Dad, Watch the Road Signs!

Joshua 7

Joshua 7:24 (ESV)

And Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver and the cloak and the bar of gold, and his sons and daughters and his oxen and donkeys and sheep and his tent and all that he had. And they brought them up to the Valley of Achor.

Joshua 7:25 (ESV)

And Joshua said, "Why did you bring trouble on us? The Lord brings trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones.

Joshua 7:26 (ESV)

And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the Lord turned from His burning anger. Therefore, to this day the name of that place is called the Valley of Achor.

1. Easy to Commit

Joshua 7:19 (ESV)

Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the Lord God of Israel and give praise to Him. And tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me."

Joshua 7:20 (ESV)

And Achan answered Joshua, "Truly I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel, and this is what I did:

Joshua 7:21 (ESV)

when I saw among the spoil a beautiful cloak from Shinar, and 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing 50 shekels, then I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

Romans 3:23 (ESV)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

2. Impossible to Conceal

Joshua 7:1 (ESV)

But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the devoted things, for Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. And the anger of the Lord burned against the people of Israel.

Joshua 7:2 (ESV)

Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth-aven, east of Bethel, and said to them, "Go up and spy out the land." And the men went up and spied out Ai.

Joshua 7:3 (ESV)

And they returned to Joshua and said to him, "Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few."

Joshua 7:4 (ESV)

So about three thousand men went up there from the people. And they fled before the men of Ai.

Joshua 7:5 (ESV)

and the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of their men and chased them before the gate as far as Shebarim and struck them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

Joshua 7:16 (ESV)

So Joshua rose early in the morning and brought Israel near tribe by tribe, and the tribe of Judah was taken.

Joshua 7:17 (ESV)

And he brought near the clans of Judah, and the clan of the Zerahites was taken. And he brought near the clan of the Zerahites man by man, and Zabdi was taken.

Joshua 7:18 (ESV)

And he brought near his household man by man, and Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

Proverbs 28:13 (ESV)

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

3. Certain to Cost

Joshua 7:24 (ESV)

And Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver and the cloak and the bar of gold, and his sons and daughters and his oxen and donkeys and sheep and his tent and all that he had. And they brought them up to the Valley of Achor.

Joshua 7:25 (ESV)

And Joshua said, "Why did you bring trouble on us? The Lord brings trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones.

4. Able to Cleanse

1 John 1:8 (ESV)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:9 (ESV)
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.