

Joshua 7

King James Version (KJV)

7 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. (in the accursed thing-> the robes of one of the priests of Baal) (Achan= trouble) (There is always someone in the group that just can't obey God; no matter how many times He saved them)

²And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Bethaven, on the east of Bethel, and spake unto them, saying, Go up and view the country. And the men went up and viewed Ai. (These are the Amorites) (Ai=a heap) (Bethel = house of God) (Bethaven = house of nothing)

³And 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. (God never told them to go against Ai. They believe that they are powerful because of the fall of Jericho. They didn't defeat Jericho. God did)

⁴So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men: and they fled before the men of Ai. (They were beaten badly by Ai)

⁵And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them from before the gate even unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down: wherefore the hearts of the people melted, and became as water. (Shebarim= the breach) (They were defeated because they left God out of their plans. It was God that was giving them the victories)

⁶And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads. (A sign of mourning and repentance)

⁷And Joshua said, Alas, O LORD God, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan! (They were feeling sorry for themselves, instead of asking God to lead them. Joshua is acting as pathetically as the other nay-sayers. He should have known better by now. They

attacked Ai on their own; because they became egomaniacs after the defeat of Jericho)

⁸O LORD, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!

⁹For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear of it, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name? (environ= to surround) (This is pathetic. They are telling God the His reputation will also suffer if they are wiped out)

¹⁰And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? (God is not happy with Joshua's leadership. Get up and act like a man)

¹¹Israel 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. (dissembled= to lie, to deny it)

¹²Therefore 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. (These guys and their love of idolatry are pathetic. The accursed thing was the robe of a Baal priest from Jericho along with the gold and silver that came from the Baal temple in Jericho)

¹³Up, 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. (Tell the people what is going on. Make them correct the sin that they committed, or go without God)

¹⁴In the morning therefore ye shall be brought according to your tribes: and it shall be, that the tribe which the LORD taketh shall come according to the families thereof; and the family which the LORD shall take shall come by households; and the household which the LORD shall take shall come man by man. (They will find out who did this)

¹⁵ And it shall be, that he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath: because he hath transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel. (Judgment – this is also a foretelling of what will happen to people who are against God, at the end of this age)

¹⁶ So Joshua rose up early in the morning, and brought Israel by their tribes; and the tribe of Judah was taken:

¹⁷ And he brought the family of Judah; and he took the family of the Zarahites: and he brought the family of the Zarahites man by man; and Zabdi was taken:

¹⁸ And he brought his household man by man; and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. (They found him out)

¹⁹ And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide it not from me. (Tell the truth and repent)

²⁰ And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done: (He is a thief, a liar and an idolater. Judgment is now upon him)

²¹ 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. (Babylonish garment = a Baal worshipping priest's robe)

²² So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran unto the tent; and, behold, it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it. (It – the accursed thing; the Baal priest's robes) (The gold & silver were meant for the temple treasury, not to be put under a Baal priest's robe, in Achan's tent)

²³ And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD. (The proof of his crimes)

²⁴ And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons,

and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor. (His family was all a part of his crimes. They didn't turn him in when they had the chance)

²⁵ 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. (The judgment from God was death)

(You cannot wait for judgment day to repent – when you've been caught and found guilty. You must repent before that happens)

²⁶ And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger. Wherefore the name of that place was called, The valley of Achor, unto this day. (valley of Achor = the valley of trouble)