



"I Hope The Kids Will Understand"

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Joshua 7:20-23

- I am more amazed each day at the mental and spiritual integrity of people.
- Some of the questions that are presented to me where the person desires spiritual guidance truly astound me.
- Honestly, I understand new Babes in Christ. I know they need much more care than the veteran saint.
- I was made aware of a situation in a friend of mines Church where the Pastor was blamed for causing a certain individual to backslide.
- We need to make something real simple and plain. No one but me can cause me to lose out with God.
- Regardless of what you or anyone else does, regardless if the entire Church rises against me and causes me unbelievable pain and suffering, there is no one but me in charge of my spiritual well being.
- I am definitely glad that others are not in control of my spirituality, but the Lord put ME in control and no one has any power over me other than myself.
- When Hell has enlarged itself in our lives we quickly begin to search for the source of the problem.
- I am a firm believer that the source of the problem is usually a response to an activity we have allowed ourselves to engage in.
- That doesn't mean that the prayer warrior will never have problems.
- But a person that never tells a lie will never have to deal with the ramifications a lie brings to a person's life.
- A person who never steals will never deal with the consequences of a thief.
- Sometimes Hell's retribution and the Lord's vengeance is not the result of anyone's actions other than our own.
- We are guilty of trying to make it someone else's fault.

Joshua 6:18-19

18. And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

19. But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

- Joshua told proclaimed this warning to all.
- If you take of anything from the city you will curse yourself. Leave it alone!
- All the silver, gold brass and iron are consecrated to the treasury of the Lord.
- Verse 18: If you take of the accursed thing you will bring retribution upon yourself but you will be guilty of making the camp of Israel a curse.
- When are people going to realize that your actions are going to not only affect you, but every member of your family and those around you?
- But it seems that as long as I get what I want who cares about all of the others?
- Everyone here is aware of Achan and the choices he made.

During Jericho's defeat he stole:

- A Babylonish garment.
- Two hundred shekels of silver.
- A wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels.

- He hoarded these items in his tent; he dug a hole to hide their existence.
- But sin and disobedience will always make themselves known and at the most inconvenient moment!
- The curse was brought upon Israel just like Joshua stated.
- The men of Ai killed thirty six Israelites and left the Israelites wondering what has happened.
- But the Lord came to the Man of God and revealed to him what the problem was.
- There is sin in the camp!
- If you don't want a Man of God in your life, so be it.
- But I thank God for the times that a Man of God sat me down and read me the riot act, for the times he endangered his status with me so that he might pluck me from a danger I was unable to see.
- Have you ever seen someone struggling and they can't understand why, but everybody else and their brother knows why.
- It's plain as day to others but the person involved can't see it.
- The theft is proved and all the stolen items are laid out before Israel.
- Achan's family is brought to watch their father's demise.
- Achan is taken to the stoning pit.
- The stones are lined up, Achan and all of his possessions were placed in the pit along with the stolen items.
 - Now those children will be forced to live without a father.
 - Now those children will never have that inheritance.
 - Shame and disgrace will be their constant companion.
 - All because one man yielded to his desires.
- Watch this, even the Church suffered!
- The silver and gold which was destroyed with Achan would have been used in the Lord's treasury.
What a price to pay!