

## Sin in the camp

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### Introduction

1. Joshua 7:1-15
2. History of leading up to this event
  - a. The children of Israel had crossed the Red Sea
  - b. They have wandered in the wilderness for 40 years because of their sin of disbelief Numbers 13, 14
  - c. Moses their leader had gone the way of all flesh
  - d. Joshua is now leader of this great nation
  - e. They are coming off of a great victory of Jericho
  - f. Next comes a little city of Ai
  - g. Why can they not take this little city
  - h. There was sin within the camp.
3. God has always expected His people to life right!
4. Sin is never in the plan and is not the smart thing to do.
5. What can we learn from Sin being in the camp?

### II Discussion

1. Defining words helps us understand this passage,
  - a. Except Joshua 7:12
    - i. John 3:3,5 only one way for salvation
    - ii. Acts 27:31 Salvation was only in the ship.
    - iii. Luke 13:3, 5 repentance is required
    - iv. Matthew 19:9 Only one reason
  - b. Accursed – devoted to the Lord, either in form of sacrifice or as an item of worth. So that if the people take to themselves that which has been devoted to God they will make themselves an object to be devoted or sacrificed to God. Hence the warning. Joshua 6:17-19
  - c. Trespassed verse 11 – to act undercover, to act unfaithfully; to act secretly or treacherously. Joshua 7:20
2. God's laws are clear and precise and understandable
  - a. Was Joshua 6:17-19 hard to understand?
  - b. Which of God's commands are hard to understand?
    - i. Baptism,
    - ii. Repentance,
    - iii. worshipping?
3. Victory is from God
  - a. They were smaller than other nations. Deuteronomy 7:1
  - b. The land was God's Leviticus 25:23
  - c. Joshua 6:27 Confidence
  - d. Joshua 6:2 Israel had been given the city but had to do something to get it
  - e. Philippians 4:13
4. There is progression in sin. Joshua 7:21
  - a. He saw He looked at the accursed things then he reclassified them (spoils)
  - b. Coveted them James 1:14; Colossians 3:5

- c. He took and hid, Hebrews 4:13; Numbers 32:23
- 5. Sin affects others
  - a. The children of Israel committed a trespass Joshua 7:1,11
  - b. Sin of one affects the whole nation. 1 Corinthians 5:6-7; Romans 14:7
  - c. Joshua and the elders did not feel sin as being inconsequential
  - d. In the church we need to find the cause of sin and remove it
    - i. In this lesson we find the importance of dealing with sin
    - ii. In this lesson we find that sin will bring defeat
    - iii. In this lesson we find that sin must be removed. 1 Corinthians 5:11
- 6. We can steal from God Joshua 7:11, 22; 6:18
  - a. Malachi 3:8
  - b. 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
  - c. Colossians 3:5

### III Conclusion

1. Bearing God's name is never a guarantee of divine protection. Matthew 7:21
2. Love removes fear. 1 John 4:18
3. Love involves trust and obedience John 14:15
4. Will you let God's love work in your heart and obey today

Sources: Joshua lecture by Firm Foundation and Denton. MSOP on Great Characters of the OT; Kiel & Delitzsch on Joshua; All the men of the Bible