

CONQUEST AND VICTORY

"Sin In the Camp"

Joshua 7

INTRODUCTION:

1. Someone once said, *"Never allow the glow of Victory blind your eyes."*
2. Principle: *"Whenever we have victory or success, we are @ the most vulnerable point for the evil one to destroy our lives."*
3. Joshua 6:20-25, 27
4. Joshua 7:1
 - a) *"But"* - Oh that bad word!!!
 - 1) The gladness of Victory was soon replaced by the gloom of defeat.

I. THE CAUSE OF DEFEAT

1. Vs 1
 - a) *"But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the devoted things..."*
 - 1) *"broke faith"* - means to be **unfaithful** - a violation of trust
2. Cf. 6:18
 - a) *"devoted"* - "herem" - ban for destruction
 - b) *Deuteronomy 20:16-18*
 - 1) **Why?** *To prevent the worship of other gods.*
3. The gladness of Victory was soon replaced by the gloom of defeat.
4. **WOW!!!** Cf. 5:13-15; 6:1-5, 17-18
5. Vs 2-4a
 - a) **Very Important:** Where in these verses do we see Joshua seeking the Lord's direction?
6. Vs 4
7. Vs 5 **WOW!!!**
 - a) This is the first loss of life on Israel's part...36 men died.

8. **LISTEN UP:** Satan has a brilliant strategy in going for the kill when we're on a high.

9. **GOOD STUFF:** In the rubble of VICTORY lie the seeds of our next defeat.

II. THE CONSEQUENCE OF DEFEAT

1. Vs 6

2. Vs 7

a) Joshua was having a pity party for himself.

b) *"Alas, O Lord God, why have you brought this people over the Jordan at all, to give us into the hands of the Amorites, to destroy us."*

c) *"Would that we had been content to dwell beyond the Jordan!"*

3. Vs 8-9

4. Vs 10-12

III. THE CURE FOR DEFEAT

A. TIME TO CONFRONT SIN

1. Vs 13

a) *"Consecrate"* - that's a thorough self-examination.

b) *"You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from among you."*

2. Vs 14-15

B. GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Vs 16-18

2. *Why didn't God just point out the person who sinned?*

a) Since the casting of lots took time it may have been an opportunity for the guilty man to step forward and confess.

b) This method took some time but also showed the seriousness of the crime.

C. THE PATHWAY OF SIN

1. Vs 19-20

2. Numbers 32:23

3. Vs 21

a) "I saw"

1) The problem with Achan was that he had a dissatisfied heart.

b) "I coveted"

1) It's not being content with what we have.

c) "I took"

1) When the sins on the inside take root, they burst out into the open.

d) "I hid"

1) But only for a while.

4. Vs 22-23

5. Remember this!!! **Your sins are not your own!!**

a) *Your sin will hurt others.*

CONCLUSION:

1. Vs 24-26

2. But why his family?

a) Because it was evident that they all knew about the buried stuff in the middle of the tent.

3. LESSONS TO BE LEARNED:

a) *The impact of the sin of one upon the body of many.*

1) We never sin unto ourselves.

2) All because he violated God's Word.

b) *Nothing can be hidden from God.*

1) There is nowhere in the universe you can go to hide from God.

c) *Victory is impossible apart from confession.*

1) Vs 12

d) *With every success there is responsibility,*

1) When at the top we are vulnerable.