

Characters of the Old Testament – ACHAN
Joshua 7:19-21
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the lessons we can learn from Achan.

Intro: 1. Achan is a reminder of the attraction that sin has to man.
2. He is also a reminder of the price of sin.

I. The Attraction of Temptation

A. He was tempted by the lust of worldly goods.

1. The Bible warns that we sin when we give into temptation (**James 1:14**)
2. The temptation that caused him to sin still causes many to sin today (**1 Tim 6:10**)

B. **Joshua 7:21**

1. Achan says he was coveted these items so he took them.
2. Achan's focus was on physical, material things, our focus cannot be the same as his.
3. The devil was at work.
 1. The devil uses many things to tempt men to sin. With Achan, it worked.
 2. **The things which Achan coveted wasn't even a great amount, some are lead away to sin by very little. Sin is sin, no matter the size or the amount.**

II. The Impossibility of Secret Sin

A. No sin is secret. (**Num 32:23**)

1. God's eyes are open to all things. (**Ps 34:15**).
2. Sin must be repented of because no sin can be hidden from God, but it will separate us from him.
3. If it must be done in secret or taught in secret, then it must not be done.

B. God's Judgment

1. **God's judgment upon Achan and the punishment administered reminds us of a clear fact.**
 - a. **God's law is not negotiable.**
 - b. **His Word does not change.**
2. The judgment upon Achan was given because he had sinned against God and hindered God's people because of his sin.

III. Lessons for us today.

A. God has left us lessons about His love for man and His attitude toward sin.

1. He sees all, knows all and will not let sin go unpunished.

B. Sin hinders God's people.

1. **Sin is not an aide but is a weakness to Christians.**
2. A great battle was lost because of sin.

Application & Conclusion:

1. Today, a greater battle can be lost because of sin.
2. Where there is sin there must be repentance, or we will lose the battle for our soul.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9