

# Some Takeaways from Ai

Joshua 7 and 8

February 27, 2022

No battle, however small, can be won by disobeying God's Word.

## 1. Lessons about God

- a. God's **anger** (7:1 and 26)

*"If God is for us . . ." (Romans 8:31)*

- b. God's initiative (7:10-11)

- c. God's **Presence** (7:12)

(see also Exod. 33:14-16; also Deut. 31:6-8; Heb. 13:5)

## 2. Lessons about us

- a. The **deadly** seriousness of sin. (Acts 5:1-11)

- b. **Greed** is the sin no one admits to (Luke 12:15)

- c. Corporate solidarity *and* individual responsibility (7:11, 15)

## 3. Lessons about the covenant

- a. Encouragement **follows** dealing with sin (8:1-2)

- b. *"The LORD said to Joshua . . ." (8:18)*

- c. Remember and **recommit** (8:34-35)

*My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;  
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

## *On Your Own* (better with others)

1. What is one insight, observation or principle that you found helpful, eye-opening or troubling from Joshua 7 and 8?
2. Why didn't God just prevent Achan from taking some of the devoted ('under the ban') goods? Why doesn't God keep you from disobeying His Word?
3. Does your sin affect others, even indirectly? How?
4. READ Colossians 3:5-6. What does Paul equate greed to? Do you see the connection? Explain.
5. God makes unconditional promises (to Abraham Gen. 12:1-3) and offers conditional blessings—*if you do this, I will do that*—see Deut. 27 and 28. Someone said, "Salvation is by faith; rewards by faithfulness." *agree or disagree*
6. READ Galatians 6:7-10. How are the spiritual principles of "sowing and reaping" related to whether or not an individual believer is experiencing God's blessing?
7. READ 1 Cor. 11:26 and Gal. 3:13-14. Explain how the death of Christ on the cross displays both God's curse against sin and the blessing of new life, judgment and mercy, law and grace.