

RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

TROUBLE!

Joshua 7:1-26 Jeff Schreve

"And the city (Jericho) shall be under the ban, it and all that is in it belongs to the LORD; only Rahab the harlot and all who are with her in the house shall live, because she hid the messengers whom we sent. But as for you, only keep yourselves from the things under the ban, lest you covet them and take some of the things under the ban, so you would make the camp of Israel accursed and bring trouble on it. But all the silver and gold and articles of bronze and iron are holy to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD."

Joshua 6:17-19

How can you avoid bringing trouble to your life and family?

1. Beware the sin of coveting.

Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, I implore you, give glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, and give praise to Him; and tell me now what you have done. Do not hide it from me." So Achan answered Joshua and said, "Truly, I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel, and this is what I did: when I saw among the spoil a beautiful mantle from Shinar and two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold fifty shekels in weight, then I coveted them and took them" Joshua 7:19-21

A. Coveting is a common sin.

B. Coveting is a serious sin.

But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

James 1:14-15

2. Beware the sin of covering.

"... and behold, they are concealed in the earth inside my tent with the silver underneath it." Joshua 7:21

A. God sees everything we try to hide.

B. God will not bless hidden sin.

"Israel has sinned Therefore the sons of Israel cannot stand before their enemies; they turn their backs before their enemies, for they have become accursed. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy the things under the ban from your midst."

Joshua 7:11-12

This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

1 John 1:5-6

C. God will uncover hidden sin.

3. Beware the sin of squandering.

"Rise up! Consecrate the people and say, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, for thus the LORD, the God of Israel, has said, "There are things under the ban in your midst, O Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you have removed the things under the ban from your midst." 'In the morning then you shall come near by your tribes. And it shall be that the tribe which the LORD takes by lot shall come near by families, and the family which the LORD takes shall come near by households, and the household which the LORD takes shall come near man by man."

Joshua 7:13-14

A. God is gracious to give us an opportunity to repent.

B. God is faithful to judge sin.

If you want to avoid self-inflicted trouble, come now to Him!