

LESSONS FROM THE SIN OF ACHAN

A FALL AFTER THE SUCCESS AT JERICHO Joshua 7:1-5

1. How really much we need to beware of the dangers of success.
 1. The seeds of pride and self-confidence are often sown in the joyful but unguarded hour of victory.
 2. There are still Achan's desires lurking in the heart, just waiting the opportunity to enrich themselves with the things that are to be wholly devoted to God.
 - (1) When Uzziah was strong in his heart, he was lifted up to destruction. 2 Chronicles 26:16; 1 Corinthians 10:12
2. At least two thoughts show up here
 1. THE SHAMEFUL DEFEAT OF ISRAEL
 1. The defeat was unexpected. They said, "Let not all the people go up." (Verse 3 of chapter 7)
 - (1) "They are but few." Our continual proneness to underestimate the few. Not much strength, cannot do much.
 2. Even "unexpected" failure must have its tap-root of evil somewhere.
 3. COMPLETE: "They fled before the men of Ai." (7:4) Why did they flee?
 - (1) Because the Lord was not with them. But look how he helped us at Jericho. But that is in the past.
 - (2) We are not going to win the victory today just because we are Christian any more than the children of Israel because they were Israelites.
 - (3) We must be Christians after the mind and will of God if we are to overcome.

2. ACHAN'S SIN AND THE RESULT Joshua 7:16-26 Four thoughts reveal all of this:

1. DESIRE: "I saw then I coveted them" (7:21). Sin often begins with a look. Examples:
 - (1) Eve saw the forbidden fruit. Gen. 3:6
 - (2) Lot saw the well watered plains. Gen 13:10
 - (3) Ahaz saw an altar and copied it. 2 Kings 16:10-18
 - (4) Adultery-fornication may begin with a look. Matt. 5:27,28
2. DISOBEDIENCE: "He took the accursed thing" (6:17-19; 7:1) God said no. Achan thought he could any way.
 - (1) Achan's act and sin is not uncommon even in these days.
 - A. Just as clearly the Lord has said, "Love not the world," but how much of the world is hid in the tent of your heart this morning?
 - (2) Many today actually prefer the world to God and Christ but try to keep up the appearance of godliness to deceive men.
3. DETECTION: "And Achan was taken" (7:18) BE SURE YOUR SIN WILL FIND YOU OUT. Numbers 32:23
4. DESTRUCTION: "And all Israel stoned him with stones" (7:25)
 - (1) What a contrast between Rahab's house and Achan's house: the one saved (6:17, 25), the other (Achan's 7:24-26) lost.
 - A. Are you, Parents, acting the part of Rahab today or the part of Achan. (The evolution of sin: James 1:13-16)
 - B. What will the end be, Salvation or destruction?

Deeds for reaching influence, by sin

Church of Christ

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3. DEFECTION: "And when man taken" (3:13) "Be gone from him that

will not keep his presence of holiness to receive men."
(8) "And when he departed the world to God and Father and
Father this morning;

and from which of the world is not in the heart of man.
"That he should the world was said, 'I have not the world,'
(1) "And when he said and is not uncommon even in these days.
said no. When someone is going and man.

3. DISOBEDIENCE: "He took the accursed thing" (3:13-14: 3:1) "God

(1) "And when he took the accursed thing" (3:13-14: 3:1) "God

(2) "And when he took the accursed thing" (3:13-14: 3:1) "God

(3) "And when he took the accursed thing" (3:13-14: 3:1) "God

(4) "And when he took the accursed thing" (3:13-14: 3:1) "God

(5) "And when he took the accursed thing" (3:13-14: 3:1) "God

1. DECEIT: "I saw when I covered them" (3:15) "And when he

of this:

3. WITNESS: "And when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

and to overcome.

(3) "And when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

and when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

(2) "And when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

(1) "And when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

3. CONFESSION: "And when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

and when

3. DECEIT: "And when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

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(2) "And when he saw the things" (3:15-16) "And when he

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