

## (Joshua 8:1,2)

"Now the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear or be dismayed (intimidated). Take all the men of war with you and set out, go up to Ai; see, I have given the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land into your hand.

2 You shall do [the same] to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king; [except that] you shall take only its spoil and its cattle as plunder for yourselves. Set up an ambush for the city behind it [on the west side]." Amp

# Time and time again, we are reminded that The Word of God, "The Bible," is:

"The gospel of good news."

(Is. 52:7), "How beautiful and delightful on the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who announces peace, Who brings good news of good [things], Who announces salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Amp

#### I. FAILURE IS NOT FINAL

(Joshua 8:1), "Now the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear or be dismayed (intimidated). Take all the men of war with you and set out, go up to Ai; see, I have given the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land into your hand." Amp

- The true character of a person is seen in how adversity is handled.
- Adversity is God's most effective way of deepening our faith and commitment to Him.
  - After He has brought us through it, the foundation of our trust in Him is strengthened.

## (1 John 1:9)

"If we [freely] admit that we have sinned and confess our sins, He is faithful and just [true to His own nature and promises], and will forgive our sins and cleanse us continually from all unrighteousness [our wrongdoing, everything not in conformity with His will and purpose]." Amp

#### II. THE ENEMY'S TRIUMPH IS ONLY TEMPORARY

(Josh. 8:2), "You shall do [the same] to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king; [except that] you shall take only its spoil and its cattle as plunder for yourselves. Set up an ambush for the city behind it [on the west side]." Amp

### (Ps. 27:1-3, 14)

"The Lord is my light and my salvation—Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the refuge and fortress of my life— Whom shall I dread?

<sup>2</sup>When the wicked came against me to eat up my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, Even in this I am confident....

<sup>14</sup>Wait for and confidently expect the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for and confidently expect the Lord." Amp

