

March 2, 2025

Dear Parents,

This week, we have the opportunity to explore the teachings of "Achan's Sin and the Defeat of Ai" (Joshua 7-8).

After the victory at Jericho, God commanded the Israelites not to take anything from the city. But Achan disobeyed, secretly keeping treasure for himself. Because of his sin, Israel was defeated in battle at Ai. When Achan confessed, he faced punishment, and only then did God give Israel victory over Ai. Joshua led the people to worship God after their success. This lesson reminds us that sin has consequences, but through Jesus, we can be forgiven and restored.

This message will inspire your child to grow in the love and light of Jesus. Reinforce the lesson at home by discussing the following points with your child:

- □ **Obedience to God Matters:** Achan's sin affected all of Israel. Why is it important to obey God even when no one is watching?
- □ Sin Has Consequences: Israel lost the battle because of sin. What happens when we choose to disobey God?
- □ Jesus Took Our Punishment: Achan was punished for his sin, but Jesus took our punishment. How does trusting in Jesus bring us forgiveness?

You might consider praying with your child, asking God to help you obey Him and thanking Him for forgiving your sins through Jesus.

Grace and blessings in Christ.



Achan's Sin and the Defeat of Ai

BIBLE PASSAGE: Joshua 7-8 KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 24:8 BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good.



God gave victory to His people, and they conquered Jericho. But before the battle, 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 again sent spies to the city. They said that the city was small and should be easy to defeat. Joshua sent soldiers to capture the city, but the men of Ai defeated them!

Joshua was devastated. He bowed before the Lord and said, "Why did you bring us here to be destroyed?"

The Lord responded and 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 went tribe by tribe, clan by clan, family by family, and then man by man until he discovered who had





Virginia Agape International Baptist Church

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. He made a plan: "I will take some of the troops to Ai. When the men of Ai come out to battle, we will run away, just like our troops ran away before. Only this time, they will chase us into a trap."

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. Joshua built an altar to God, and the people worshiped God there.

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.





Virginia Agape International Baptizt Church

[Important Notice]

✓ Children's cell worship service starts at 12:00 noon.

- Remind your children not to play with electronic devices or toys such as smartphones or dolls, during our service.
- ✓ Our prayer is that the children's time spent in our church would encourage them to trust Christ as Savior, to submit to Him, and to live out the Gospel wherever they are.



"Taking the Land" (Joshua 10-11)



