



February Sermon Series

Scripture References:

Joshua 6:27, So, the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout all the country.

Joshua 7:1, BUT the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed things; so, the anger of the LORD burned against the children of Israel.

Lesson From the Book of Joshua

Lesson Six:

Some Things Can't Be Hidden

(Part 1)

Luke 12:2, Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.

“A sin may appear to be safely buried (like a murdered corpse), and grass may grow on the grave; but a resurrection awaits it.”

1 Corinthians 12:26-27, And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. We all know that when one member of the body has problems, the entire body suffers with it.

**Your spiritual temperature
has a profound effect on the
entire body of Christ.**

If you try to hide sin in your life, your secret will eventually get out, because your sin will affect you and all those around you.

Psalm 90:8, “Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.”

Joshua 7:2-5

**I. ISRAEL ENDURED A TERRIBLE
SLAUGHTER.**

Joshua 7:2-5 – Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which *is* beside Beth Aven, on the east side of Bethel, and spoke to them, saying, “Go up and spy out the country.” So, the men went up and spied out Ai. And they returned to Joshua and said to him, “Do not let all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not weary all the people there, for *the people of Ai are few.*”

So about three thousand men went up there from the people, but they fled before the men of Ai. And the men of Ai struck down about thirty-six men, for they chased them *from* before the gate as far as Shebarim, and struck them down on the descent; therefore the hearts of the people melted and became like water.

Joshua 7:2-3

**A. Israel Was A Determined
People.**

Confidence is a good thing if one's confidence is in the right place.

**1 Corinthians 10:12, Therefore,
let him who thinks he stands
take heed lest he fall.**

**Proverbs 16:18, Pride goes
before destruction, and a
haughty spirit before a fall.**

**Proud people are full of
themselves. Humble people are
full of God.**

Joshua 7:3-5

**B. Israel Was A Defeated
People.**

1. They Failed to Pray to God.

**It is far better to consult God
before we make the mistake than it
is to expect Him to clean up the
mess afterwards.**

**God can make greatness
out of a great mess.**

**2. They Failed to Rely on God's
Power.**

1 Samuel 17:45-47, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

**Never underestimate the
power of God!**

**“Outside of Christ I am weak. In
Christ I am strong.”**

**3. They Failed to Fully Prepare
Themselves.**

Four Steps to Achievement:

- 1. Plan purposefully**
- 2. Prepare prayerfully**
- 3. Proceed positively**
- 4. Pursue persistently**

“Two things in life you are in total control over are your attitude and your effort.”

Joshua 7:5b

**C. Israel Was A Distressed
People.**

**Nothing is right in the life
of a believer while there is
sin in his heart!**

Kill your sin or it will kill you!

JOSHUA 7: 6-15

**II. ISRAEL ENCOUNTERED A
TERRIBLE SUMMONS**

Joshua 7:6-9

A. Joshua's Amazement

Joshua 7:6, “Then Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until evening, he, and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads.”

Psalm 66:18 (NLT), If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.”

**It is never a right time to
accuse God of anything.**

Joshua 7:10-15

B. God's Announcement

**Joshua 7: 11, Israel has sinned,
and they have also transgressed
My covenant which I commanded
them. For they have even taken
some of the accursed things and
have both stolen and deceived;
and they have also put it among
their own stuff.**

Four Observations Concerning Sin And Its Effects In Our Lives:

1. God Knows About Our Sins.

Hebrews 4:13, And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

2. God Hates Our Sins

Psalm 34:16, The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

3. God Has A Plan for Our Sins

Joshua 7:13, Get up, sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the Lord God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you." God wants us to get honest about our condition. He expects confession and repentance.

**“Cover your sin, God will
expose it. Expose your sin
God will cover it.”**

I John 1:9, If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

4. God Will Punish Our Sins.

Galatians 6:7-8, Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

**Sin Always Affects Those
Around Us. No One Sins In A
Vacuum.**

**“Sin will take you farther than
you want to go, keep you
longer than you want to say,
and cost you more than you
want to pay.”**