

## f. The cost of conflict.

For seven days the people of Israel had to stay put while Miriam was isolated outside the camp. Team conflict of this kind nearly always hinders the progress of the church or mission where it occurs.

Joshua 22 - The Resolution of the Conflict  
Caused by Misunderstanding

To give a further example of the use of the principles for conflict resolution, the conflict caused by misunderstanding in Joshua 22 will be examined again.

Both parties involved in this case of misunderstanding in Joshua 22 were desirous to uphold the Name of God and obey His Word. Though the Reubenites, Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh did not do all that they could have done to avoid the conflict, it is clear that their motives were pure. Francis Schaeffer touches on this when he writes:

The reason these people were able to have a real unity and a real peace was that they were locked into the truth and commandments of God. Without the concept that is laid down here, any right unity is impossible. Any unity, any peace, that is not rooted in truth is nothing.<sup>10</sup>

Thus the principle that purity is the pre-requisite for peace is seen. The resolution or misunderstanding then is simply a matter of correcting the misinterpretation of the message transmitted by a clear explanation of the facts.

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<sup>10</sup>Francis A. Schaeffer, Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History, (Downers Grove: Inter-Varsity Press, 1975), p. 179.