

# ACHAN'S SIN

## *Joshua 7:1-26*

### **Joshua 7**

<sup>1</sup>But the Israelites acted unfaithfully in regard to the devoted things; Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of them. So the LORD'S anger burned against Israel.

<sup>2</sup>Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth Aven to the east of Bethel, and told them, "Go up and spy out the region." So the men went up and spied out Ai.

<sup>3</sup>When they returned to Joshua, they said, "Not all the people will have to go up against Ai. Send two or three thousand men to take it and do not weary all the people, for only a few men are there." <sup>4</sup>So about three thousand men went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai, <sup>5</sup>who killed about thirty-six of them. They chased the Israelites from the city gate as far as the stone quarries and struck them down on the slopes. At this the hearts of the people melted and became like water.

<sup>6</sup>Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell facedown to the ground before the ark of the LORD, remaining there till evening. The elders of Israel did the same, and sprinkled dust on their heads. <sup>7</sup>And Joshua said, "Ah, Sovereign LORD, why did you ever bring this people across the Jordan to deliver us into the hands of the Amorites to destroy us? If only we had been content to stay on the other side of the Jordan!" <sup>8</sup>O Lord, what can I say, now that Israel has been routed by its enemies? <sup>9</sup>The Canaanites and the other people of the country will hear about this and they will surround us and wipe out our name from the earth. What then will you do for your own great name?"

<sup>10</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Stand up! What are you doing down on your face? <sup>11</sup>Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions. <sup>12</sup>That is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.

<sup>13</sup>"Go, consecrate the people. Tell them, 'Consecrate yourselves in preparation for tomorrow; for this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: That which is devoted is among you, O Israel. You cannot stand against your enemies until you remove it.

<sup>14</sup>"In the morning, present yourselves tribe by tribe. The tribe that the LORD takes shall come forward clan by clan; the clan that the LORD takes shall come forward family by family; and the family that the LORD takes shall come forward man by man.

<sup>15</sup>He who is caught with the devoted things shall be destroyed by fire, along with all that belongs to him. He has violated the covenant of the LORD and has done a disgraceful thing in Israel!"

<sup>16</sup>Early the next morning Joshua had Israel come forward by tribes, and Judah was taken. <sup>17</sup>The clans of Judah came forward, and he took the Zerahites. He had the clan of the Zerahites come forward by families, and Zimri was taken. <sup>18</sup>Joshua had his family come forward man by man, and Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

<sup>19</sup>Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, and give him the praise. Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me."

<sup>20</sup>Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel. This is what I have done: <sup>21</sup>When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

<sup>22</sup>So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent, and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver underneath. <sup>23</sup>They took the things from the tent, brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites and spread them out before the LORD.

<sup>24</sup>Then Joshua, together with all Israel, took Achan son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the gold wedge, his sons and daughters, his cattle, donkeys and sheep, his tent and all that he had, to the Valley of Achor.

<sup>25</sup>Joshua said, "Why have you brought this trouble on us? The LORD will bring trouble on you today."

Then all Israel stoned him, and after they had stoned the rest, they burned them. <sup>26</sup>Over Achan they heaped up a large pile of rocks, which remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his fierce anger. Therefore that place has been called the Valley of Achor ever since.

# ACHAN'S SIN

*Joshua 7:1-26*

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) Why were the Israelites not able to conquer Ai? (Verse 11)
5		2.) What did the Lord tell Joshua to do? (Verse 12)
5		3.) What happened to Achan because he stole the devoted things? (Verse 25-26)
5		4.) Why do you think God was upset with Achan?

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		“A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.” Galatians 5:9

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

# ACHAN'S SIN

*Joshua 7:1-26*



Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

# ACHAN'S SIN

*Joshua 7:1-26*



*Joshua sent messengers to find the silver and other things that Achan stole*

# ACHAN'S SIN

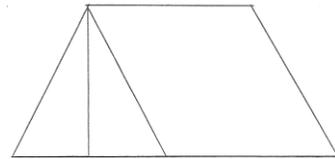
*Joshua 7:1-26*

## CRAFT/ACTIVITY: ACHAN'S TENT

Students will make a tent to remind them that Achan sinned by stealing gold, silver, and a robe. He placed the stolen goods in his tent.

### MATERIALS

1. White 67 lb. Cardstock
2. Tent Pattern
3. Scissors
4. Glue
5. Paper Plates
6. Sand
7. Markers, Crayons, or Colored Pencils
8. Aluminum Foil



### DIRECTIONS

1. Copy a tent pattern for each student on 67 lb. Cardstock.
2. Have students cut out the tent pattern on the solid black lines.
3. Allow students to color their tents using markers, crayons, or colored pencils.
4. Instruct them to fold on the dotted black lines.
5. Glue Tab A to Tab B and then glue Tab C to Tab D.
6. Glue tent onto a paper plate.
7. Have students spread glue on the paper plate and then sprinkle sand over the glue.
8. Allow students to glue wads of aluminum foil in a small pile inside the tent to represent the silver Achan stole.

### FOR DISCUSSION

As students are constructing their tents, remind them that God told Joshua that he would not be with the Israelites anymore unless Joshua destroyed whatever was among them that had sinned. Help students realize that God takes sin very seriously. Because Achan sinned, he lost his life and almost caused the Israelites to lose favor with God for good. Encourage students to seek forgiveness when they sin.

### TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 20 minutes

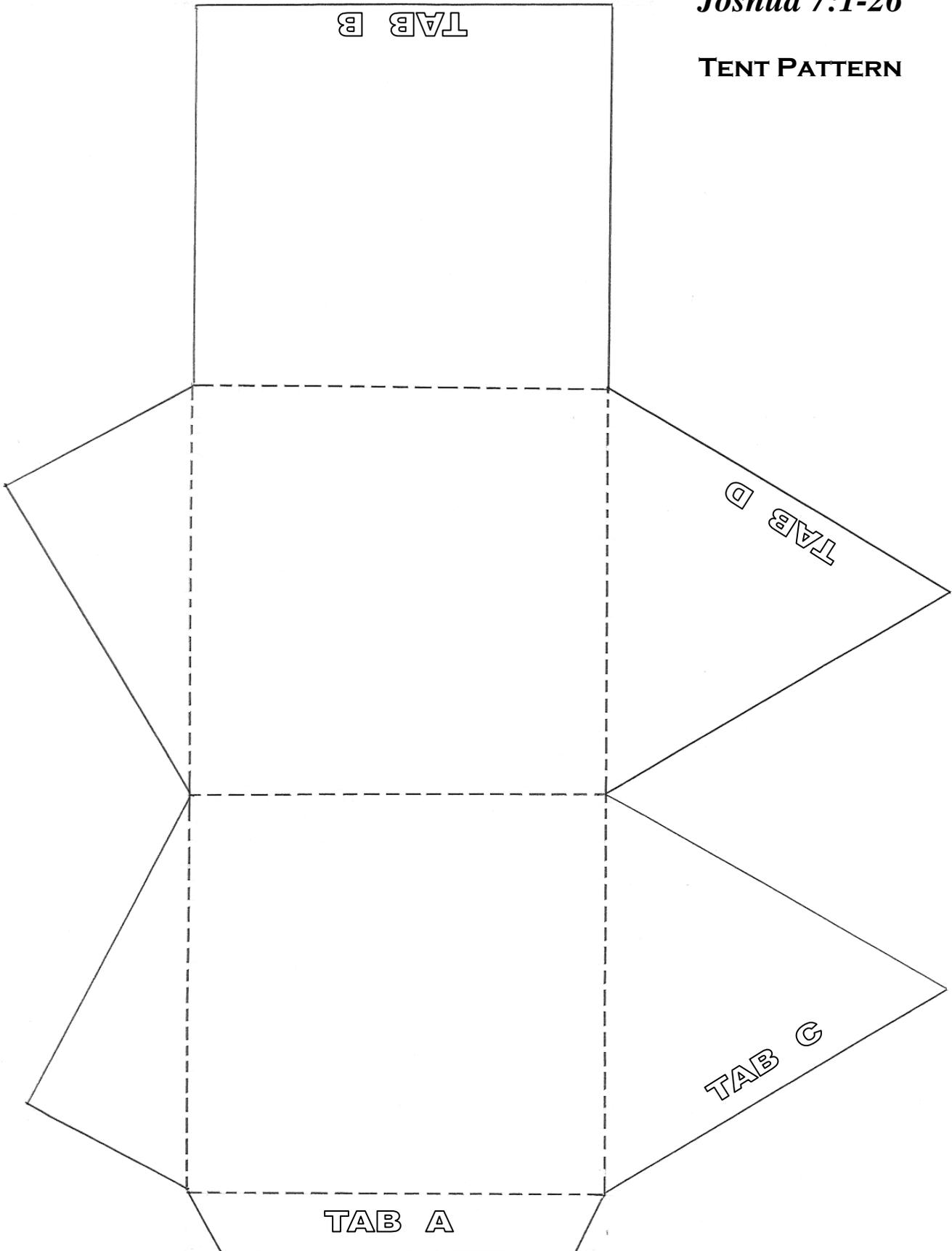
### MEMORY VERSE

*“A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.” Galatians 5:9*

# ACHAN'S SIN

*Joshua 7:1-26*

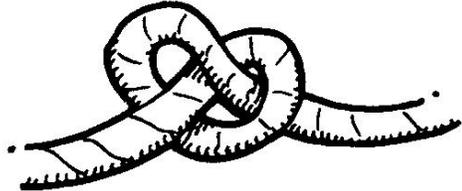
**TENT PATTERN**



# ACHAN'S SIN

*Joshua 7:1-26*

Read Joshua 7:16-26; 8:1. These verses tell us that Achan disobeyed God and took some things that did not belong to him. Read the pictures below to discover a very important lesson that Achan learned the hard way.



-----

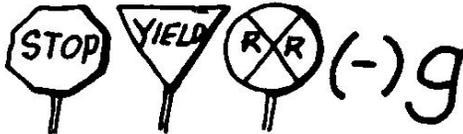
-----

-----

↑  
low (-) gh (+) de **U** (+) r

-----

-----



(-) g



(-) nt (+) m

back

-----

-----



-----

# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON JOSHUA 7:1-26

## ACHAN'S SIN



Some of the Israelite men traveled from Jericho to spy on the people living in a place called Ai.

When the Israelites returned, they told Joshua that they did not need many people to fight

against the people in Ai. They told Joshua to send only two or three thousand men.

Joshua sent his men to fight the people of Ai. The Israelites should have won, but they didn't. In fact, 36 of the Israelites were killed.

Joshua was so upset that he tore his clothes and fell facedown before the ark of the Lord. The elders of Israel did the same. Joshua couldn't understand why the people of Ai defeated the Israelites.

Joshua called out to the Lord to find out why the Israelites were chased out of Ai. The Lord told Joshua that the Israelites had sinned. They had taken devoted things that did not belong to them. The devoted things belonged to the Lord. Joshua was instructed to find out who stole the items and kill him.

Each tribe had to stand before Joshua to find out who stole the devoted things. Achan admitted to stealing a beautiful robe, silver, and gold and was hiding them in his tent. Messengers were sent to get the stolen items.

Achan and his family were stoned to death and then burned. Over Achan, they heaped up a large pile of rocks.

For more details, please read Joshua 7:1-26 in the Bible.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why were the Israelites unable to conquer Ai?
2. What did the Lord tell Joshua to do?
3. What happened to Achan because he stole the devoted things?
4. Why do you think the Lord was upset with Achan?

## MEMORY VERSE

“A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.” Galatians 5:9

## UNSCRAMBLE THE MESSAGE

stole	robe	gold	
a	and	silver	Achan

Achan \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.