

TAKING THE CONSECRATED THING

Text: Joshua 6:17-18

INTRO: God's instructions re the battle of Jericho were simple. In addition to the instructions regarding the destruction of the city walls, God gave explicit instructions re the wealth of the city.

- A. Chapter 7 tells how Achan violated God's instructions by appropriating to himself what was consecrated to God.
- B. It also records the severity with which God viewed Achan's sin. READ JOSHUA 7:1, 12, 15, 20-23, 25.
- C. We need to learn today not to appropriate to men that which belongs to God.

I. THE LORD'S NAME.

- A. Most religious people are aware of the attitude of God toward the use of His name in profanity, EX 20:7; MT 6:9
- B. Another common misuse of that which is consecrated to God is to take titles which rightly belong only to God & apply them to ourselves & others.

1. Reverend. Psa 111:9
2. Rabbi, Father, Most Worshipful Master.

Matt 23:8-12, But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and

you are all brethren. Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ. But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

II. THE LORD'S SUPPER. READ 1 COR. 11:20-22.

A. By examining others & telling them whether they can partake, vs 26

B. By ignoring God's instructions re the frequency of the observance, Acts 20:7

C. By not discerning the Lord's body, vs 29.

III. THE LORD'S CHURCH. Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28

A. Try to vote people in or out, Acts 2:41, 47

B. Try to turn it into a social club, business organization or political movement.

C. By developing a "rule or ruin" attitude.

3 John 9-10, I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church.

IV. THE LORD'S DAY. Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 16:1-2; Rev. 1:10

NOTE: Many say "Sunday is the only day we have..." NOT TRUE. Sunday is the only day you don't have.

V. THE LORD'S MONEY. 1 Cor 16:1-2.

A. There is a sense in which all money is the Lord's money; but there is also a sense in which that which we work for is ours, Acts 5:4.

B. But that which is given as in 1 Cor 16:2 & Acts 4:34-47 is the Lord's in a special sense & would be used only according to His revealed will.

NOTE: Can a church use such money
to pay a preacher? What does the will
of the Lord say? 2 Cor. 11:8

CONCLUSION: It is a serious matter to take
the consecrated thing. Let us all take care
lest we be guilty of such a sin.

Springhill, LA, November 17, 1974

La Porte, TX, February 27, 1977

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, August 21, 2005