



**FBC
AUBURN**

Joshua 8:1-35
God Turns Failure To Victory!
Sunday, 2/27/22 Pastor Stuart Fraser

I. Introduction: Though Israel had just failed, God told Joshua not to be afraid because He would give the city of Ai into their hands. God would give them the victory!

II. God Turns Failure To Victory (Josh 8:1-35).

A. Revitalized Courage (vv. 1-9).

1. God told Joshua, “fear not!” He had confirmed His covenant with Israel after they had purged sin from their camp, so Israel could confidently move forward.

B. Renewed Strategy (vv. 10-29).

1. Joshua set an ambush for the people of Ai, using their overconfidence to defeat them in the same way Israel had been beaten previously.

C. Restored Covenant (vv. 30-35).

1. The Israelites built an altar on Mount Ebal to publicly proclaim their allegiance to the one true God and to affirm their commitment to obeying His commands.

III. Conclusion: God reminded Israel that if they chose to follow Him, their lives would be blessed, but if they disobeyed Him, their lives would be cursed.

Study Questions: God Turns Failure To Victory!

1. How do you respond to spiritual failure? How many times have you lost the battle to the flesh? How often have you fallen spiritually and wondered if you can get back up?
2. What command did God give Joshua after Achan was killed? (**Josh 8:1-9**) How does sin affect our emotions? (**Prov 28:1**) How does purging sin revitalize our faith? (**v. 1**)
3. What did God instruct Israel about the spoils of Ai? (**Josh 8:1-2**) How does Satan try to convince sinners that God is not generous? (**Gen 3:1-7**) Do you believe God is charitable?
4. What was God's strategy to destroy Ai? (**Josh 8:10-29**) How did God use the pride of Ai to defeat them? (**vv. 10-17**) What strategies does Satan use against Christians? (**2 Cor 2:11**)
5. How did the enemy overestimate their strength? (**Josh 8:18-23**) Do you overestimate your spiritual strength? (**1 Cor 10:12**) Do you underestimate your power in Christ? (**Eph 6:10**)
6. What did Israel do following the victory at Ai? (**Josh 8:30-35**) Why did they travel 30 miles north? (**Deut 27:1-8**) What was the significance of Shechem? (**Gen 12:6-7; 33:18-20**)
7. Why did God want Israel to read the blessings and curses? (**Josh 8:33-35**) What did it underscore about their victory? Are you living in obedience or disobedience to God?
8. Who did Jesus meet near Shechem? (**John 4:1-26**) How did Jesus deliver a message of God's blessing on a mountain? (**Matt 5:1-12**) Are you living in God's blessings?

Prayer

1. Pray God will forgive you and restore you if you have any sin in your life.
2. Ask God to help you live a blessed life by living in obedience to His commands.