

# Possessing the Promises of the Kingdom

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## God's Perspective on Sin

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### Joshua 7

The story of Ai and Achan serves as a lesson on how sin can keep the children of God from possessing the promises of God. God hates sin and has given us His Son to free us from its penalty and power. Ai and Achan give the believer tremendous insight on God's perspective on sin. We begin with:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ for controlling sin

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 7:1

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ = right to control, judge, or prohibit the actions of others
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ = the ability to act or decide on one's own without supervision
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ = answerable to someone for some action

2. \_\_\_\_\_ of sin

Israel has sinned; they have **transgressed my covenant** that I commanded them; they have **taken some of the devoted things**; they have **stolen and lied** and put them among their own belongings. Joshua 7:11

General explanation of sin = transgressed my covenant (its root)

Specific explanation of sin = stolen and lied (its fruit)

The end result of sin is death.

**For the wages of sin is death**, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin,  
and **sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.**

James 1:15

Death is separation from God:

- a.
- b.
- c.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ of sin

Therefore the people of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction. **I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.**

Joshua 7:12

Get up! Consecrate the people and say, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow; for thus says the Lord, God of Israel, "There are devoted things in your midst, O Israel.

**You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from among you."**

Joshua 7:13

In the morning therefore you shall be brought near by your tribes. And the tribe that the Lord takes by lot shall come near by clans. And the clan that the Lord takes shall come near by households. **And the household that the Lord takes shall come near man by man.**

Joshua 7:14