

## Covenant Faithfulness

November 3, 2019

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Joshua 7:1-26

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

### I. Disaster for Israel

1-5

- Reading the narrative not all blame can be placed on Achan
  - No reference to the Lord in making the plans
  - Was there an attitude that forgot God and allowed Achan to think nobody would care... it was just a few things
  - Apply: do we have a covenant community that glorifies God & remembers His agenda for all of our lives?
- The Gospel is not just a one-time profession - it is a day-by-day recognition of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ!  
Rom 5:8; Deut 7:6-11

### II. A Proper Response

6-13

- Joshua must have been devastated - 36 men lost
  - Joshua prayed bluntly & honestly 7-9 because he had relationship with God
    - Do you have relationship with God through Jesus? Rm 8:34; Heb 7:25
  - More than prayer was needed – God called Joshua to Action! V10
    - Israel had violated command Dt 6:18, of course they will not succeed
    - Consecrate the people v13 sanctify, purify (remember whose you are)
- Apply: are you praying about something that is obvious from God's word?  
STOP IT - take action, trust God & obey Him

### III. Dealing with Sin

13-26

- Achan's action was the sin; whole community told to consecrate
  - Lesson: we as God's people have a responsibility to encourage and challenge and point others to holiness as well as ourselves! Gal 6:1-2
- Joshua called people to consecrate (examine themselves) 13
  - Achan had time to repent "tomorrow"
  - What if Achan had confessed that night? God is merciful...
  - But Achan couldn't repent because he was so ensnared by his sin he couldn't look to God. Could those around him have helped?
  - Reminds us of the importance of GOSPELING one another
    - Jesus has redeemed us so we have His holiness 1 Pet 1:13-16
    - We must remember our Identity in Christ Eph 1:6; Rm 6:1-2

## Remember:

### A. Believers live with King Jesus as our King & Redeemer

Remember: King Jesus leads us in successful evangelism. We follow Him, we don't break down walls or city gates, He does! Our job is to be obedient and faithful in the worship of our lives. Our Covenant Community (Church) is His provision to enable us to do that.

### B. We were made citizens of Jesus' Kingdom by His grace and mercy so choose Covenant Faithfulness!

God made the covenant; live in His mercy as obedient and faithful worshipers of this amazing God.

### C. King Jesus is the perfect, gracious Covenant Keeper, so remember God's agenda for your life!

Our responsibility like Israel is to be worshipful and obedient in all of our life.

- Worship - display honor to Jesus in ALL things 1, 11-12  
Remember the devoted things. All of our lives are to be consecrated to God  
1 Cor 6:19-20. Rom 12:1-2
- Obedience - we don't obey to earn merit - Jesus obeyed perfectly on your behalf if you are a believer. Let the law guide you and remind you how a consecrated person lives in Covenant Faithfulness!

## Think and Apply:

- What do you think of the idea that the community might have helped Achan avoid his sin? What might that look like? Discuss what that might look like today without becoming legalistic...
- How does Gospeling one another help us encourage one another to live in obedience and with an attitude of worship? What does that look like practically? Does that exist in your life?
- Is there a sin you are committing, contemplating or even thinking about that you often pray about, but are taking no action to walk in holiness? Is God calling you to take action? How does 1 John 1:9 help? What does that look like in Church (community of covenant people)? How does the Gospel make this less scary?  
Think: We are only accepted by Christ's righteousness... None of us are righteous unless we are in Christ... Other believers also struggle with sin so they will accept you and be willing to encourage you to walk in Christ's obedience as they understand and help you apply the Gospel!