The Conquest of Ai
(Joshua 8)

1. Joshua sends 30,000 men to the north of Ai -- in the valley between Ai and Bethel (vv. 3, 5-6, 10).

2. Joshua sets 5,000 men in hiding on the west of Ai -- ready at his signal to come in ambush (vv. 4, 7-8, 12).

3. The king of Ai saw the 30,000 men in the north; and set after them (v. 14).

4. Joshua and the 30,000 men “fled” and allowed the men of Ai to pursue them “as at the first” (vv. 5-6), leaving both Ai and Bethel vulnerable (vv. 16-17).

5. At Joshua’s signal, the men in ambush in the west came and burned the city of Ai (v. 18-19).

6. Once the city was burning, the 30,000 men in flight turned on their pursuers (vv. 20-21).

7. After burning the city, the 5,000 men in ambush came out and caught the men of Ai from behind -- so that they were completely trapped in the middle (v. 22).