

Joshua 7

Read Joshua 7:1-9: We all have a different *Achilles Heel*. Some faint in the face of adversity, while others cannot handle success. Joshua was given a great and supernatural victory at Jericho. Now he would be tested in something small. Do we pray about the small stuff; or do we just take care of it? I have noticed that the most anxious items seem to go the best, because I pray much more about them than the no-brainers.

Joshua experienced a setback in a very small battle. One of his men was on the take. He was pocketing some of the gains for himself.

Read Joshua 7:10-15: Even a spiritual standout like Joshua was facing a 100% loss going forward, with this curse living in his people. Sin is compared to leprosy or leaven. It spreads like wildfire. We cannot save others, but our behavior affects many others. God had the people break down into tribes, clans and family groups to narrow down the source of the curse. We need to be extreme in staying away from things that bring us down. Doing it secretly will still spread. The scriptures are clear about how military service requires a clean conscience and belief in the cause.

Perhaps bad music, TV, porn, bad friends or any vice could be what brings us down in flames. Just because we are saved for heaven does not mean that we will be able to continue down here.

He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. (Luke 16:10)

We are to be compassionate people, except with our own sin. There is no room for compromise. This is especially true when God's Spirit is moving through us. Being a sinful servant is not a safe place at all.

Read Joshua 7:16-26: It is not an overreaction to deal decisively with sin. Afterall, 36 people were killed because of it. Similarly, we live in a pluralistic nation that embraces a *live and let live* moto. When the homosexual agenda began, it was about not having to live in fear. Then it morphed to equal rights. Then it morphed to domestic partners. Then it became preretinal treatment and selection. Then our HIPPA laws changed to protect people with AIDS , which caused

everyone's premiums to skyrocket (because they could not be de-selected).

Similarly, we have a growing Islamic culture in the USA. There are many nice and productive Muslims. Unfortunately, so many anti-American Islamists have joined the ranks. They are literally trying to un-do our entire constitution and bring our nation down. All said, being compassionate to individuals and being complicit with sin are two different things.