

November 2016

From the Pastor's Desk

Joshua 7:8-10 "O Lord, what shall I say when Israel turns its back before its enemies? **v:9** For the Canaanite's and all the inhabitants of the land will hear it, and surround us, and cut off our name from the earth, then **what will You do** for **Your great name?** **v:10** So the Lord said to Joshua; **Get up!** Why do you lie thus on your face?"

The richness of these three verses can point us in several different directions.

God's point was that Israel is already guilty of looking in other directions.

Is it their name that they concerned with, (Israel)? Or His Name?

Today we are seeing the same problem, glory is stolen from God; in the Name of God. It's a present day dilemma.

Does the creation's name go before the Creator's Name? Only in cases of insanity.

God orders Joshua to stop praying, get up! "Why do you lie on your face? (this verse can be confusing.)

Doesn't God command us to pray?

To seek Him for revelation?

Of course He does, but note; that's exactly what God was about to give Joshua, revelation.

God told Joshua to stop praying, to get up; because God has the right to tell Joshua to get up, to stop praying!

But further, God answers some prayers immediately. When action is immediately required, because destruction is already in the camp.

The problem?

Leaven has entered the camp. Achan has taken the accursed thing and hidden it in his tent (stuff).

v:11 Israel has sinned and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them. For they have even taken some of the accursed things, and have both stolen and deceived; and they have also put it among their

own stuff."

Tent: A dwelling. What differentiated the Temple from the Tabernacle was the Tabernacle was a tent used where Yahweh would commune with Israel while Israel was in their wilderness wanderings. The Temple was the permanent structure built by King Solomon after Israel entered the Promise Land.

Peter tells us that our bodies are considered tents by God.

2nd Peter 1:14 "knowing that shortly I must put off my tent (body) just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me."

Joshua was to quickly deal with the accursed thing in the camp, which Achan hid in his tent, beneath his stuff.

I'm sure the symbolism is clear. The tent being our bodies, (hearts); where we have been known to hide accursed things. Fear, Unbelief, Racism, Lust, Pride, Vengeful intentions (passive aggressive games).

David no longer trust himself to inventory his own heart, so he invites God to excavate; **Psalms 130:23-24** "Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Wise prayer. God is going to do it anyway, why not willingly let Him take a look today?

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, let Him direct your paths.

Be richly blessed today.

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