

**Sin Prevents Victory**  
**Joshua 6-7:26**  
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show how sin will always prevent true victories.

Intro:

1. If we want to have victories in this life we need God on our side.
2. Only with God can we have the ultimate victory, the victory of having heaven as our home.

I. The Lord provides victories & defeats

A. Victory over Jericho (Joshua 6)

1. How to defeat the city, included obeying God (**v.1-6**)
2. Their obedience led to victory (**v.16,20**)

B. Defeat at Ai (Joshua 7:1:9)

1. Achan's sin angered the Lord, and would prevent victory (**v.1**).
2. The people suffer an unexpected defeat (**v.4-5**).
3. Joshua pleads for answers (**v.6-9**)

II. The Cause of Israel's defeat (Joshua 7)

A. The sin (**v.11**)

1. Accursed things had been stolen.
2. These things were now being concealed among their own things.

B. The Result (**v.12a**)

1. They would be doomed in battle
2. They would lose
3. The Lord would not be with them

B. The Solution (**Joshua 7:12b-15;25-26**)

1. The solution was that they must destroyed the accursed things. (**v.12b-13**)
2. The people were to be brought before God and the guilty one was to be killed (**v.15**).
3. Achan was found, the people stoned him and then burned him. Only after this did God turn His Wrath away from them (**v.25-26a**)

III. Lessons for us today.

A. God does not provide aide for the sinful.

1. No better section of scripture illustrates this point better.
2. God will not give aide to those who have transgressed (**Joshua 7:12b**)

B. Sin prevents victories.

1. Victory is not possible without God (**Joshua 7:4-5a**).
2. Repentance will restore the hope of victory.

Conc:

1. If we want the hope of victory restored in our lives we must remove sin.
2. Only a humble and repented heart will gain victory.

**Hear**

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Believe**

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever + in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

**Repent**

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

**Confess**

Rom 10:9 — Rom 10:10

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

**Be baptized**

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.’

**Remain Faithful**

Revelation 2:10

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.