

## ***Conquest and Covenant Joshua 8***

### ***Conquering Ai with all involved, 1-29***

- Directions for battle: Unlike at Jericho this involves no miracle but just good military tactics. Unlike at Jericho spoil can be taken here. And unlike the first invasion of Ai here all the people are used.
- Description of battle: Unlike at earlier battle, three detachments are employed in a clever ruse which creates a devastating ambush. Note land given into “hand” (8:1,7) and Joshua’s “hand” (8:18,19,26). The King of Ai’s death makes for yet another stone memorial, recall 4:9, and 7:26. Gruesome genocide and executions suggest what? A tragic irony here: If only Achen had not gotten ahead of God!

### ***Covenant renewed with all involved, 30-35***

- Why meet here near Mt. Ebal and Gerizim at Shechem? We must recall the history of the spot--Gen. 12: 6,7, 33:18-20, 35:4, 37:12-14.
- Directions for this event were laid out by Moses in Deut. 11:29-32, Deut. 27-28. All are involved in this object lesson for obedience, as people say “Amen” to the curses. The recent victories / loss at Ai show the possible results of which Mountain they choose to live on.

