

Joshua 7:1

"Victory But Then..."

- 1. **Spiritual battles** whether corporate or personal, have something in common. After a great victory spiritually, there is often a quick defeat or disappointment.
- 2. **The Real Problem!** In this situation was unfaithfulness to God or to the devoted things, was Israel's dilemma and often ours.

Joshua 7:2-6

"Defeated"

- 1. After great victory, comes Israel's first defeat in the promise land at Ai.
- 2. Discouragement came, again, this is after one defeat!
- 3. V:2 Vanity is under-estimating your enemies, and their power.
- 4. **Pride** is over-estimating your strength. Trusting in the Holy Spirit will protect you from pride and from your weaknesses.
- 5. Better to humble yourself than being humble by God.

Joshua 7:7-13

Sin in the Camp

- 1. **V:11 Israel** has sinned! To suffer defeat is bad to be deprived of God's presences is worse. ~Koinonia institute
- 2. We never sin in a vacuum! The effects of our sins on others are real, in addition to our disobedience may bring judgement on all the body of Christ.
- 3. Church Worship services and the Body of Christ are not one in the same. There are sinners in a Church service that are drawn to the goodness of God and His Word.
- 4. **God doesn't expect** sinners in a Church service to act like Christians concerning their sins. But Christians living in sin will affect the Body.

- 5. Consecration is pleading to the holiness of God as we deal with our humanity.
- 6. **V:13** A holy people cannot stand against their enemies if there is sin in the camp.
- 7. **God is the one** who reveals the sin and sinner. We present ourselves to God to be examined by the Spirit.

Joshua 7:14-18

"The Story Behind Sin in the Camp"

- 1. **The Tribe of Judah**, this tribe stands out for its <u>past sins with Judah</u> and Tamar.
- 2. The Tribe of Judah is the bloodline of royalty of the Messiah.
- 3. God uses the past sins of Judah and the tribe to reveal His Grace to the whole world.

Joshua 7:19-21

"When We Justify Our Sins"

- 1. **"I saw"** the window of the eyes must not be trusted. Eve saw the was fruit was good, David saw Bathsheba on the roof top.
- 2. V:21 Achan renames the "First Fruits of Battle" that belonged to God as "Plunder."
- 3. A nation under God's judgement is guilty of trying to justify their sins.
- 4. **Reclassifying our sins**. Is at the core of deception. We speak of adultery as an affair, perversion as an alternative lifestyle.
- 5. **Confession with** excuses or the defending of your actions shows a lack of true repentance.

Joshua 7:22-26

The Wrath of God

- 1. Take it seriously and you will live.
- 2. **If you've sinned** it will be revealed. One exception is forgiveness then they are wiped clean.
- 3. Climatic Judgement could be upon you. Choose this day to surrender your sins to God's Grace. Go and sin no more. (Jesus)
- 4. Total destruction, of sin is the truth being revealed in Joshua Chapter 6 & 7
- 5. Achan: Means, "Troubler" the one who doesn't believe in consequences. They often live in the valley of trouble (Achor)