

Possessing the Promises of the Kingdom

Having A Heart For God

Pastor William D. Tyree, III

August 30, 2009

Joshua 8:28-35

Personal defeat in the life of a believer can cause him or her to yield to the fear of failure. When this occurs, there is a vicious cycle that sets up in the person's life. Fear leads to inactivity resulting in inexperience and ends with inability. To break the cycle of defeat we must commit ourselves to positive action. We must be willing to learn from past failures in order to succeed. Joshua 8 shows us how to move to victory by learning from our mistakes. We must:

1. *Finish*

So Joshua burned Ai and made it forever a heap of ruins,
as it is to this day. Joshua 8:28

And he hanged the king of Ai on a tree until evening. And at sunset Joshua commanded, and **they took his body down from the tree** and **threw it at the entrance of the gate** of the city and **raised over it a great heap of stones**, which stands there to this day.

Joshua 8:29

2. *Find*

At that time Joshua built an altar to the Lord, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal, Joshua 8:30

just as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded the people of Israel, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, **“an altar of uncut stones, upon which no man has wielded an iron tool.”** And they offered on it burnt offerings to the Lord and sacrificed peace offerings.

Joshua 8:31

And there, **in the presence of the people** of Israel, **he wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses**, which he had written.

Joshua 8:32

And all Israel, sojourner as well as native born, with their elders and officers and their judges, **stood on opposite sides of the ark before the Levitical priests** who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded at the first, to bless the people of Israel. Joshua 8:33

3. *Focus*

And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to **all that is written in the Book of the Law**.

Joshua 8:34

There was not a word of all that Moses commanded that Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the sojourners who lived among them.

Joshua 8:35