

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1301

January 12, 2020

Joshua 7:21, “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.”

Psalm 1:1, “Blessed [is] the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.”

Both of the above verses show the progression of sin. Probably none of us will go almost immediately from living a godly life to being captured in sin. There is usually a slower progression that entangles a person. Note the progression of Achan’s sin in Joshua 7:21.

1. He first **saw** some things that were attractive and had value. There was a good garment from a foreign land as well as gold and silver. It’s not wrong to see things or situations. We have to live in this life. It does help to remove the opportunity to sin if we never see sin in the first place. No doubt this was part of the wisdom behind the words of Paul in I Thessalonians 5:22, “Abstain from all appearance of

evil.” If we stay away from things that even look like they could be wrong, then the next steps of Achan cannot be done.

2. He **coveted** the things he saw. After seeing the valuable and attractive things, Achan coveted them. They had been told by the LORD not to take anything from Jericho. But Achan desired them. To covet is to have an intense desire. One of the ten commandments was, “Thou shalt not covet.” Those exact words are repeated for us today in Romans 13:9.

There is one instance where to covet is not wrong. Paul wrote in I Corinthians 12:31, “But covet earnestly the best gifts...” Two chapters later in I Corinthians 14:39 he wrote, “Covet to prophesy.” To covet is to have a desire. That which we covet is what makes it sinful or righteous to do.

3. He **took** the things he saw. After seeing them Achan took the items he so desired. The LORD had plainly told them not to take of the spoils. Because of this sin, about 36 people lost their lives in trying to capture the smaller town of Ai.

4. He then **hid** the items. No matter how much we hide our sins, they will come back to us. Moses wrote in Numbers 32:23, “...and be sure your sin will find you out.” The sin of Achan did find him. Not only were the people killed trying to capture Ai, but Achan, all his family, livestock, and his goods were stoned and burned.

Perhaps Achan could not help seeing goodly things laying out in the open in Jericho. It was at that point he had the choice to go the way the LORD had said, or to progress into sin. He chose the latter, and many, including himself, died because of this.

Even the entire congregation of Israel suffered because of the sin of Achan. A few chapters later we are told in Joshua 22:20, “Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and ...continued on next page

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Sunday 9 AM & 4 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher**, **Steve Seaton**, **Brad Terry**, **Enola Zigler**, **Shirley Parson**. **Larry Compton** has his final therapy for knee replacement tomorrow. He should be back with us in a few days. **Mark Crabtree** has been sick

with bronchitis. **Grace Riffle** has been quite sick with a stomach virus. **Vicki McDaniel** will be going to Nashville on January 20 to see about a plate in her neck and shoulder that was placed there several years ago. Two screws have worked loose and are causing her much pain and numbness in her arms and hands. Her sister, **Carol Baldwin**, had surgery to shave down a thumb and put cartilage from her arm into it. She is having much pain with the procedure. Vicki's friend, **Betty McFarland**, did quite well with eye surgery. We have been asked to remember **Ashley Isenberg** in prayer. She lives at Uno and has spina bifida. She has been taken to Norton's in Louisville battling a serious illness.

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wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? and that man perished not alone in his iniquity."

He did not perish alone. Others perished with him. Our sins can easily lead others astray. Perhaps our lack of attendance will cause our children to attend even less, and by the time another generation comes, attendance and service to the LORD is long forgotten.

A similar thought to the progression of sin is in the very first verse of Psalms. "*Blessed [is] the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.*" This time instead of falling to the progression of sin, we see how one is blessed for not following this path.

In this verse we see three words of action that we are not to do in relation to sin. We are not to walk in the counsel of the ungodly. Do

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Sunday, January 5, 2020		
Classes	20	II Peter 1:1-4
Preaching	23	Revelation 21 (New things in Revelation)
Contribution	\$933.00	
Evening	14	Singing (Psalm 23)
Wednesday, January 8, 2019		
Classes	12	Isaiah 11:1-16

Bible Quiz

The wolf would dwell with what?

Last Week's Answer— The bough (Isaiah 10:33)

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not even walk where sin is. Stay far away from it.

The next phrase pictures one standing. When we are walking, then stop to look, we can take in much more information and give ourselves much more time and opportunity to partake of sin. The final step in this verse is to sit with the sinner. We have then gathered ourselves with them, and have become part of them.

Being overcome with sin doesn't happen all at once. There is a beginning. The first moment we feel the pull, we need to turn, flee, and pray to find the way of escape.—Marty Edwards❖

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)