

Sin & It's Consequences

Joshua 7

November 13, 2024

The story of Joshua comes to a screeching halt here. After the great success at Jericho, Israel is defeated by a much smaller foe: Ai.

The question is...why? How could this happen?

Verse 12 b is the focal point - We can only have victory in life when God is on our side.

- Psalm 30:6-7

God's Wrath Against Sin :: vv. 1-12

Israel sinned. They have taken devoted things. They had been victorious at Jericho because of God's mercy. Now they fail because of God's wrath.

Qualification: We do not obey *just* to get God's blessings. That's not obedience, that's manipulation.

We also do not obey to avoid God's wrath. Jesus already took that. I obey *because* Jesus took my wrath! I submit to him as a response to what he did!

God's Answer for Sin :: v. 12b

They must destroy the devoted things for God to stay among them.

How many churches, though God's wrath was poured upon Jesus instead of them, have been ignoring God's clear commands and then wonder why he is not blessing them?

Would it be going too far to say that the apparent absence of God in various segments of the church may be due to our unwillingness to deal with sin in the life of our church?

- **1 Corinthians 5**

God's Mercy In Their Sin (Revelation of Sin) :: 10-15

- James 5:19-20

God's Repulsion for Their Sin :: vv. 16-26

V. 15 - The punishment is so severe because the sin is so serious. The problem is that we never really believe sin is that serious.

Two things from this:

God didn't just want Achan to learn his lesson but all of Israel.

But secondly:

The consequences of our sin never stay to ourselves.