

Series: THRIVE2025!

Title: Lessons from AI

Text: Joshua 7

Typical Attitudes Toward Failure:

Fear: Success as a Target - All/Nothing

Misunderstanding Failure: as a %: ie. 70%+ is Passing

How does the Bible Define Failure?

NT (Rom 3:23) OT (Is 53:6)

Neither Success/Failure are a destination. (2 Cor 5:9-10)

I. The Cause of the Failed Assault: Sin (Vs 1)

a. A soldier stole some thing devoted to God: (Ch 6:17-18)

b. Corporate Responsibility: (Rom 12:5)

c. Corporate Accountability: (Prov 14:34) (Prov 25:5)

II. The Consequences of Sin Upon God's People: (Vs 2-5)

a. Aroused the LORD's anger: (Vs 1c)

1) Sin has a cost: (Rom 6:23)

2) Canaanites are being judged for sin: (Gen 16:16)

b. Brought about Israel's defeat by the enemy AI:

1) Joshua acted W/o seeking the LORD: (Vs 2)

2) The spies reported back in self-confidence: (Vs 3)

3) Joshua sent 3000 troops that were routed: (Vs 4)

c. Caused discouragement, a demoralized spirit: (Vs 5)

Lesson 1: Acting in the Power of the Flesh is Futile.

(Ps 118:8)(John 15:5)(Gal 6:3)(1 Cor 10:12)

Lesson 2: When God's People Sin, God Chastens them:

(Heb 12:5-11) (John 15:2) (1 Cor 11:30-32)

Lesson 3: God allowed defeat: Achan hid his sin: (Nu 32:23)

III. The Cure for Sin: A Confrontation with God (Vs 6-26)

a. First Step: Prayer of Confession: (Vs 6-9)

1) Joshua immediately sought the LORD:

2) Joshua's perplexity: (vs 7-8)

3) Joshua's major concern: (Vs 9)

Lesson 4: Can't Fix Failure until we Reconcile with God.

(Is 55:6) (Jer 29:13)(His 10:12)

b. Second Step-Hearing from God's Word:(Vs 10-15)

1) Encouraged him: Stand up (Vs 10)

2) Charged Israel with sin: (Vs 11)

3) Explained why Israelites was defeated: (vs 12)

• Sin had alienated them from God: (Is 59:1-2)

4) God Commanded Joshua to sanctify: (Vs 13-16)

• Remove the accursed thing: (Vs 13)

• Present themselves before the: (Vs 14)

• Can't Hide their Sin from God: (Ezek 9:9)

• They were to execute the guilty man: (Vs 15)

c. Third Step-Identify the Sin: (Vs 16-23)

1) Joshua began the investigative process early: (Vs 16)

2) Joshua urged Achan to confess his sin. (Vs 19)

3) Achan confessed his sin: (Vs 20)(Ps. 139:23-24)

4) This was not a Mistake from Ignorance: (6:17-19)

5) This was a Moral Failure: (1 Jn 2:16)

• He "saw" the plunder: (Vs 21) "Lust of the Eyes"

• He "coveted" them: "Lust of the Flesh" (Col 3:5)

• He "took" them: "Pride of Life"

6) Joshua gathered evidence from Achan's tent: (Vs 22)

• They returned/spread it out b/4 the Court: (Vs 23)

d. Fourth Step- Root Out/Starve out the sin: (Vs 24-26)

1) The judgment: Achan, & his family: (Vs 25)

2) The LORD was no longer angry (1 Jn 1:6-10)

The relationship was restored: (Vs 26)

Ignorance Can Be Fixed- Educate Yourself. (Prov 18:1)

Find a Godly Mentor: (Prov 11:14; 15:22; 24:6)