

Joshua Lesson 12 Handout

Whoever is generous will be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor Prov.22.9

I would like to ask you to join me in prayer and fasting for 3 weeks. January 6th – January 27th (the day that Saeed was convicted to 8 years in the Iranian prison because of his Christian faith). I plan to abstain from coffee and chocolate. You are free to abstain from food, social media, TV or skip a meal or two...the point is to spend that time in prayer.

The Lord has been speaking to me from the book of Daniel. Over the last two years there have been so many times I have wanted to give up, but the Lord has consistently spoken to me of perseverance and persistency. I believe that it was the persistence of Daniel in prayer that brought the necessary breakthrough. I believe that we will experience breakthrough as we seek the Lord together.

One of the main focuses of the prayer and fasting will be for Saeed's release.

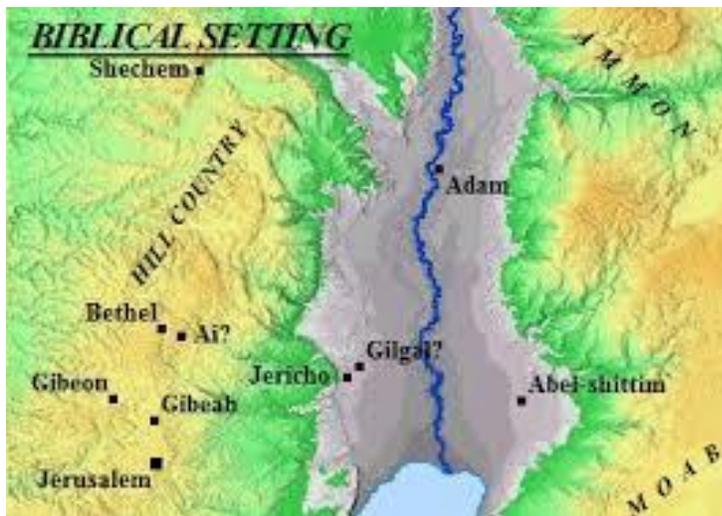
Joshua 6:16 And the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, Shout! For the Lord has given you the city. ¹⁷ And the city and all that is in it shall be devoted to the Lord [for destruction]...¹⁸ But you, keep yourselves from the accursed *and* devoted things, lest when you have devoted it [to destruction], you take of the accursed thing, and so make the camp of Israel accursed and trouble it. ¹⁹ But all the silver and gold and vessels of bronze and iron are consecrated to the Lord; they shall come into the treasury of the Lord.

Joshua 7 (AMP)

¹ BUT THE Israelites committed a trespass in regard to the devoted things; for Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the things devoted [for destruction].

And the anger of the Lord burned against Israel.

² Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Bethaven, east of Bethel, and said to them, go up and spy out the land. So the men went up and spied out Ai.



³ And they returned to Joshua and said to him, Let not all the men go up; but let about two thousand or three thousand go up and attack Ai; do not make the whole army toil up there, for they of Ai are few.

⁴ So about three thousand Israelites went up there, but they fled before the men of Ai. ⁵ And the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of them, for they chased them from before the gate as far as Shebarim, and slew them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

⁶ Then Joshua rent his clothes and lay on the earth upon his face before the ark of the Lord until evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads.

⁷ Joshua said, Alas, O Lord God, why have You brought this people over the Jordan at all only to give us into the hands of the Amorites to destroy us? Would that we had been content to dwell beyond the Jordan!

⁸ O Lord, what can I say, now that Israel has turned to flee before their enemies!

⁹ For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it and will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will You do for Your great name?

¹⁰ The Lord said to Joshua, Get up! Why do you lie thus upon your face? ¹¹ Israel has sinned; they have transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. They have taken some of the things devoted [for destruction]; they have stolen, and lied, and put them among their own baggage. ¹² That is why the Israelites could not stand before their enemies, but fled before them; they are accursed *and* have become devoted [for destruction]. I will cease to be with you unless you destroy the accursed [devoted] things among you.

¹³ Up, sanctify (set apart for a holy purpose) the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow; for thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: There are accursed things in the midst of you, O Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away from among you the things devoted [to destruction].

¹⁸ He brought near his household man by man, and Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the

tribe of Judah, was taken. ¹⁹ And Joshua said to Achan, My son, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, and make confession to Him. And tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me. ²⁰ And Achan answered Joshua, In truth, I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel, and this have I done: ²¹ When **I saw** among the spoils an attractive mantle from Shinar

and two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, **I coveted** them and **took them**. Behold, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath.

William Blaikie in his "Commentary on Joshua" writes Achan probably thought: "What I take to myself (he might say) will never be missed. There are hundreds of Babylonian garments, there are many wedges of gold, and silver shekels without number, amply sufficient for the purpose for which they are devoted. If I were to deprive another man of his rightful share, I should be acting very wickedly; but I am really doing nothing of the kind. Nobody will suffer a whit by what I do, - it cannot be very wrong."

²² So Joshua sent messengers, who ran to the tent, and behold, the spoil was hidden in his tent, with the silver underneath. ²³ And they took them from the tent and brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites and laid them out before the Lord. ²⁴ And Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan son of Zerah, and the silver, the garment, the wedge of gold, his sons, his daughters, his oxen, his donkeys, his sheep, his tent, and all that he had; and they brought them to the Valley of Achor. ²⁵ And Joshua said, Why have you brought trouble on us? The Lord will trouble

you this day. And all Israel stoned him and those with him with stones, and afterward burned their bodies with fire. ²⁶ And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the Lord turned from the fierceness of His anger. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Achor *or* Troubling to this day.

Proverbs 15:27 (AMP)

²⁷ He who is greedy for unjust gain troubles his own household, but he who hates bribes will live.

Joshua 8:1–29 (AMP)

¹ AND THE Lord said to Joshua, Fear not nor be dismayed. Take all the men of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai; see, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land.

1 John 1:9 (NLT)

⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.