

The Sin of Achan

TEXT: Joshua 7:1-5

INTRODUCTION:

- A. OLD TESTAMENT STUDY IS IMPORTANT.
 - 1. Warning (**1 Cor. 10:6, 11**).
 - 2. Hope (**Rom. 15:4**).
- B. MANY LESSONS TO LEARN FROM THE STORY OF ACHAN.
 - 1. The background (**Josh. 6-7**).
 - 2. Jericho, the first city in series to be attacked.
- C. LET'S LOOK AT SOME LESSONS FROM ACHAN.

I. ACHAN DISOBEYED A COMMAND OF GOD (Josh. 6:17-19).

- A. ACTED AS THOUGH THERE WAS NO LAW (**1 John 3:4**).
- B. TWO BASIC FORMS OF SIN.
 - 1. Sins of omission (**James 4:17**).
 - a. Must do what God tells us (**Matt. 7:21**).
 - b. "But I didn't do anything wrong!"
 - 2. Sins of commission.
 - a. Must not do what God forbids (**1 Cor. 6:9-10**).
 - b. Or go beyond where He has given a pattern (**2 John 9**).

II. HOW IS SIN CAUSED?

- A. **Joshua 7:20-21**.
 - 1. Achan saw → Enticed (**Matt. 5:27-28**).
 - 2. Achan coveted → Lusted (**Mark 7:21-23**).
 - 3. Achan took → SIN.
- B. **James 1:13-14**. SAME PROCESS!
- C. WHEN DOES LUST CONCEIVE AND BEAR SIN? (**Rom. 6:12**).
- D. SAME PROCESS WITH DAVID AND BATHSHEBA (**2 Sam. 11-12**).
- E. WE NEED TO WORK ON OUR HEARTS AND AVOID ENTICEMENTS.

III. SIN EFFECTS OTHERS.

- A. DEFEAT AT AI (**Josh. 7:1-5**).
- B. WE ALL HAVE INFLUENCE.
 - 1. The gospel is to shine in our lives (**1 Pet. 2:9; Phil. 2:15-16**).
 - 2. We have a responsibility toward our offspring (**Eph. 6:4**).
 - 3. What if our example is bad? (**1 Tim. 5:8; Matt. 5:13; 1 Cor. 15:33**).
- C. SOMETIMES WE SIN AGAINST OUR FAMILIES AND HURT THEM.
 - 1. Neglect, infidelity, violence, drunkenness and drugs, crime.
 - 2. Husbands, do what to your wives? (**Eph. 5:25**).
- D. WHAT ABOUT THE CHURCH?
 - 1. What does the world think of us? (**1 Pet. 2:11-12**).
 - 2. What about our effect on the church? (**1 Cor. 5:6**).

IV. CANNOT HIDE OUR SINS.

- A. ACHAN TRIED (**Josh. 7:21**).
- B. **Num. 33:23; Eccl. 12:12-14; Heb. 4:12-13; Psa. 33:13-14**.

V. THE CONSEQUENCE OF SIN.

- A. FOR ACHAN.
 - 1. Consequences were certain (**Josh. 7:13-15**).
 - 2. Some consequences, even for the forgiven.
- C. SIN AND US (**Isa. 59:1-2; Ez. 18:20; Rom. 6:23**).

CONCLUSION: THE SOLUTION TO SIN.

- A. GOD OFFERS AN APPEASEMENT OF JUSTICE (**Rom. 3:24-25**).
- B. BUT THERE ARE CONDITIONS (**Heb. 5:8-9**).
- C. WHAT CONDITIONS?