**“A Life Lived for God” [The Book of *Joshua*]**

**Title: 55 - Sin Atoned. Joshua 7:24-26**

Review from our last message: Sin Exposed, Joshua 7:22-23

1. The Messengers Exposed Achan’s Sin

**Romans 3:19-20** *19Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

1. They Ran to Expose the Sin - immediately following Joshua’s orders (Joshua 7:22)
2. We saw Where Achan hid his sin (buried in his home, which highlighted God’s principle of “sewing and reaping” (Galatians 6:7)

**Romans 3:4** *4God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar;…*

1. They brought the hidden sin out in the open before all the people and the Lord

**Today in our message “Sin Atoned,” we see Joshua and the Israelites….**

1. Unified in their Purpose
2. Authorized in their Objective
3. United in their Execution
4. Restored unto God

**Joshua 7:24-26** *24And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor. 25And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones. 26And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger. Wherefore the name of that place was called, The valley of Achor, unto this day.*

**Joshua 7:15** *15And it shall be, that he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath: because he hath transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel.*

1. **Unified in their Purpose** *“And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor.” Joshua 7:24*

**Joshua 6:18** *18And 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.*

**- 36 men died and all of Israel is separated from God**

**Note the order of things listed:** Joshua 7:24 24…and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had:…

**The word “worship” is “worth-ship”**

* **Achan valued the treasure over God and his own family! His idols are forbidden treasures of the world.** *“24….the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold,…”*
* **Achan worshipped that stolen treasure** *“the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold,…”*
* **Achan valued his children** *“…his sons, and his daughters,…”*
* **Achan’s work or his profession** *“…and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep,…”*
* **Achan’s lifestyle and possessions** *“…and his tent, and all that he had:…”*

**Where’s God? Where’s his spouse? His priorities are out of alignment!**

**Matthew 22:37-40** *37Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38This is the first and great commandment. 39And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*

**Mark 8:34** *34And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*

*“…and they brought them unto the valley of Achor.”* Joshua 7:24

“Achor” translates as “trouble” or “tribulation” a valley of trouble!

1. Authorized in their Objective *“And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day.”* **Joshua 7:25**

Hidden Sin causes the innocent to have to deal with godless rebellious behavior.

**Matthew 18:18** *18Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. 20For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*

**Psalms 27:14** *Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.*

**Psalms 37:34** *Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.*

**Proverbs 20:22** *Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.*

**Proverbs 3:5-8** *5Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. 7Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. 8It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.*

**Joshua reminds us of Achan’s consequences: *“…the LORD shall trouble thee this day.”* Joshua 7:25**

1. **United in their Execution** *“…And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones. And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day…” Joshua 7:25-26*

**1 Peter 3:16-17** *16Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. 17For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.*

**Colossians 3:23-24** *23And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*

**Joshua 7:15** “*And it shall be, that he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, …”* Notice God does not mention stoning.

**God is a God of Judgment, but He’s simultaneously a God of mercy.**

*“And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day…”* Joshua 7:25 In the valley of Achor, they created a memorial to remember the regrettable choice of Achan and man’s accountability to God.

1. **Restored unto God** *“….So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger. Wherefore the name of that place was called, The valley of Achor, unto this day.”* Joshua 7:26 **In the midst of the valley of tribulation, God’s people are restored unto Him.**

**Hosea 2:15** *15And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.*

**Psalms 23:4** *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

**Romans 5:3-4** *3And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; 4And patience, experience; and experience, hope:*

**What did Hosea say of the valley of Achor?** *“…and the valley of Achor for a door of hope:…”*

**Romans 5:5-6** 5And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. 6For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

**Atoning for the sin of humanity as a faithful husband [Christ], to an unfaithful bride [us], He lovingly drew us unto Him.**

**Achor can be a memorial of sin and death that leaves us hopeless, or it can be a doorway to hope through the atoning work of Christ that leads to victory, which do you choose?**