

Joshua 7.1-13: The High Cost of Overconfidence

First Baptist Eugene - Pastor Dan Collins

D-T-M-W-T-D *“Don’t tell me what to do!”*

At Jericho Israel had a major obstacle, low confidence, complete reliance and courageous obedience to God.

Joshua 7:1-2

Israel saw Jericho as a major obstacle, but at Ai as a minor obstacle.

Joshua 7:3-4

At Jericho Israel had low confidence, but at Ai Israel became overconfident.

At Jericho Israel had complete reliance on God, but at Ai they became self-reliant.

What if overconfidence is more dangerous than we think?

What if overconfidence impacts “we”, not just “me”?

What if overconfidence is life threatening?

Proverbs 14:12 *There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.*

God parted the waters of the Jordan river, and He will do it again and again and again. That’s God’s character.

Joshua 7:6-13

Joshua 5:12 *And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year*

Israel’s disobedience in taking “the devoted things” was doubting God’s promise to provide.

Achan and his family decided, ***“We need this.***

Jericho was a story of courageous obedience, but at Ai overconfidence led to disobedience.

Disobedience is like glitter, it spreads.

What if disobedience is more dangerous than we think?

What if disobedience impacts “we”, not just “me”?

What if disobedience is life threatening?

Philippians 4:19 *And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*

When we try to own or control what only God owns, we hold onto God’s devoted things.

When we give generously, it’s an act of faith that God will provide us with more than we need.

False Ownership is the belief that we provide for ourselves by ourselves.

Stewardship is the belief that God is our primary provider.

Prov. 14:12 *There is a way that seems right to man, but its end leads to death.*

[Lower Thirds] The High Cost of Overconfidence
Joshua 7.1-13

D-T-M-W-T-D *“Don’t tell me what to do!”*

At Jericho Israel had a major obstacle, low confidence, complete reliance and courageous obedience to God.

Joshua 7:1-2 But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the devoted things, for Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. And the anger of the Lord burned against the people of Israel.

Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth-aven, east of Bethel, and said to them, "Go up and spy out the land." And the men went up and spied out Ai.

Israel saw Jericho as a major obstacle, but Ai as a minor obstacle.

Joshua 7:3-5 And they returned to Joshua and said to him, “Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few.”

So about three thousand men went up there from the people. And they fled before the men of Ai, and the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of their men and chased them before the gate as far as Shebarim and struck them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

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God parted the waters of the Jordan river, and He will do it again and again and again. That's God's character.

Joshua 7:6-13 Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until the evening, he and the elders of Israel. And they put dust on their heads. And Joshua said, "Alas, O Lord God, why have you brought this people over the Jordan at all,

to give us into the hands of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would that we had been content to dwell beyond the Jordan! O Lord, what can I say, when Israel has turned their backs before their enemies!

For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it and will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will you do for your great name?"

The Lord said to Joshua, "Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings.

Therefore the people of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction.[a] I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.

Get up! Consecrate the people and say, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow; for thus says the Lord, God of Israel, "There are devoted things in your midst, O Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from among you."

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Stewardship is the belief that God is our primary provider.

~~There is a way that seems right to man, but its end leads to death. Prov. 14:12~~
Ownership is life without God, stewardship is life with God.

Where are we living like false owners, and where are we living like stewards?

Are we overconfident in ourselves or confident in God's promises?

*And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:19*