

# Defeats in Life

Reasons and Final Hope



# 1 Peter 5: 8-9



1 Peter 5: 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

# 1 John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.





## 2 Corinthians 2:14

But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere.

# Failures or Defeats





# Individual sin and Corporate consequence



- Difficult to understand
- Every action has a consequence and timing is very important
- Is there any consequence of small defeats?
  - Ex. Constant fight vs Divorce?
  - Little lies vs getting arrested for cheating
  - Missing devotions vs backsliding



## **Failure vs just focusing on Success**

It is possible to defeat failure by analyzing its causes and correcting them, not by studying the conditions of success."

# Defeat against Ai

- Joshua 7:2-5 - What happened?
  - They are on a winning mode now. Jericho just fell down.
  - Joshua send men to look.
  - They said no need of everyone going
  - 36 people killed and hearts of people melted like water







# Defeat against Ai

- Joshua 7:6-9 - Joshua Reaction
  - Joshua ripped his clothes, fell on face, threw dirt in their head
  - Lord why?
  - We only we had dwelled on the other side - Reduced vision
  - Reputation risk - what will you do to your great name?



# Defeat against Ai

- Joshua 7:10- 12 -God's response
  - Stand up
  - It is because of Sin
  - They cannot stand in front of enemies
  - God will not be with them unless they destroy what needs to be destroyed
  - 7:13- You cannot stand
  - Joshua 7:1 - God knows even though Joshua had no idea.



# Defeat against Ai

- Joshua 7:20-21 - What did Achan do? - "Eikan"
  - He did not commit adultery
  - He took somethings which he liked and harmless to others
- Results of Achan's Sin - Many died, Israel melted in fear, Joshua questioned God, God's threatened to withdraw his presence, Chan and family had to be destroyed
- When sin was eliminated - God's encouragement, God's presence in battle, God's guidance and promise and God's permission to keep things (8:2)



# Defeats in NT times

- Peter- When confronted by Jesus, repented, was restored
- Laodicean church- Still an opportunity is given in spite of all failures. If you repent . Rev. 3:19-20 vs 14- 18
- Death of Jesus on the Cross
  - Mathew 27:27-31 - Soldiers mocked
  - Mathew 27:38-44- Those who passed by, chief priests, scribes, elders and even thieves insulted him
  - 1 Cor. 15:3-4 - Jesus died and rose again.



# Conclusion

- When a failure happens we need to pray about it and ask God the reason for response.
- If there is something we need to change, we should be willing. Else we will remain defeated till the end of our life.
- Have right understanding about suffering and pain which God allows and don't mix it with defeats.
- Also don't ignore our own defeats and think they are happening for good reasons.





“Victory in the Christian life is not the absence of conflict but the presence and protection of God in the midst of conflict.”

- William MacDonald



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