

## Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

March 13, 2022

### Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:31-45 *McKenna South*

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *The Ambush of Ai* (Joshua 8:1-37)

Blest Be The Tie That Binds

### Announcements

**Faith Bible Church** plans to ordain Assistant Pastor Paul Balbach to the ministry in an official ceremony, and you're all invited! We'll announce the date as soon as it is finalized.

**Florida Grace Camp:** Five grace churches in Florida conduct a Bible camp for kids, and have invited us to this year's event. If you're looking for a good excuse to go to Florida, pick up a brochure copy to learn more about this June 12-18 camp for kids 6-17 in Leesburg, Florida.

**Our offering box** is located just left of the kitchen door.

**Pick up** today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone.

### **Joshua 7:1-26** *The Trespass of Israel*

The people of Jericho worshipped idols, so God was "angry" when Achan took one of their cursed things (7:1cf.6:16-18). He got angry *at all Israel* because He'd warned all Israel about this in advance (Deut.7:25,26). But Joshua *didn't know* the whole camp was cursed, so he began to plan the at-tack on the next city that needed to be conquered (Josh.7:2).

The spies he sent to Ai thought only a few thousand men would be needed to conquer that city, because they knew God promised that a few of them would chase thousands of their enemies if they obeyed God (Lev.26:3-8). But, like Joshua, they didn't know Achan *hadn't* obeyed God, so their recommendation failed (Josh.7:4), and Israel's enemies chased *them* (cf.Lev.26:15,17). Sadly, 36 Jewish soldiers paid for Achan's sin with their lives (Joshua 7:5).

When the Jews lost the battle, their hearts melted, just as the hearts of the Canaanites melted when *they* were afraid *of the Jews* (Josh.2:10,11). Sin always causes fear. When the Lord bore *your* sins on the cross, *He* feared the unseen demonic "bulls" that surrounded Him (Ps.22:12-16). Sin will make you fearful as well (Pr.28:1).

"Environ" (Josh.7:6-9) means *to surround*, the way the *environment* surrounds *us*. Joshua knew that *his* environment was about to get a whole lot more hostile once the Canaanites heard that the Jews fell before tiny Ai.

Joshua reminded God that if Israel's name were cut off from the earth, it would hurt *His* name (v.9). He'd *promised* Can-aan to the Jews, and if they died out, He'd get a name for be-ing a God who didn't keep His word. God *also* promised to show His power in freeing Israel

from Pharaoh, so He saved them for His name's sake (Ps.106:7), despite their rebellion against Him. Despite their *current* rebellion, He will save them in the kingdom for His name's sake (Ezek.36:22-28).

Achan had also *stolen* (Josh.7:10,11) *from God*. God said the silver and gold was His (Josh.6:19), and Achan took some and "dissembled," or *covered it up*, and acted like a hypocrite who *hadn't* stolen from God. These sins cursed *all Israel* (Josh.7:12,13) so God told Joshua to have them sanctify themselves by washing their clothes (cf.Ex.19:10-14). They had to be clean to execute God's judgment on Achan, just as any saint should be clean to serve God (cf. IICor.7:1). We're clean (ICor.6:11), but should cleanse our-selves *outwardly*, as symbolized by this washing of clothes.

Achan was caught by God's method of taking each tribe and family by lot (Josh.7:14,15 cf. ISam.14:42,43 cf. Pr.16:33). To find out God's "disposing" *today* however, we must be filled with His Word, as Paul was, and do *our own* disposing as he did (Acts 18:27). If we are, we'll know we can eat idolatrous meat that was cursed for the Jews (ICor.10:27,28).

Achan's "folly" (Josh.7:15) was idolatry, spiritual fornication (Deut.22:21), a sin symbolized in his family tree. He was the descendent of Judah by fornication (Josh.7:1cf. Gen.38:11-30). His grandfather's brother was in the line of Christ (Mt.1:1-3), but he's mentioned in Matthew 1 because he's an ancestor of Antichrist. Achan was a *type* of Antichrist, who will *also* introduce spiritual fornication to Israel (Rev.17:1-5), i.e., idolatry (13:14,15).

Babylon (Joshua 7:19-21) was the *source* of all idolatry, so that garment was cursed. God wasn't being mean in executing Achan's family (Josh.7:22-25). Achan had cursed them, so they had to pay the price. If they didn't, *all Israel* would have had to pay the price, *for his sin cursed*

*them as well*. Why stone them *and* burn them? Achan was guilty of idolatry, which was punishable by stoning (Deut.17:2-5), and spiritual fornication, which was punishable by *fire* for Jews who were destined to be the world's priests (Lev.21:9). Future Babylon will likewise be stoned and burned for *her* idolatrous spiritual fornication (Rev.16:19-21; 18:2,8).

# Faith Bible Church

[www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com](http://www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com)

March 13, 2022

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

*Thornton Harrison, Assistant Pastor Paul Balbach*

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

*Pastor Ricky Kurth*

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

*Myrtle Harrison*

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