

Possessing the Promises of the Kingdom

Avoiding Spiritual Defeat

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Joshua 7:1-6

The story of Ai and Achan is really all about learning to avoid spiritual defeat. Israel is in the fresh flush of victory suffering a temporary defeat and being restored once again to victory. But it's more than ancient history. This story is one as ancient as the ages and as contemporary as today. What causes a Christian to suffer spiritual defeat and not possess the promises of God? In this passage, we discover some pitfalls to avoid.

1. The pitfall of _____

And they returned to Joshua and said to him, **“Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai.**

Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few.”

Joshua 7:3

Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

1 Corinthians 10:12

Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 16:18

2. The pitfall of _____

And they returned to Joshua and said to him, "Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai.

Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few."

Joshua 7:3

Catch the foxes for us, the little foxes that spoil the vineyards,
for our vineyards are in blossom.

Song of Solomon 2:15

3. The pitfall of _____

Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until the evening, he and the elders of Israel.

And they put dust on their heads."

Joshua 7:6