

REVIEW:

Last week we talked about the conquest of Ai and how it went bad.



- 1) Joshua gave conditions to Jericho.
One of those conditions is, not take any of the accursed things.

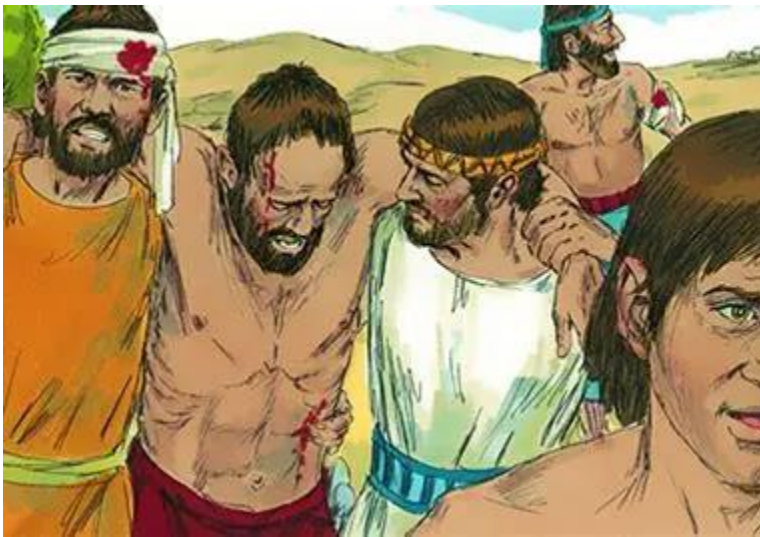


- 2) When they enter Jericho, a man named Achan takes of an accursed thing.

*But the people of Israel **broke faith** in regard to the devoted things; for Achan ... took some of the devoted things; and the anger of the LORD burned against the people of Israel.*



- 3) The Israelites go to war against Ai which should be an easy war but end up losing.



- 4) Joshua then goes to God in prayer and fasting. God rebukes Joshua and informs him that Israel has sinned. He says they will lose, and Joshua will too, if he does not do something about it.



Joshua 7:13 Get up, sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you."

A) A nation, a people, a family, a Church cannot stand if it accepts and tolerates sin. God has set spiritual laws and in these laws, sin gives permission to the demonic. This is why God urges...

2 Chronicles 7:14 if My people who are called by My name **will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.**

Joshua given instruction to weed out the sin.

Joshua 7

(14) In the morning therefore you shall be brought according to your tribes. And it shall be that the tribe which the LORD takes shall come according to families; and the family which the LORD takes shall come by households; and the household which the LORD takes shall come man by man. (15)

Then it shall be that he who is taken with the accursed thing shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has done a disgraceful thing in Israel.' "

(16) So Joshua rose early in the morning and **brought Israel by their tribes, and the tribe of Judah was taken.** (17) He brought the clan of Judah, and **he took the family of the Zarhites;** and he brought the family of the Zarhites man by man, and **Zabdi was taken.**

(18) Then he brought his household man by man, and **Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.**

(19) Now Joshua said to Achan, "My son, I beg you, give glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession to Him, and tell me now **what you have done; do not hide it from me.**" (20) And Achan answered Joshua and said, "Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done: (21) When **I saw** among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, **I coveted them and took them.** And there they are, **hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent,** with the silver under it."

(22) So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and **there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver under it.**

(23) And they took them from the midst of the tent, brought them to Joshua and to all the children of Israel, **and laid them out before the LORD.**

A) Joshua began separating the people. The only thing I could think about was a person who had contraband in a long line, ready to go through TSA.



Also, someone in the back of a long line at the border with contraband in his trunk. Seeing the dogs in the front or the person who has contraband in the trunk and still says to a police officer, “There is nothing in my trunk, and yes, you can check it.” Why

didn't that person just get out of line or turn around



There is actually a psychological phenomenon that happens in a person's brain. Normalcy – Optimism – Escalation Bias – Detachment of Reality

- “The dogs aren't looking for me.”
- “They're checking someone else.”
- “They probably already searched my vehicle.”
- “Maybe they won't stop every car.”
- “I've done this before.”

Which brings me to Achan...

People think that when the Scriptures or the Pastor is talking about repentance or living

holy, and they know they are not, they are that person in line.

Numbers 32:23 But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and **be sure your sin will find you out.**

B) What put Achan in this mess....

Listen to Achan – I saw it, I coveted it, I took it, and then I hid it.

David – I Saw her – Coveted Her – Took Her – Hid Her.



It begins by seeing...

James 1:13-15 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God

cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He
Himself tempt anyone.

(14) But each one is **tempted (Enticed)**
when he is **drawn away (dragged way)** by his
own desires and **enticed (entrapped)**. (15)
Then, when desire has **conceived (clasped**
or captured) , it gives **birth to (Produces)**
sin; *****

ALSO SEE ---- drawn away (dragged away)
by his own desires and enticed
(entrapped).

I Corinthians 10:13 – Way of Escape

and sin, when it is **full-grown**
(Consummated), brings forth death.

(24) Then Joshua, and all Israel with him,
took Achan the son of Zerah, the silver, the
garment, the wedge of gold, his sons, his
daughters, his oxen, his donkeys, his sheep,

his tent, and all that he had, and they brought them to the Valley of Achor. (25) And Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? The LORD will trouble you this day." **So all Israel stoned him with stones; and they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones.** (26) Then they raised over him a great heap of stones, still there to this day. **So the LORD turned from the fierceness of His anger.** Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Achor to this day.

1 Corinthians 5:4-7 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, (5) **deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh,** that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. (6) **Your glorying is not good.** Do you not know **that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?** (7) Therefore **purge out the old leaven,**... (13) But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "PUT

AWAY FROM YOURSELVES THE EVIL
PERSON."

Joshua 8:1-29 Now the LORD said to Joshua:
"Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; take all
the people of war with you, and arise, go up
to Ai. **See, I have given into your hand the
king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land.
(2) And you shall do to Ai and its king as
you did to Jericho and its king.**

Israel slaughters Ai.

Joshua renews the Covenant.

In conclusion,

Many – God = Defeat

Many + God = Victory

The factor is not how much you have but who
is on your side. Do you want God on your
side?