

Joshua 7:1-5

*“1 But the Israelites were unfaithful in regard to the devoted things; Achan son of Karmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of them. So the Lord’s anger burned against Israel.*

*2 Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth Aven to the east of Bethel, and told them, “Go up and spy out the region.” So the men went up and spied out Ai.*

*3 When they returned to Joshua, they said, “Not all the army will have to go up against Ai. Send two or three thousand men to take it and do not weary the whole army, for only a few people live there.” 4 So about three thousand went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai, 5 who killed about thirty-six of them. They chased the Israelites from the city gate as far as the stone quarries and struck them down on the slopes. At this the hearts of the people melted in fear and became like water.”*

Verse 1

*“But the Israelites were unfaithful in regard to the devoted things; Achan son of Karmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of them. So the Lord’s anger burned against Israel.”*

Verse 12

*“Therefore the Israelites are unable to stand before their enemies; they turn their backs to their enemies, because they have become a thing devoted for destruction themselves. I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.”*

## THE PROCESS OF SIN

Joshua 7:20-25 NKJV

*“20 And Achan answered Joshua and said, “Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done: 21 When I **saw** among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I **coveted** them and **took** them. And there they are, **hidden** in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.”*

*22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver under it. 23 And they took them from the midst of the tent, brought them to Joshua and to all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD. 24 Then Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, the silver, the garment, the wedge of gold, his sons, his daughters, his oxen, his donkeys, his sheep, his tent, and all that he had, and they **brought them** to the Valley of Achor. 25 And Joshua said, “Why have you troubled us? The LORD will trouble*

*you this day." So all Israel stoned him with stones; and **they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones.**"*

The process of sin:

1. He saw what he wanted.
2. He coveted what he saw.
3. He took what he coveted.
4. He hid what he took.
5. His sin was exposed.
6. He and his family died.

1. He saw what he wanted.

Verse 21 *"When I **saw** among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels,"*

2. He coveted what he saw.

*"then I **coveted** them and took them; and behold, they are concealed in the earth inside my tent with the silver underneath it."*

3. He took what he coveted.

*"then I coveted them and **took** them; and behold, they are concealed in the earth inside my tent with the silver underneath it."*

4. He hid what he took.

*then I coveted them and took them; and behold, they are **concealed in the earth inside my tent with the silver underneath it.**"*

5. His sin was exposed.

Verse 22-23 *"So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and there it was, hidden in his tent with the silver underneath. **23** They took them out of the tent and brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites; and they spread them out before the Lord."*

6. He and his family died.

Joshua 7:24-26 *"**24** Then Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan son of Zerah, with the silver, the mantle, and the bar of gold, with his sons and daughters, with his oxen, donkeys, and sheep, and his tent and all that he had; and they brought them up to the Valley of Achor. **25** Joshua said, "Why did you bring trouble on us? The Lord is bringing trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him to death; they burned them with fire, cast stones on them, **26** and*

*raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the Lord turned from his burning anger. Therefore that place to this day is called the Valley of Achor.”*

---

Fusion Group Questions:

1. What did God speak to you through this text?
2. How do you need to obey Him?
3. How can you help each other obey Him?
4. What was the cause of God's wrath?
5. Could this happen to you?
6. No one sins in isolation. How might your sin affect others, family, church, etc?
7. Do you think believers really take sin seriously? Why or why not?