



February Sermon Series

Lessons From the Book of Joshua

Chapter 8

Lesson Eight:

We Have the Victory!

**Ai, in the Bible, is a type of the
flesh. The word "Ai" means "a
heap of ruins."**

Romans 7:18, “For I know that
in me (that is, in my flesh,)
dwelleth no good thing...”

Genesis 12:8-9, “And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord. So, Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.”

Many Christians have pitched their tents somewhere between Bethel (the house of God) and Ai (A heap of ruins).

1.THE VICTORY IS PROMISED.

Joshua 8:1-2

Joshua 8:1-2, Now the LORD said to Joshua: “Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; take all the people of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land. And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its cattle you shall take as booty for yourselves. Lay an ambush for the city behind it.”

Romans 6:14, For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

I Corinthians 15:57, But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**“Don’t wage war according to
your flesh.”**

“One of the Devil’s most effective tactics is to use God’s timing against you. Wait on God.”

Psalm 130:5, I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, And in His Word I do hope.

Psalm 37:34 (MSG), Wait passionately for GOD, do not leave the path. He will give you your place in the sun while you watch the wicked lose it.

2. THE VICTORY IS PURSUED.

Joshua 8:3-4,9

Joshua 8:3-4,9, So Joshua and the whole army moved out to attack Ai. He chose thirty thousand of his best fighting men and sent them out at night with these orders: “Listen carefully. You are to set an ambush behind the city. Do not go far from it. All of you be on the alert. Then Joshua sent them off, and they went to the place of ambush and lay in wait between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai—but Joshua spent that night with the people.

They Had God's Plan.

**Failure awaits that person who
goes against the will of the
Lord.**

“If you are going to walk with God on new levels, you can’t be afraid of height. Trust where God is taking you!”

**“We cannot give our hearts to God
and keep our bodies to ourselves.”**

**We are strengthened spiritually
when we are exposed to the
things of the Lord.**

They Had God's Power.

Romans 8:13, For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

They Had God's Performance.

Joshua 8:24-26

Joshua 8:24-26, When Israel had finished killing all the men of Ai in the fields and in the wilderness where they had chased them, and when every one of them had been put to the sword, all the Israelites returned to Ai and killed those who were in it. Twelve thousand men and women fell that day-all the people of Ai. For Joshua did not draw back the hand that held out his javelin until he had destroyed all who lived in Ai.

III. THE VICTORY IS PRESERVED.

Joshua 8:27-35

Two Ways to Maintain Your Victory:

A. Victory Is Preserved By Death.

Joshua 8:27-29, But Israel did carry off for themselves the livestock and plunder of this city, as the LORD had instructed Joshua. So, Joshua burned Ai and made it a permanent heap of ruins, a desolate place to this day. He impaled the body of the king of Ai on a pole and left it there until evening. At sunset, Joshua ordered them to take the body from the pole and throw it down at the entrance of the city gate. And they raised a large pile of rocks over it, which remains to this day.

Four Biblical Truths About Your Flesh:

Truths About Your Flesh:

- **It Is At War With The Spirit Of God.**
- **It Was Crucified With Jesus Christ.**
- **We Are To Put The Flesh To Death Daily.**
- **Do You Want To Please The Lord With Your Life.**

**“Satan offers sinful pleasures but
always hide the price tag.”**

**B. Victory Is Preserved by
Devotion.**

Joshua 8:32, 34-35, There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua wrote on stones a copy of the law of Moses. ³⁴Afterward, Joshua read all the words of the law-the blessings and the curses-just as it is written in the Book of the Law. ³⁵There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded that Joshua did not read to the whole assembly of Israel, including the women and children, and the foreigners who lived among them.

**Before we can ever shout
on the mountain, we
must first kneel at the
altar.**

**We WIN through Jesus
Christ!**