















But the Israelites were unfaithful in regard to the devoted things; Achan son of Karmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of them. So, the Lord's anger burned against Israel.

Joshua 7:1



Honest Mistake

Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel. This is what I have done: 21 When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

Joshua 7:20-21



Value < \$10,000.00



Just Response?

Joshua 7:24-26



Making "Sense" of the Story



God Said Joshua 6:17-19



God Said

Changes everything, because this was no "honest mistake" but a willful act of disobedience

Unintended Consequences

So about three thousand went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai, who killed about thirty-six of them. They chased the Israelites from the city gate as far as the stone quarries and struck them down on the slopes. At this the hearts of the people melted in fear and became like water.

Joshua 7:4-5



Unintended Consequences

Problem 1: sin is about action not outcome



Unintended Consequences

Problem 1: sin is about action not outcome

Problem 2: Under this view God looks like a spoiled brat



Problem 1: sin is about action not outcome

Problem 2: Under this view God looks like a spoiled brat

Problem 3: In this view we seek to justify God's command based on man's understanding

-Villainous-



God was Serious About What He Said

Whoever is caught with the devoted things shall be destroyed by fire, along with all that belongs to him. He has violated the covenant of the Lord and has done an outrageous thing in Israel!

Judges 7:15



Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell facedown to the ground before the ark of the Lord, remaining there till evening. The elders of Israel did the same, and sprinkled dust on their heads.

v. 6



Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions.

v. 11



Accountable to One Another



SERIOUS!

God is Serious About Sin Sin is not a diabolical deed but a deadly decision

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

James 2:10



Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

James 1:15



God is Serious About Repentance

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Acts 3:19



God Seeks Repentance

Its the confession of coupled with the turning away from

God is Serious About Forgiveness

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:8-10



Grace & Mercy



Grace & Mercy God Forgave Worse!



God does not want us to deny our sin struggle

God does not want to trivialize our sin issues

He desires us to confess them to him and in so doing so turn away from them and toward him

