

JOSHUA 7:10-26 SIN (Part II)
24 February 13 by Glenn Palmer
Review

Joshua 1: *Strong in the Lord*
Joshua 2: *Spies*
Joshua 3: *Surge*
Joshua 4: *Stones*
Joshua 5: *Sacrament*
Joshua 5: *Supreme Commander*
Joshua 6: *Sound of the trumpet*
Joshua 7: *Sin*

Sin

Joshua 7:10

Joshua 7: 11 **Confrontation**

1. Who has sinned in vs. 14? *Israelites*
2. Count the number of times that “they” or “Israelites” is used in these three verses. 9
3. The Israelites were defeated because they sinned.
4. Notice the litany of five sins:
 - a. *They have violated my covenant*
 - b. *They have taken some of the devoted things*
 - c. *They have stolen*
 - d. *They have lied*
 - e. *They have put them with their own possessions*
5. What are the first two sins that are mentioned? *They have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things”*
6. What was the covenant? C.f. Joshua 6:17
7. Whose covenant was it? *My*
8. Note that stealing is sin #3. *First sin is violation of the covenant and taking the devoted things*
9. How had Achan lied? *Pretending that he had no sinned*
Why is this a sin? *Tried to hide the sin*

Joshua 7:12

10. What does God demand?

Joshua 7:13 **Consecration**

11. When are they going to consecrate themselves? *That same evening*
12. What does the consecration involve? Hint: see lesson on Surge, Joshua 3:7

Practical Application: How do we sanctify ourselves?

When we read the preparatory form for communion, do we examine ourselves before communion?

How long do we really examine ourselves?

What type of God do we serve? Holy and omniscient

13. What does Achan think when he hears of the defeat? *Guilty? BUT not guilty enough to turn himself in.*
14. What does Achan think when he is told he must sanctify himself? *Did not come forward*

Joshua 7:14**Condemnation**

15. God is an omniscient God. Who else knew that Achan had sinned? *God*
16. God is an omnipotent God. He is going to arrange the lots that it is a 1 in 600,000 chance!
 - a. Look up I Samuel 14:42
 - b. Look up Jonah 1:7

John Calvin: "For why, when he sees himself discovered, does not voluntarily come forward and confess the crime, instead of persisting in his effrontery (shameless boldness) till he is dragged forward against his will? . . . It appears, then, that after he had hardened himself in his wickedness, his mind and all his senses were charmed by the devil. . . there is nothing so hidden as not to be revealed in its own time. . .

Practical Application: that things which escape from the knowledge of the whole world are not concealed from God, and that to make them public depends only on His pleasure. For though a sin may seem as it were to have fallen asleep, it is however awake before the door, and will beset the miserable man till it overtake and crush him."

Joshua 7:15

17. What is the punishment?

Joshua 7:16

18. When does Joshua begin the discovery process? *Early in the morning*
19. The writer writes well. Imagine Achan trembling when he heard that Judah was taken.
20. The veracity of the Bible. Judah is the tribe from which Christ will come - but here an unsavory character appears from the chosen tribe.

Joshua 7:17

21. How many sons did Judah have? I Chronicles 2:3-4 *Five in all - Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez, and Zerah.*
22. How many sons fathered children? *Only two - Er and Onan were killed. No evidence that Shelah fathered any children. So just Perez and Zerah.*
23. How many children did Zerah have? I Chronicles 2:5 *Five: Zimri, Ethan, Heman, Calcol and Darda*

Joshua 7:18

24. In I Chronicles 2:6 we read there are five sons of Zerah, but in vs. 7 we read "the son of Carmi." In Joshua 7:18 we read that the Zimri came forward with his sons. We don't know how many brothers Carmi had. And we don't know how many sons Carmi had.

Practical Application: Notice the details of the story - not once upon a time. The Bible is written as a true historical record.

Joshua 7:19

25. Why does Joshua call him "My son"? *Joshua is the leader of the people, still concerned about the lost soul*

26. "Give glory to God." is a solemn charge to tell the truth (see NIV footnote.) It is also used in John 9:24.

Joshua 7:20

Confession

27. Because of Achan's sin, how many people died? 36
28. Because of Achan's sin, what is the morale of Israel? Cf. vs. 5. *Hearts melted and became like water*
29. Against whom does he say he has sinned? *God*
30. John Calvin: "Thus the sacred name of God is more effectual in extorting a confession than any torture could have been."

Joshua 7:21

31. "I saw . . . coveted . . . took."
32. Who else saw, coveted, and took?
- Gen 3:6 *Eve*
 - II Sam 11:24 *David*
33. Why is the beautiful robe from Babylonia mentioned first? *Importance.*
34. Francis Schaeffer: "Babylon was one of the great cities of the world. Babylon became the cultural leader of Mesopotamia. It was the mark of success and power. Anything from Babylon was chic. . . So this mantle from Shinar was not just an old shepherd's cloak, but a very stylish garment. It marked somebody as being "in," as really being "a man of the world." . . . Achan bothered to take it because he wanted to be marked with success, to be chic." *Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History*, p. 111-112.
35. "Two hundred shekels of silver" - an immense amount of money
- How much silver is that? See footnote. *5 pounds*
 - For how many shekels of silver was Joseph sold? Gen. 37:28 *20*
 - For how many shekels was a man going to work per year after room and board? Judges 17:10 *10 shekels - 4 ounces*
36. "A wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels" - Gold is worth about 10 times the value of silver.
37. Why did he not take a woman or an animal? *Dead men tell no tales.*

Joshua 7:22

38. What do the messengers do? *Typical of Joshua - Early in the morning, R U N to the tent-*

Joshua 7:23

39. Where did they display the items? *Before the Lord*

Joshua 7:24

Consequences

40. The covenant works for the benefit of the family of those who believe - Noah was believer, and his wife, and their three sons, and their three wives are all saved. Rahab was a believer and all her relatives who were in the room were saved.

41. The covenant works against the family of those who refuse to believe. Ahab and all his house were destroyed. Achan and all his family are punished - the sons and daughters, his cattle, donkeys, and sheep, and his possessions - tent, Babylonian robe, silver and the wedge of gold.
42. Note the wealth that Achan had - cattle, donkeys, sheep, possessions!! John Calvin: ***“It was not poverty that urged him to the crime.”***
43. Led to the valley of Achor. Did not want to pollute the camp. Look up Hebrews 13:11-12

Joshua 7:25

44. Actions have consequences. Note that there is no apparent remorse by Achan.
45. Who stoned him? *All Israel*
46. Why? *Community event*
47. What did they do to Achan after they stoned him? *Burned him*
48. Deaths as warning to new beginnings:
 - a. At the beginning of the tabernacle worship. Lev. 9 is the beginning of the priestly ministry. In Lev 10 we read of the death of the two sons of Aaron - Nadab and Abihu.
 - b. At the beginning of entering the promised land, we have the death of Achan.
 - c. At the beginning of the new church in Acts 5, we have the death of Ananias and Saphira
 - d. Why? *God wants a holy church, a sanctified people.*

Joshua 7:26

49. After he was stoned and *burned* what did they do? *Heaped up a pile of stones.*
50. This was the practice for disgraced persons - a perpetual warning sign.
 - a. Note that the place gets its own name.
 - b. Joshua 8:29
 - c. II Samuel 18:29

Joshua 7:26

Commentary

51. Why did the Lord turn from his fierce anger? *Sin had been removed.*
52. Joshua 7:1: Achan means *Trouble*
53. “The Valley of Achor” What does Achor mean? *Disaster*
54. Look up I Chronicles 2:7 - What does Achar mean? *Disaster*
55. Note that Achan of Joshua 7 now has a new name.

Practical Application: *Does God know our secret sins? Do we confess them to God? If not, why not? Whom are we trying to fool?*