



**War Stories # 3**  
**Failure Isn't Fatal – Joshua 7-8**  
 By Louie Marsh, 9-8-2019

**Four Common Causes of Failure**

1. I have \_\_\_\_\_ in my life.

<sup>1</sup> ...for Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. And the anger of the LORD burned against the people of Israel. Joshua 7:1 (ESV)

2. I quit \_\_\_\_\_ because things are going well.

<sup>2</sup> ... And the men went up and spied out Ai. <sup>3</sup> 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 ...", Josh 7:2-3 (ESV)

3. I divide my \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>4</sup> So about three thousand men went up there from the people. And they fled before the men of Ai, Joshua 7:4 (ESV)

4. Then I \_\_\_\_\_ for my failures & problems.

<sup>7</sup> And Joshua said, "Alas, O Lord GOD, why have **you** brought this people over the Jordan at all, to give us into the hands of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would that we had been content to dwell beyond the Jordan... Joshua 7:7-9 (ESV)

**God's Reaction to My Failure:**

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ out of me!

The LORD said to Joshua, "Stand up! What are you doing down on your face. Joshua 7:10 (NIV)

2. He commands me to \_\_\_\_\_ for my actions.

<sup>11</sup> Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied... Joshua 7:11 (ESV)

3. He commands me to \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>13</sup> **You cannot stand before your enemies** until you take away the devoted things from among you." Joshua 7:13 (ESV)

**My Necessary Response to God:**

1. I must \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

<sup>6</sup> 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 (ESV)

2. I must \_\_\_\_\_ from my sins and distractions

"Get up! Command the people to purify themselves in preparation for tomorrow...Joshua 7:13a (NLT)

3. I must be willing to do some \_\_\_\_\_ of my heart.

...The person found with the cursed things will be burned, he and everything he has, because he broke God's covenant and did this despicable thing in Israel." Joshua 7:14-15 (MSG)

**Four Ways to Move past My Failures:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Christ's encouragement.

<sup>1</sup> And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear and do not be dismayed. Take all the fighting men with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, and his people, his city, and his land. Joshua 8:1 (ESV)

2. Follow \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>2</sup> And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its livestock you shall take as plunder... Lay an ambush against the city, behind it." Joshua 8:2 (ESV)

3. Be willing to \_\_\_\_\_

So Joshua and the whole army moved out to attack Ai,, Joshua 8:3a (NIV)

4. \_\_\_\_\_ from my mistakes and do things \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>4</sup> And he commanded them, "Behold, you shall lie in ambush against the city, behind it. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you remain ready. Joshua 8:3-4 (ESV)



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