



ACHAN'S SIN AND THE DEFEAT OF AI Joshua 7-8

WHY CAN WE TRUST GOD? WE CAN TRUST GOD BECAUSE HE IS FAITHFUL AND DOES EVERYTHING FOR HIS GLORY AND OUR GOOD.

God told His people, "Everything in Jericho is set apart for Me. If you take anything from the city, you will be set apart for destruction." During the battle of Jericho, a man named Achan disobeyed this command. He took some of the treasures of Jericho for himself.

The Israelites moved on from Jericho to a city named Ai. Joshua sent soldiers to capture the city, but the men of Ai defeated them!

Joshua bowed before the Lord and said, "Why did you bring us here to be destroyed?" The Lord said, "The people were defeated because Israel has sinned. They have taken what does not belong to them. I will no longer be with you until you find what belongs to Me and was taken."

Joshua discovered who had disobeyed God. Achan confessed: "It is true. I have sinned against the Lord. I took a beautiful cloak, five pounds of silver, and a bar of gold." Achan and his family died because of his sin.

Once Achan had been punished for his disobedience, God told Joshua to not be afraid because He would give Joshua the city of Ai. Joshua sent troops to Ai again. Joshua and the men with him pretended to be beaten and ran toward the wilderness. When the men of Ai pursued them, the rest of the soldiers of Israel made a surprise attack. The men of Ai were trapped, and the people of God defeated them.

Christ Connection: Achan disobeyed the command of God, and his punishment was death. We also deserve the punishment of death for our sin. Jesus, God's sinless Son, was punished in our place for our sin. Those who trust in Him are forever forgiven of their sin.



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