



Joshua

Part #9 –

Troubler of the Camp

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Introduction

Key Scriptures

- But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel. – Joshua 7:1
- O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies! – Joshua 7:8
- And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? – Joshua 7:10
- Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put *it* even among their own stuff. - Joshua 7:11



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, *but* turned *their* backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you. – Joshua 7:12
- When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they *are* hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it. – Joshua 7:21
- And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones. – Joshua 7:25



Keys

Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you. – Joshua 7:12

- Just after a victorious outcome, watch and pray!
- ... committed a trespass in the accursed thing
- The loss of 36 men.
- O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!
- Disobedience will cause the enemies of God to blaspheme the name of the Lord
- The nemeses of sin



In this lesson

- Setups
- Setbacks
- Comebacks



Setups

And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Bethaven, on the east side of Bethel, and spake unto them, saying, Go up and view the country. And the men went up and viewed Ai. And they returned to Joshua, and said unto him, Let not all the people go up; but let about two or three thousand men go up and smite Ai; and make not all the people to labour thither; for they are but few. – Joshua 7:2,3

- The charge came from the Word of the Lord
 - Their Mind - they were fully persuaded about their inheritance
 - Their Momentum – They were driven to take what belonged to them
 - Their Motive – They embarked on a strategy and undertook the necessary actions to possess their inheritance
- Their resolve



Setups – Cont'd

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: – 1 Peter 2:9

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. – Ephesians 2:10

- They heard, understood and accepted that they were chosen
- They were royalty
- They were a holy nation
- They were not ordinary
- They were to make His praise glorious and magnify His work



Setbacks

*But the children of Israel **committed a trespass in the accursed thing**: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel. – Joshua 7:1*

- *Commit* – carry out or perpetrate a mistake, crime or immoral act; pledge or bind a person to a certain course or policy
- *Trespass* – an offense against a set of rules, entry into something, land without permission
- *Accursed* – under a curse, damned, doomed, dedicated, ban, a thing devoted



Setbacks – Cont'd

Ai, Bethaven, Bethel - The choice of a setup or a setback

- It was at the heap of ruins along the house of vanity that sin lurks upon the covetous
- Its nearness to the house of God, signifies there are choices we all make on the journey of life
- God's purpose was to set them up for success, that's why he led them through Jericho
- Your convictions determine your choices – Joshua 7:3
- It is never the intent and purpose of the Lord God for us to suffer loss
- In the game of life, don't be caught playing in the sandbox of sin



Setbacks – Cont'd

O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies! – Joshua 7:8

- His choice led to the loss of life
- What was convenient to him resulted in the inconvenience of an entire nation
- Sin troubles – Joshua 7:25
- Sin is costly – Joshua 7:4 - You are not the only one who reaps its harvest!
- Sin sets you back! – Joshua 7:7-9



Setbacks – Cont'd

O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies! – Joshua 7:8

- Setbacks reveals the troubler and the troubles
- Whatever you compromise to gain or keep you lose
- Cause many to lose faith – Joshua 7:7,8
- Joshua was on his face until eventide
- Will cause the enemies of God to blaspheme the word of God – Joshua 7:9



Setbacks – Cont'd

Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him: But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God. – Ecclesiastes 8:11-13

Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after. Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid. – 1 Timothy 5:24,25



Comebacks

Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff. – Joshua 7:11

The four things the Lord saw

- The whole camp was guilty
- Taken of the accursed thing
- They have stolen
- They were in deceit, feigned obedience
- They have hidden it among their stuff



Comebacks – Cont'd

When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it. – Joshua 7:21

The three things Achan did

- The lust of the eyes – goodly Babylonish garment
- The deceitfulness of riches – 200 shekels of silver; a wedge of gold of 50 shekels weight
- The pride of life – then I coveted them, and took them; and hid them



Comebacks – Cont'd

And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? – Joshua 7:10

Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you. – Joshua 7:13

Deal with the situation

- Identify - Revelation
- Sort out
- Remove with haste – Repentance (Joshua 7:22)
- Make a memorial of it



Conclusion

From the pages of Joshua

- The choices we make affect our lives and those close to us



Next Week

We will continue next week, beginning with:

- Reconciliation, Redemption and Restoration and – Joshua 8