

→ durative imperfect (the state of being trapped)

ἔχω (impf. εἶχον): 'have'; with the indirect question ποῦ φύγωσιν, 'they had nowhere to flee'; the imperfect conveys their sustained, helpless entrapment.

ποῦ

where

interrogative adverb (introducing deliberative indirect question)

ποῦ: 'where'; introduces the deliberative indirect question 'where they might flee'.

φύγωσιν

they might flee

Aor Act Subj 3 Pl · φεύγω

deliberative subjunctive (in indirect question: 'where to flee')

→ deliberative aorist subjunctive (no possible escape)

φεύγω (aor. subj. φύγωσιν): 'flee'; the deliberative subjunctive ('where they might flee') expresses their futile search for any escape route — there is none.

ὧδε

this way / here

adverb of place (first member of merism)

ὧδε: 'here / this way'; the pair ὧδε ἢ ὡδε ('this way or that') is a merism for every direction — total encirclement.

ἢ

or

disjunctive conjunction

ἢ: 'or'; joins the two members of the directional merism.

ὡδε

that way / there

adverb of place (second member of merism)

ὡδε: 'here / that way'; repeated to express 'either way' — no direction of escape remains.

21 καὶ Ἰησοῦς καὶ πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ εἶδον ὅτι ἔλαβον τὰ ἔνεδρα τὴν πόλιν καὶ ὅτι ἀνέβη ὁ καπνὸς τῆς πόλεως εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ μεταβαλόμενοι ἐπάταξαν τοὺς ἄνδρας τῆς Γαι

And Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city and that the smoke of the city had gone up to heaven; and turning back they struck down the men of Ai.

Narrative: the main force turns and attacks (main narrative)

καὶ Ἰησοῦς καὶ πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ εἶδον

The decoy force completes the reversal: seeing the smoke-signal (the double ὅτι-clauses confirming both the capture and the rising smoke), Joshua and all Israel turn back (μεταβαλόμενοι) from their feigned flight and strike the now-trapped men of Ai. The participle μεταβαλόμενοι ('having turned about') marks the transition from feigned retreat to real assault.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject (first of compound subject)

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (compound subject)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

πᾶς

all

Nominative

attributive adjective (with Ἰσραὴλ)

πᾶς: 'all'; the whole decoy force together with Joshua.

Ισραηλ

Israel

indeclinable proper noun (subject)

Ισραηλ: indeclinable; the army of Israel as a collective.

εἶδον

saw

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ὁράω

main verb (perception of the signal)

→ constative aorist (the act of seeing the smoke)

ὁράω (aor. εἶδον): 'see'; Joshua and Israel perceive the smoke-signal — the cue to turn from feigned flight to attack.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (object clause of εἶδον)

ὅτι: 'that'; introduces the first object clause (the capture of the city).

ἔλαβον

had taken

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · λαμβάνω

verb of the first ὅτι-clause

→ constative aorist (the completed capture)

λαμβάνω (aor. ἔλαβον): 'take / seize'; here of the ambush's capture of the city (cf. κατελάβοντο, v.19).

τὰ

the

Nominative

article (with ἔνεδρα)

τὰ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἔνεδρα

ambush

Nominative

subject of ἔλαβον

ἔνεδρον (collective neut. pl. ἔνεδρα): 'ambush-force'; the detachment that has taken the city.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν

city

Accusative

direct object of ἔλαβον

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, captured by the ambush.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (linking the two ὅτι-clauses)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (second object clause of εἶδον)

ὅτι: introduces the second object clause (the rising smoke).

ἀνέβη

had gone up

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀναβαίνω

verb of the second ὅτι-clause

→ constative aorist (the completed ascent of the smoke)

ἀναβαίνω (aor. ἀνέβη): 'go up / ascend'; the smoke has risen to heaven — the unmistakable signal (cf. v.20).

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

καπνός

smoke

Nominative

subject of ἀνέβη

καπνός: 'smoke'; the smoke of Ai, the agreed battle-signal.

τῆς

of the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive of source/possession ('the smoke of the city')

πόλις: 'city'; Ai.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (direction)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

οὐρανόν

heaven

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (direction of the smoke)

οὐρανός: 'heaven / sky'; εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν ('to heaven'), echoing v.20 — the signal seen by both armies.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

μεταβαλόμενοι

turning back / about

Aor Mid Ptc Nom Masc Pl · μεταβάλλω

circumstantial participle (manner/temporal: 'having turned about')

→ ingressive aorist participle (the reversal from flight to attack)

μεταβάλλω (aor. mid. ptc. μεταβαλόμενοι): 'turn about / change/reverse'; the middle marks the decisive reversal — Israel wheels from feigned flight to real assault on the trapped men of Ai.

ἐπάταξαν

they struck down

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · πατάσσω

main verb (the counterattack)

→ constative aorist (the act of striking)

πατάσσω: 'strike / smite / kill'; renders 𐤑𐤕𐤕; the standard LXX verb for striking down an enemy in battle; here the slaughter of the men of Ai caught between the two forces.

τούς

the

Accusative

article

τούς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄνδρας

men

Accusative

direct object of ἐπάταξαν

ἄνθρωπος (acc. pl. ἄνδρας): 'man'; the fighting men of Ai, now struck down.

τῆς

of

Genitive

article with indeclinable Ἰαί (genitival: 'of Ai')

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Γαι

Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival, case by article)

Γαι: indeclinable; 'the men of Ai', the genitive supplied by τῆς.

22 καὶ οὗτοι ἐξήλθοσαν ἐκ τῆς πόλεως εἰς συνάντησιν καὶ ἐγενήθησαν ἀνὰ μέσον τῆς παρεμβολῆς οὗτοι ἐντεῦθεν καὶ οὗτοι ἐντεῦθεν καὶ ἐπάταξαν ἕως τοῦ μὴ καταλειφθῆναι αὐτῶν σεσωσμένον καὶ διαπεφευγότα

And these came out of the city to meet them, and they were in the midst of the camp, these on this side and these on that side; and they struck them until there was left of them none who was saved or who had escaped.

Narrative: the pincer closes, total annihilation (main narrative)

καὶ οὗτοι ἐξήλθοσαν

The ambush detachment now sallies from the captured city to complete the pincer: the men of Ai are caught ἀνὰ μέσον ('in the midst'), with Israelite forces οὗτοι ἐντεῦθεν καὶ οὗτοι ἐντεῦθεν ('these on this side and those on that'). The result clause ἕως τοῦ μὴ καταλειφθῆναι ... σεσωσμένον καὶ διαπεφευγότα ('until none was left saved or escaped') states the total annihilation in the language of the ban.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

οὗτοι

these

Nominative

subject (the ambush detachment from the city)

οὗτος (nom. pl. οὗτοι): 'these'; here the ambush detachment, now coming out of the captured city to take the men of Ai from the rear.

ἐξήλθοσαν

came out

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἐξέρχομαι

main verb (the sally from the city)

→ *constative aorist (the completed sortie)*

ἐξέρχομαι (aor. ἐξήλθοσαν): 'come out'; Hellenistic -οσαν ending; the ambush sallies from the captured city to close the pincer on the men of Ai.

ἐκ

out of

preposition + genitive (source)

ἐκ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλεως

city

Genitive

genitive of source (ἐκ τῆς πόλεως: 'out of the city')

πόλις: 'city'; the captured Ai, now the base from which the second prong attacks.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (purpose: 'to meet')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

συνάντησιν

a meeting / encounter

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (idiom: 'to meet [them]')

συνάντησις: 'meeting'; εἰς συνάντησιν, a hostile encounter — the ambush moves to engage the men of Ai from behind.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐγενήθησαν

they were / came to be

Aor Pass Indic 3 Pl · γίνομαι

main verb (the men of Ai caught in the middle)

→ constative aorist (the resultant entrapment)

γίνομαι (aor. pass. ἐγενήθησαν): 'become / come to be / be situated'; the men of Ai 'came to be in the midst' — caught between the two Israelite forces.

ἀνά

amid

preposition (idiom ἀνά μέσον: 'in the midst')

ἀνά: in the idiom ἀνά μέσον ('in the midst of'); the men of Ai are surrounded.

μέσον

midst

Accusative

accusative (idiom ἀνά μέσον: 'in the midst')

μέσος: 'middle / midst'; ἀνά μέσον τῆς παρεμβολῆς ('in the midst of the camp/army') — the men of Ai trapped between Israel's two divisions.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

παρεμβολῆς

camp / army

Genitive

genitive (with ἀνά μέσον: 'in the midst of the army')

παρεμβολή: 'camp / army / battle-array'; renders הַחֲמִשָּׁה ; here the Israelite battle-formation — the men of Ai are hemmed inside it, the two prongs to either side.

οὗτοι

these

Nominative

subject (one Israelite force: 'these on this side')

οὗτος: 'these'; the distributive pair οὗτοι ἐντεῦθεν καὶ οὗτοι ἐντεῦθεν ('these on one side and those on the other') describes the encircling pincer.

ἐντεῦθεν

on this side

adverb of place (first member of the distributive pair)

ἐντεῦθεν: 'from here / on this side'; the doubled ἐντεῦθεν ... ἐντεῦθεν ('on this side ... on that side') renders the Hebrew ... הֵן וְהֵן , marking the two-pronged attack.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

οὗτοι
these

Nominative

subject (other Israelite force: 'those on that side')

οὗτος: 'these'; the second prong of the pincer.

ἐντεῦθεν
on that side

adverb of place (second member of the distributive pair)

ἐντεῦθεν: 'on that side'; completes the pincer image — the men of Ai are attacked from both directions at once.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐπάταξαν
they struck down

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · πατάσσω

main verb (the slaughter)

→ *constative aorist (the act of striking)*

πατάσσω: 'strike / smite / kill'; renders תַּחַשׁ; the slaughter of the encircled men of Ai.

ἕως
until

conjunction (with articular infinitive: result/extent)

ἕως: 'until / to the point that'; with the articular infinitive τοῦ μὴ καταλειφθῆναι expresses the extent of the slaughter — to the point of total annihilation.

τοῦ
the

Genitive

article (with the infinitive καταλειφθῆναι)

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

μὴ
not

negative particle (with the infinitive)

μὴ: negative with the infinitive in the result-clause ('until none was left').

καταλειφθῆναι
to be left

Aor Pass Inf · καταλείπω

articular infinitive (result/extent with ἕως τοῦ)

→ *aorist passive infinitive (the resultant total destruction)*

καταλείπω (aor. pass. inf.): 'leave / leave remaining'; the construction ἕως τοῦ μὴ καταλειφθῆναι ('until none was left') is the standard LXX idiom for total annihilation under the ban (cf. 10:33; 11:8).

αὐτῶν
of them

Genitive

partitive genitive (with the infinitive: 'of them none')

αὐτός (gen. pl. αὐτῶν): partitive ('of them') — of the men of Ai, none was left.

σεσωσμένον
one saved / surviving

Perf Pass Ptc Acc Masc Sg · σῶζω

substantival participle (subject-accusative of the infinitive: 'a survivor')

→ *perfect passive participle (resultant state: one in a saved condition)*

σῶζω (perf. pass. ptc. σεσωσμένον): 'save / preserve'; the perfect participle 'one (left) in a saved state' = a survivor; renders טַרְיָן / טַרְיָן; none of Ai survived.

καὶ
or

coordinate conjunction (joining the two participles)

καί: here 'or / and', pairing the two near-synonymous participles of survival.

διαπεφευγότα

one who had escaped

Perf Act Ptc Acc Masc Sg · διαφεύγω

*substantival participle (parallel to σεσωσμένον:
'a fugitive')*

→ perfect active participle (resultant state:
one who had got away)

διαφεύγω (perf. act. ptc. διαπεφευγότα):
'escape / flee through'; the compound δια-
(*'through'*) stresses getting clean away;
paired with σεσωσμένον, the doublet
underlines that not a single man of Ai
survived or escaped — the completeness of
the ban.

23 καὶ τὸν βασιλέα τῆς Γαι συνέλαβον ζῶντα καὶ προσήγαγον αὐτὸν πρὸς Ἰησοῦν

And the king of Ai they took alive and brought him to Joshua.

Narrative: the king of Ai captured alive (main narrative) καὶ τὸν βασιλέα τῆς Γαι συνέλαβον

The fronted object τὸν βασιλέα ('the king') highlights the single exception to the slaughter: the king of Ai is taken alive (ζῶντα) and brought to Joshua, setting up his judicial execution at v.29 — the fulfilment of the divine gift-formula of v.1 ('I have given the king of Ai into your hands').

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with βασιλέα, fronted object)

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέα

king

Accusative

direct object of συνέλαβον (fronted for emphasis)

βασιλεύς (acc. βασιλέα): 'king'; the fronted object marks the king of Ai as the singular exception to the total slaughter — reserved for judicial execution.

τῆς

of

Genitive

article with indeclinable Γαι (genitival: 'of Ai')

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Γαι

Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival, case by article)

Γαι: indeclinable; 'the king of Ai', the genitive supplied by τῆς.

συνέλαβον

they took / seized

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · συλλαμβάνω

main verb (the capture of the king)

→ *constative aorist (the act of seizing)*

συλλαμβάνω: 'seize / arrest / capture'; renders שָׁבַח; the verb of taking a prisoner; the king is captured rather than killed in the field.

ζῶντα

alive

Pres Act Ptc Acc Masc Sg · ζάω

predicative participle (object complement: 'took him alive')

→ *durative present participle (in the state of being alive)*

ζάω (ptc. ζῶντα): 'live / be alive'; the predicative participle ('alive') stresses that the king was captured living — reserved for the public execution of v.29.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

προσήγαγον

they brought

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · προσάγω

main verb (presenting the prisoner)

→ *constative aorist (the act of leading up)*

προσάγω: 'bring / lead to / present'; renders שָׁבַח / בָּרַח (Hiphil); the king is brought before Joshua as a captive for judgment.

αὐτόν

him

Accusative

direct object of προσήγαγον (the king)

αὐτόν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

πρός

to

preposition + accusative (direction)

πρός: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

Ἰησοῦν

Joshua

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς (to whom the king is brought)

Ἰησοῦς (acc. Ἰησοῦν): Joshua, before whom the captured king is set for judgment (cf. v.29).

24 καὶ ὥς ἐπαύσαντο οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραηλ ἀποκτένοντες πάντας τοὺς ἐν τῇ Γαι τοὺς ἐν τοῖς πεδίοις καὶ ἐν τῷ ὄρει ἐπὶ τῆς καταβάσεως οὗ κατεδίωξαν αὐτοὺς ἀπ' αὐτῆς εἰς τέλος καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν Ἰησοῦς εἰς Γαι καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτὴν ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας

And when the sons of Israel had finished killing all those in Ai, those in the plains and on the mountain, on the descent where they had pursued them from it to the end, then Joshua returned to Ai and struck it with the edge of the sword.

Narrative: the slaughter complete, Joshua razes the city (main narrative)

καὶ ὥς ἐπαύσαντο

A temporal ὥς-clause sums up the completed slaughter of all the men of Ai — in the open fields and on the mountain-descent where they had been pursued εἰς τέλος ('to the end / utterly'). The apodosis (καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν Ἰησοῦς, with apodotic καί) then narrates Joshua's return to the city to put it to the sword (ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας, 'with the edge of the sword'), the ban-formula for total destruction.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ὥς

when

temporal conjunction (introducing the protasis)

ὥς: 'when / as'; introduces the temporal clause summarizing the completed slaughter.

ἐπαύσαντο

they ceased / finished

Aor Mid Indic 3 Pl · παύω

verb of the temporal clause (with complementary participle)

→ *constative aorist (the completed cessation)*

παύω (aor. mid. ἐπαύσαντο): 'cease / stop / finish'; the middle 'they ceased / left off'; with the supplementary participle ἀποκτένοντες, 'finished killing'.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with υἱοί)

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱοὶ

sons

Nominative

subject (οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραηλ: 'the sons of Israel')

υἱός (nom. pl. υἱοί): 'son'; οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραηλ renders לְאֶרְצָךְ בְּנֵי, the standard designation of the people.

Ἰσραηλ

of Israel

indeclinable proper noun (genitival: 'sons of Israel')

Ἰσραηλ: indeclinable; in genitival relation to υἱοί.

ἀποκτείνοντες

killing

Pres Act Ptc Nom Masc Pl · ἀποκτείνω

supplementary participle (with ἐπαύσαντο: 'finished killing')

→ **durative present participle (the ongoing slaughter that they finish)**

ἀποκτείνω (Hellenistic by-form of ἀποκτείνω): 'kill / slay'; renders לָרַח; the present participle complements ἐπαύσαντο ('ceased killing'), denoting the slaughter that they brought to completion.

πάντας

all

Accusative

direct object of ἀποκτείνοντες (substantival: 'all')

πᾶς: 'all'; the totality of Ai's population is slain — the ban executed in full.

τοὺς

those

Accusative

article (substantivizing the following phrases: 'those in Ai')

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (locative)

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῇ

the

Dative

article (with indeclinable Γαι, marking dative)

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Γαι

Ai

indeclinable place-name (locative, case by article)

Γαι: indeclinable; 'in Ai', the dative supplied by τῇ.

τοὺς

those

Accusative

article (substantivizing the locative phrases that follow)

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (locative)

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τοῖς

the

Dative

article

τοῖς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πεδίοις

plains / fields

Dative

dative of place (locative: 'in the plains')

πεδῖον: 'plain / open field'; renders / הַשָּׁדֶד; the open country into which the men of Ai had been drawn and where they were cut down.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐν

on

preposition + dative (locative)

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῷ

the

Dative

article

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὄρει

mountain

Dative

dative of place (locative: 'on the mountain')

ὄρος (dat. ὄρει): 'mountain / hill country'; renders ἡ; the hill country around Ai, the other locus of the slaughter.

ἐπὶ

on / at

preposition + genitive (locative: 'on the descent')

ἐπὶ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

καταβάσεως

descent / slope

Genitive

genitive of place (governed by ἐπὶ: 'on the descent')

κατάβασις: 'descent / slope / going down'; renders ὅθεν; the slope down which the men of Ai had been chased; cf. the same word at 10:11.

οὗ

where

relative adverb of place ('where')

οὗ: 'where'; the relative adverb introduces the place-clause specifying where the pursuit had reached.

κατεδίωξαν

they had pursued

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · καταδιώκω

verb of the relative place-clause

→ constative aorist (the completed pursuit)

καταδιώκω: 'pursue closely'; the pursuit that had drawn the men of Ai out onto the descent where they were slaughtered.

αὐτοὺς

them

Accusative

direct object of κατεδίωξαν

αὐτοὺς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

ἀπ'

from

preposition + genitive (source, elided)

ἀπ': preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

αὐτῆς

it

Genitive

genitive (governed by ἀπό: 'from it', i.e. from the city/descent)

αὐτός (gen. fem. αὐτῆς): 'it', referring to the city/descent from which the pursuit ran.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (idiom εἰς τέλος: 'to the end / utterly')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τέλος

end / completion

Accusative

accusative (idiom εἰς τέλος: 'utterly / completely')

τέλος: 'end / completion'; εἰς τέλος ('to the end / utterly') stresses the totality of the slaughter — the pursuit ran to the very last man.

καὶ

then

apodotic conjunction (introducing the main clause after the ὥς-clause)

καί: here apodotic ('then'), introducing the consequence after the temporal protasis — a Hebraism (ἵ of apodosis).

ἀπέστρεψεν

returned / turned back

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀποστρέφω

main verb (Joshua's return to the city)

→ constative aorist (the act of returning)

ἀποστρέφω: 'turn back / return'; here intransitive ('returned'); Joshua turns back to the captured Ai to complete its destruction.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (goal of return)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

Γαι

Ai

accusative object of εἰς (indeclinable place-name)

Γαι: indeclinable; the captured city, to which Joshua returns.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καί: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐπάταξεν

struck

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · πατάσσω

main verb (the smiting of the city)

→ constative aorist (the act of striking)

πατάσσω: 'strike / smite'; renders **הָרָג**; with ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας ('with the edge of the sword'), the ban-formula for putting a city to the sword.

αὐτήν

it

Accusative

direct object of ἐπάταξεν (the city)

αὐτός (acc. fem. αὐτήν): the city Ai.

ἐν

with

preposition + dative (instrumental, idiom 'with the edge of the sword')

ἐν + dat.: instrumental; in the idiom ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας ('with the mouth/edge of the sword').

στόματι

mouth / edge

Dative

dative of instrument (idiom: 'edge of the sword')

στόμα (dat. στόματι): 'mouth'; the idiom ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας ('with the edge [lit. mouth] of the sword') renders **בְּרֶחֱבֵי הַיָּדָיִם**, the fixed OT phrase for putting to the sword under the ban.

ρομφαίας

of the sword

Genitive

genitive (with στόματι: 'the edge of the sword')

ρομφαία: 'sword / large broadsword'; renders בַּרְדִּי; the great sword; the phrase signals the comprehensive destruction of the city's inhabitants.

25 καὶ ἐγενήθησαν οἱ πεσόντες ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ ἀπὸ ἀνδρὸς καὶ ἕως γυναικὸς δώδεκα χιλιάδες πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας Γαι

And those who fell on that day, from man to woman, were twelve thousand — all the inhabitants of Ai.

Narrative summary: the death-toll of Ai (main narrative) καὶ ἐγενήθησαν οἱ πεσόντες

A summary casualty-notice tallies the fallen: twelve thousand, ἀπὸ ἀνδρὸς καὶ ἕως γυναικὸς ('from man to woman'), a merism for the entire population. The closing apposition πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας Γαι ('all the inhabitants of Ai') seals the totality of the ban — none of the city's people remained.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐγενήθησαν

were / came to be

Aor Pass Indic 3 Pl · γίνομαι

main verb (copulative: 'those who fell were ...')

→ constative aorist (the resultant tally)

γίνομαι (aor. pass. ἐγενήθησαν): 'become / come to be / amount to'; here copulative with the numeral — the fallen
'were/amounted to' twelve thousand.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (substantivizing πεσόντες)

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πεσόντες

those who fell

Aor Act Ptc Nom Masc Pl · πίπτω

substantival participle (subject: 'the fallen')

→ constative aorist participle (those who fell in battle)

πίπτω (aor. ptc. πεσόντες): 'fall'; οἱ πεσόντες ('the fallen') is the standard military idiom for those killed in battle (rendering מִלְחָמָה / מִלְחָמָה).

ἐν

on

preposition + dative (temporal)

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῇ

the

Dative

article

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρᾱ

day

Dative

dative of time (when: 'on that day')

ἡμέρᾱ: 'day'; ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾱ ἐκείνῃ ('on that day') marks the single day of Ai's destruction.

ἐκείνῃ

that

Dative

demonstrative adjective (with ἡμέρᾱ: 'that day')

ἐκείνο: 'that'; the far demonstrative points to the decisive day of the battle.

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (start of merism)

ἀπό: in the merism ἀπὸ ἀνδρὸς καὶ ἕως γυναικὸς ('from man to woman'), expressing total inclusiveness.

ἀνδρὸς

man

Genitive

genitive (start of merism, governed by ἀπό)

ἀνὴρ (gen. ἀνδρός): 'man'; the first pole of the merism 'from man to woman' = everyone.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (within the merism)

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἕως

to / until

preposition + genitive (end of merism)

ἕως: 'to / until'; the end-pole of the merism.

γυναικὸς

woman

Genitive

genitive (end of merism, governed by ἕως)

γυνή (gen. γυναικός): 'woman'; the second pole of the merism — the death-toll spared neither sex; the whole population perished.

δώδεκα

twelve

indeclinable numeral (with χιλιάδες: 'twelve thousand')

δώδεκα: 'twelve'; indeclinable cardinal; the total slain at Ai — twelve thousand.

χιλιάδες

thousand

Nominative

predicate nominative (with ἐγενήθησαν: 'were twelve thousand')

χιλιάς (nom. pl. χιλιάδες): 'thousand'; renders ἡζ'ῃ; the predicate of the casualty-tally.

πάντας

all

Accusative

adjective (loose apposition: 'all the inhabitants')

πᾶς: 'all'; the accusative in loose apposition (a Hebraizing construction) sums up the fallen as the entire population of Ai.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article (substantivizing κατοικοῦντας)

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κατοικοῦντας

inhabitants

Pres Act Ptc Acc Masc Pl · κατοικέω

substantival participle (in apposition: 'the inhabitants')

→ durative present participle (the settled inhabitants)

κατοικέω (ptc. κατοικοῦντας): 'dwell / inhabit'; οἱ κατοικοῦντες Γαι ('the inhabitants of Ai', cf. v.5) — the whole settled population, now entirely destroyed.

Γαι

Ai

indeclinable place-name (object of κατοικοῦντας; 'inhabiting Ai')

Γαι: indeclinable; the city whose entire population fell.

27 πλὴν τῶν κτηνῶν καὶ τῶν σκύλων τῶν ἐν τῇ πόλει πάντα ἃ ἐπρονόμεισαν οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ κατὰ πρὸςταγμα κυρίου ὃν τρόπον συνέταξεν κύριος τῷ Ἰησοῖ

Except the cattle and the spoils that were in the city — all that the sons of Israel plundered for themselves, according to the command of the LORD, just as the LORD had ordered Joshua. (There is no verse 26 in the LXX.)

Narrative qualification: the spoil exempted from the ban (main narrative); NO verse 26 precedes

πλὴν τῶν κτηνῶν

The numbering jumps from 25 to 27 (NO verse 26 in the LXX). The exceptive πλὴν ('except') marks the one thing spared from the total destruction: the livestock and spoil, which Israel takes as plunder — exactly the concession YHWH granted at v.2. The double obedience-formula (κατὰ πρὸςταγμα κυρίου ... ὃν τρόπον συνέταξεν κύριος, 'according to the command of the LORD, just as the LORD ordered') stresses that even the taking of spoil is an act of obedience, not greed (contrast Achan, ch. 7).

πλὴν

except

exceptive particle / improper preposition + genitive ('except')

πλὴν: 'except / only / however'; here governing the genitive (τῶν κτηνῶν), marking the spoil as the single exception to the total ban — recalling the divine concession of v.2 and pointedly contrasting Achan's unlawful taking of devoted spoil in ch. 7.

τῶν

the

Genitive

article

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κτηνῶν

cattle / livestock

Genitive

genitive (governed by πλὴν: 'except the cattle')

κτῆνος (gen. pl. κτηνῶν): 'cattle / livestock'; renders חַיָּוָה; the animals spared as plunder, per the concession of v.2 (τὴν προνομήν τῶν κτηνῶν).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τῶν

the

Genitive

article

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σκύλων

spoils / plunder

Genitive

genitive (governed by πλὴν: 'and the spoils')

σκῦλον (gen. pl. σκύλων): 'spoil / booty (stripped from the slain)'; renders לְזָבָה; the movable plunder of Ai, lawfully taken by Israel.

τῶν

the

Genitive

article (attributive, with the locative phrase)

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (locative)

ἐν: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τῇ

the

Dative

article

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλει

city

Dative

dative of place (the attributive phrase 'that were in the city')

πόλις: 'city'; the spoil that had been in Ai.

πάντα

all

Accusative

accusative (loose apposition / object: 'all that')

πᾶς (acc. neut. pl. πάντα): 'all'; sums up the spoil — all of it taken by Israel; the case-shift to accusative is a loose Hebraizing apposition.

ἃ

which

Accusative

relative pronoun (object of ἐπρονόμεισαν)

ὅς (acc. neut. pl. ἃ): relative 'which'; introduces the relative clause specifying what Israel plundered.

ἐπρονόμευσαν

they plundered / took as spoil

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · προνομεύω

verb of the relative clause (the lawful plundering)

→ **constative aorist (the completed taking of spoil)**

προνομεύω: 'plunder / take as booty'; the same verb commanded at v.2 (προνομεύσεις); its recurrence confirms that Israel did exactly as YHWH permitted — lawful spoil, in obedience.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article (with υἱοί)

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱοὶ

sons

Nominative

subject (οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραηλ)

υἱός (nom. pl. υἱοί): 'son'; οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραηλ, the people who take the spoil.

Ἰσραηλ

of Israel

indeclinable proper noun (genitival: 'sons of Israel')

Ἰσραηλ: indeclinable; in genitival relation to υἱοί.

κατὰ

according to

preposition + accusative (norm: 'according to the command')

κατά + acc.: 'according to / in conformity with'; introduces the standard — YHWH's command — by which the spoil was taken.

πρόσταγμα

command / ordinance

Accusative

accusative object of κατὰ (the norm)

πρόσταγμα: 'command / ordinance / decree'; renders קִצְוָה / מִצְוָה; κατὰ πρόσταγμα κυρίου ('according to the command of the LORD') frames the plundering as obedient, sanctioned action.

κυρίου

of the LORD

Genitive

genitive (source of the command: 'of the LORD')

κύριος (gen. κυρίου): rendering of the Tetragrammaton יהוה; the command spared the spoil belongs to YHWH — Israel acts in obedience, not avarice.

ὃν

which

Accusative

relative pronoun (with τρόπον: 'in which manner')

ὃς: relative; ὃν τρόπον ('just as') introduces the confirming comparison to YHWH's prior order.

τρόπον

manner

Accusative

adverbial accusative of manner ('just as')

τρόπος: 'manner'; ὃν τρόπον συνέταξεν ('just as he ordered') doubles the obedience-formula, sealing Israel's conformity to the divine command.

συνέταξεν

ordered / commanded

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · συντάσσω

verb of the comparative clause (referring to the divine order)

→ **constative aorist (the prior divine command, cf. v.2)**

συντάσσω: 'arrange / order / command'; renders הִצַּוָּה; refers back to the divine instruction of v.2; the aorist looks back to the command now fulfilled.

κύριος

the LORD

Nominative

subject of συνέταξεν

κύριος: rendering of the Tetragrammaton יהוה; YHWH is the source of the order Israel obeys.

τῷ

the / to

Dative

article (with Ἰησοῖ, marking dative)

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Ἰησοῖ

Joshua

Dative

dative indirect object (to whom YHWH gave the command)

Ἰησοῦς (dat. Ἰησοῖ): the contracted dative of the declinable name; Joshua, the recipient of YHWH's command — hence treated as declinable (kind 'n').

28 καὶ ἐνεπύρισεν Ἰησοῦς τὴν πόλιν ἐν πυρί χῶμα ἀοίκητον εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ἔθηκεν αὐτὴν ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης

And Joshua burned the city with fire; a desolate mound forever he made it, until this day.

Narrative: the permanent desolation of Ai (main narrative)

καὶ ἐνεπύρισεν Ἰησοῦς

Joshua burns the city and reduces it to a χῶμα ἀοίκητον εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ('a desolate mound forever'). The closing ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης ('until this day') is a narrator's aetiological formula — the ruin-heap of Ai was still visible at the time of writing; the very name Ai (אִי, 'the ruin/heap') is thereby fulfilled in its fate.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐνεπύρισεν

burned

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐμπυρίζω

main verb (the burning of the city)

→ **constative aorist (the completed burning)**

ἐμπυρίζω: 'set on fire / burn up'; renders ἡψ; a near-synonym of ἐμπύρημι (v.19); Joshua completes the city's destruction by fire.

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν

city

Accusative

direct object of ἐνεπύρισεν

πόλις: 'city'; Ai, burned to the ground.

ἐν

with

preposition + dative (instrumental: 'with fire')

ἐν + dat.: instrumental ('with fire'), rendering שֶׁנֶּפֶץ.

πυρί

fire

Dative

dative of instrument (ἐν πυρί: 'with fire')

πῦρ (dat. πυρί): 'fire'; the instrument of the city's final destruction.

χῶμα

mound / heap

Accusative

predicate accusative (object complement: 'made it a mound')

χῶμα: 'mound / heap of earth / ruin-heap'; renders תֵּל ('tell, ruin-mound'); the reduction of Ai to a perpetual χῶμα fulfils the irony of its name (יְצִי, 'the ruin/heap').

ἀοίκητον

uninhabited / desolate

Accusative

attributive adjective (modifying χῶμα: 'a desolate mound')

ἀοίκητος: 'uninhabited / desolate'; the alpha-privative + οἰκέω ('dwell'); Ai becomes a heap where no one dwells — permanent desolation.

εἰς

for

preposition + accusative (idiom εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα: 'forever')

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

αἰῶνα

age / forever

Accusative

accusative (idiom εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα: 'forever / perpetually')

αἰών: 'age / eternity'; εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ('forever / for all time'), rendering עַדְעֶלְמַד; the desolation of Ai is to be permanent.

ἔθηκεν

made / set

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · τίθημι

main verb (predicate-object construction: 'made it a mound')

→ constative aorist (the act of rendering it a ruin)

τίθημι (aor. ἔθηκεν): 'place / set / make (into)'; with the predicate accusative χῶμα, 'he made it a mound'; renders יָצַב / יָשַׁב in the sense of constituting something into a state.

αὐτήν

it

Accusative

direct object of ἔθηκεν (the city)

αὐτός (acc. fem. αὐτήν): the city Ai, made a desolate mound.

ἕως

until

preposition + genitive (temporal: 'until this day')

ἕως: 'until'; in the aetiological formula ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης ('to this day').

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρας

day

Genitive

genitive of time (with ἕως: 'until the day')

ἡμέρα: 'day'; ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης ('to this day'), the narrator's aetiological note (rendering תְּחִלַּת הַיּוֹם — the ruin of Ai still stood at the time of writing.

ταύτης

this

Genitive

demonstrative adjective (with ἡμέρας: 'this day')

οὗτος (gen. fem. ταύτης): 'this'; points to the writer's own day, when the desolate mound of Ai remained a visible witness.

29 καὶ τὸν βασιλέα τῆς Γαι ἐκρέμασεν ἐπὶ ξύλου διδύμου καὶ ἦν ἐπὶ τοῦ ξύλου ἕως ἐσπέρας καὶ ἐπιδύνοντος τοῦ ἡλίου συνέταξεν Ἰησοῦς καὶ καθείλοσαν αὐτοῦ τὸ σῶμα ἀπὸ τοῦ ξύλου καὶ ἔρριψαν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν βόθρον καὶ ἐπέστησαν αὐτῷ σωρὸν λίθων ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης

And the king of Ai he hanged on a double tree; and he was upon the tree until evening, and at the going down of the sun Joshua gave orders, and they took his body down from the tree and threw him into the pit, and they set upon him a heap of stones, until this day.

Narrative conclusion: the king hanged and buried — Deut 21:22–23 fulfilled (main narrative)

καὶ τὸν βασιλέα τῆς Γαι ἐκρέμασεν

The chapter closes with the king's execution, narrated in deliberate conformity to the law of Deut 21:22–23: the king is hanged on a tree (ἐκρέμασεν ἐπὶ ξύλου), but the body is not left overnight — at sunset (ἐπιδύνοντος τοῦ ἡλίου) Joshua orders it taken down, cast into the pit, and covered with a heap of stones (σωρὸν λίθων). The closing ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης ('until this day') is again the aetiological formula. In Rahlfs the Ebal covenant-renewal (MT 8:30–35; fulfilling Deut 27) does not follow here but stands after 9:2.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

τὸν
the

Accusative

article (with βασιλέα, fronted object)

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέα
king

Accusative

direct object of ἐκρέμασεν (fronted for emphasis)

βασιλεύς (acc. βασιλέα): 'king'; the captured king of Ai (v.23), now executed — the fulfilment of the divine gift-formula of v.1.

τῆς
of

Genitive

article with indeclinable Γαι (genitival: ὁf Ai')

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Γαι
Ai

indeclinable place-name (genitival, case by article)

Γαι: indeclinable; 'the king of Ai', genitive supplied by τῆς.

ἐκρέμασεν
hanged

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · κρεμάννυμι

main verb (the execution)

→ *constative aorist (the act of hanging)*

κρεμάννυμι (aor. ἐκρέμασεν): 'hang / suspend'; renders ἡζῆ; the hanging of the king's body on a tree directly invokes the law of Deut 21:22–23 (a body hanged on a tree, not to remain overnight); cf. the kings of 10:26.

ἐπὶ
on

preposition + genitive (position: 'on a tree')

ἐπὶ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

ξύλου
tree / wood

Genitive

genitive (governed by ἐπὶ: 'on a tree')

ξύλον: 'wood / tree / gallows-pole'; renders γυ; the same ξύλον of Deut 21:22–23 LXX ('if a man be hanged ἐπὶ ξύλου'), echoed in the NT (Gal 3:13; Acts 5:30) of the cross.

διδύμου
double / forked

Genitive

attributive adjective (modifying ξύλου: 'a double/forked tree')

δίδυμος: 'double / twin / forked'; ξύλον διδύμον ('a double/forked tree') is the LXX's distinctive rendering — perhaps a forked pole or twin beam; a detail not in the MT, peculiar to the Greek.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἦν
he was

Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · εἶμι

main verb (durative: 'he remained')

→ *durative imperfect (the body remaining on the tree)*

εἶμι (impf. ἦν): 'be'; the imperfect 'he was / remained' on the tree — but only until evening, in pointed obedience to Deut 21:23 (the body not to remain overnight).

ἐπὶ
on

preposition + genitive (position)

ἐπὶ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ξύλου

tree

Genitive

genitive (governed by ἐπί: 'on the tree')

ξύλον: 'tree / pole'; the gallows-tree on which the king hung.

ἕως

until

preposition + genitive (temporal: 'until evening')

ἕως: 'until'; the body remains only ἕως ἑσπέρας ('until evening') – the precise limit set by Deut 21:23.

ἑσπέρας

evening

Genitive

genitive of time (with ἕως: 'until evening')

ἑσπέρα: 'evening'; renders בֹּרַח; the body is removed by evening, in obedience to the law forbidding an executed body to remain on the tree overnight (Deut 21:23).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐπιδύνοντος

going down / setting

Pres Act Ptc Gen Masc Sg · ἐπιδύνω

genitive absolute (temporal: 'as the sun was setting')

→ durative present participle (the ongoing setting of the sun)

ἐπιδύνω: 'set / go down (of the sun)'; the genitive-absolute ἐπιδύνοντος τοῦ ἡλίου ('as the sun was setting') marks the precise moment of compliance with Deut 21:23; the same verb is echoed in Eph 4:26 ('let not the sun go down on your anger').

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article (with ἡλίου, in the genitive absolute)

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡλίου

sun

Genitive

genitive absolute subject (with ἐπιδύνοντος: 'the sun setting')

ἥλιος: 'sun'; renders שֶׁמֶשׁ; the setting sun marks the deadline for removing the body, in obedience to the law.

συνέταξεν

ordered / gave orders

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · συντάσσω

main verb (Joshua's command)

→ constative aorist (the act of ordering)

συντάσσω: 'order / give command'; Joshua orders the body taken down – his obedience to the Mosaic law is deliberate and exact (cf. the same verb at v.27 of YHWH's command to Joshua).

Ἰησοῦς

Joshua

Nominative

subject

Ἰησοῦς: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

καθείλοσαν

they took down

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · καθαιρέω

main verb (removal of the body)

→ constative aorist (the act of taking down)

καθαιρέω (aor. καθείλοσαν, Hellenistic -σαν ending): 'take down / pull down'; renders הָרַג / הוֹרִיד (Hiphil); the removal of the body before nightfall fulfils Deut 21:23; the same verb is used of taking Jesus down from the cross (Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53).

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (with τὸ σῶμα: 'his body')

αὐτοῦ: pronominal form marking person, possession, or reference within the clause.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σῶμα

body

Accusative

direct object of καθείλοσαν

σῶμα: 'body / corpse'; renders הַגִּידָה / הַגִּידָה; the king's body, taken down from the tree at sunset.

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (separation: 'from the tree')

ἀπὸ: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ξύλου

tree

Genitive

genitive of separation (ἀπὸ τοῦ ξύλου: 'from the tree')

ξύλον: 'tree / pole'; the gallows from which the body is removed.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἔρριψαν

they threw

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ῥίπτω

main verb (casting the body into the pit)

→ *constative aorist (the act of throwing)*

ῥίπτω (aor. ἔρριψαν): 'throw / cast'; renders הָשָׁךְ / הָשָׁךְ; the body is cast into the pit at the city gate — a dishonorable burial, yet still removed before nightfall per the law.

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

direct object of ἔρριψαν (the king's body)

αὐτὸν: lexical item interpreted according to its local syntactic role in this passage.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (goal)

εἰς: preposition governing its complement and marking the relation specified by the clause.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βόθρον

pit

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (the burial-pit)

βόθρος: 'pit / hole / trench'; renders הַבֹּרַח / הַבֹּרַח; the pit at the city gate into which the king's body is cast, then covered with stones.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

καὶ: connective element linking clauses, phrases, or discourse developments in the passage.

ἐπέστησαν

they set up / placed over

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἐφίστημι

main verb (raising the cairn over the body)

→ *constative aorist (the act of setting over)*

ἐφίστημι (aor. ἐπέστησαν): 'set/place upon, raise over'; here the transitive aorist 'they set over (him)'; the heaping of stones over the grave (cf. the cairn over Achan, 7:26).

αὐτῷ

over him

Dative

dative (with ἐπέστησαν: 'set over him')

αὐτός (dat. αὐτῷ): 'over/upon him'; the dative of the object over which the cairn is raised.

σωρόν

heap

Accusative

direct object of ἐπέστησαν (the cairn)

σωρός: 'heap / pile'; σωρόν λίθων ('a heap of stones', rendering מִן־בִּנְיָן לֵאמֹר) — the memorial cairn, paralleling that raised over Achan (7:26) and the kings of 10:27; a permanent marker of judgment.

λίθων

of stones

Genitive

genitive (with σωρόν: 'a heap of stones')

λίθος (gen. pl. λίθων): 'stone'; renders לִבְנֵי; the stones of the cairn — the enduring monument over the king's grave.

ἕως

until

preposition + genitive (temporal: 'until this day')

ἕως: 'until'; in the aetiological formula ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης.

τῆς

the

Genitive

article

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρας

day

Genitive

genitive of time (with ἕως: 'until the day')

ἡμέρα: 'day'; ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης ('to this day') — the cairn over the king of Ai still stood at the time of writing, an enduring aetiological witness (rendering הָיָה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה).

ταύτης

this

Genitive

demonstrative adjective (with ἡμέρας: 'this day')

οὗτος (gen. fem. ταύτης): 'this'; points to the narrator's own day, closing the chapter as it closed v.28 — with the abiding memorial of judgment.

On the labels. Parsing gives Tense·Voice·Mood·Person·Number (+ Case·Number·Gender for participles) and lemma. The *syntactic-function* and **semantic-force** tiers follow standard intermediate-grammar categories (e.g. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*); both involve interpretive judgment, and the majority reading has been chosen where opinions differ. Lexical notes condense commonly cited data

(etymology, sense range, synonym contrasts, NT frequency, OT/LXX echoes) and are no substitute for a lexicon.

On the discourse tier. Discourse structure operates above the word, so it is shown at the clause/verse level (the connective, the relation it signals, and the role of the clause) and summarized in the chapter outline. Relation labels, any proposed chiasm, and the paragraph divisions reflect a common reading of the argument; other discourse analyses segment and label some relations differently.