

- d. When Joshua hears about this, he and the elders of Israel fall on their faces before the Lord because he can foresee what could easily happen.
 - 1) If Ai is able to do that, then all the Canaanite kings can get together and come against Israel and Israel could be wiped out.
 - 2) So Joshua says, "Lord, if Israel is going to get wiped out, what is going to happen to your name and reputation."
 - e. The Lord says, "Joshua, get up. Do you want to know why this happened? Because there is sin in the camp."
 - 1) One man's sin brought judgment upon all.
 - 2) The Lord said, "I am going to identify that person who committed the sin."
 - 3) That person was Achan.
 - i) He had seen a Babylonian robe and he coveted it and wanted it for himself and he saw a gold and silver and he wanted it.χ
 - ii) He took it and he thought no body saw it, but the Lord saw it.
 - 4) Achan is identified and confess.
 - 5) He is taken to the valley of Achor and he and his whole family are stoned to death.
- iii. Ai and Bethel (8)
- a. After this, the Lord tells Joshua, "I want you to go up and take Ai" and he gave them a military strategy to use.
 - b. Here's was his strategy:
 - 1) Joshua sent from Gilgal, his camp, 5000 men to ambush Ai.
 - 2) They were going to come over to the western side of the city.
 - 3) They were sent out at night under the cover of darkness.
 - 4) Then early in the morning, Joshua gets up and takes the rest of his army and he comes up north of Ai so that the king of Ai can see him.
 - 5) The king of Ai had an alliance with the king of Bethel.
 - 6) When the king of Ai saw Israel, the kings of Bethel and Ai took all their soldiers and started to attack Joshua and his army.
 - 7) Joshua deliberately retreats to make them think like they had him on the run.
 - 8) Now Joshua had told the people in the ambush, "Now I am going to draw the soldiers away from Ai. When I do, the 5000 soldiers on the west side are to go in and set fire to the city."
 - 9) As soon as Joshua drew them away from Ai, the 5000 men went into the city and set fire to it.