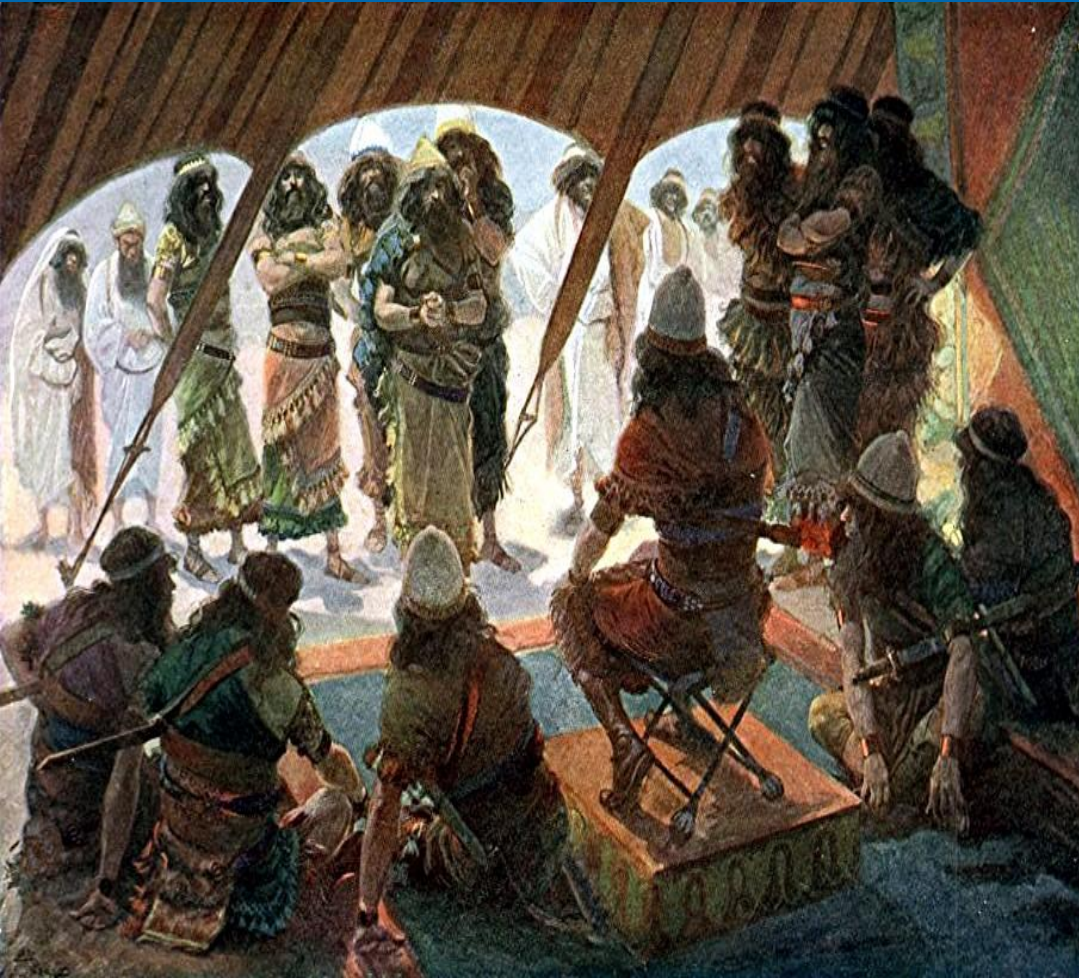


ACHAN, Ai, AND THE LAW OF HEREM



- Law of *Herem* = ban
- Sacrificial system based on:
 - 1) blood
 - 2) substitution
 - 3) the ban
- Ban is God's holy property
- Taking holy property is less about criminality and more about holiness

A DIVINE TRIAL



- Achan stole holy property
- God was victim, accuser, witness, and judge
- Lots were drawn to indicate the guilty party
- Lots NOT used in human to human criminal trials

JOSHUA IN SHOCK, PEOPLE SCARED, GOD ANGRY!

- Israel's army had been defeated at Ai
- Israel had become self-confident
- Great sin occurred at Jericho, and this was the reason for Israel's defeat at Ai

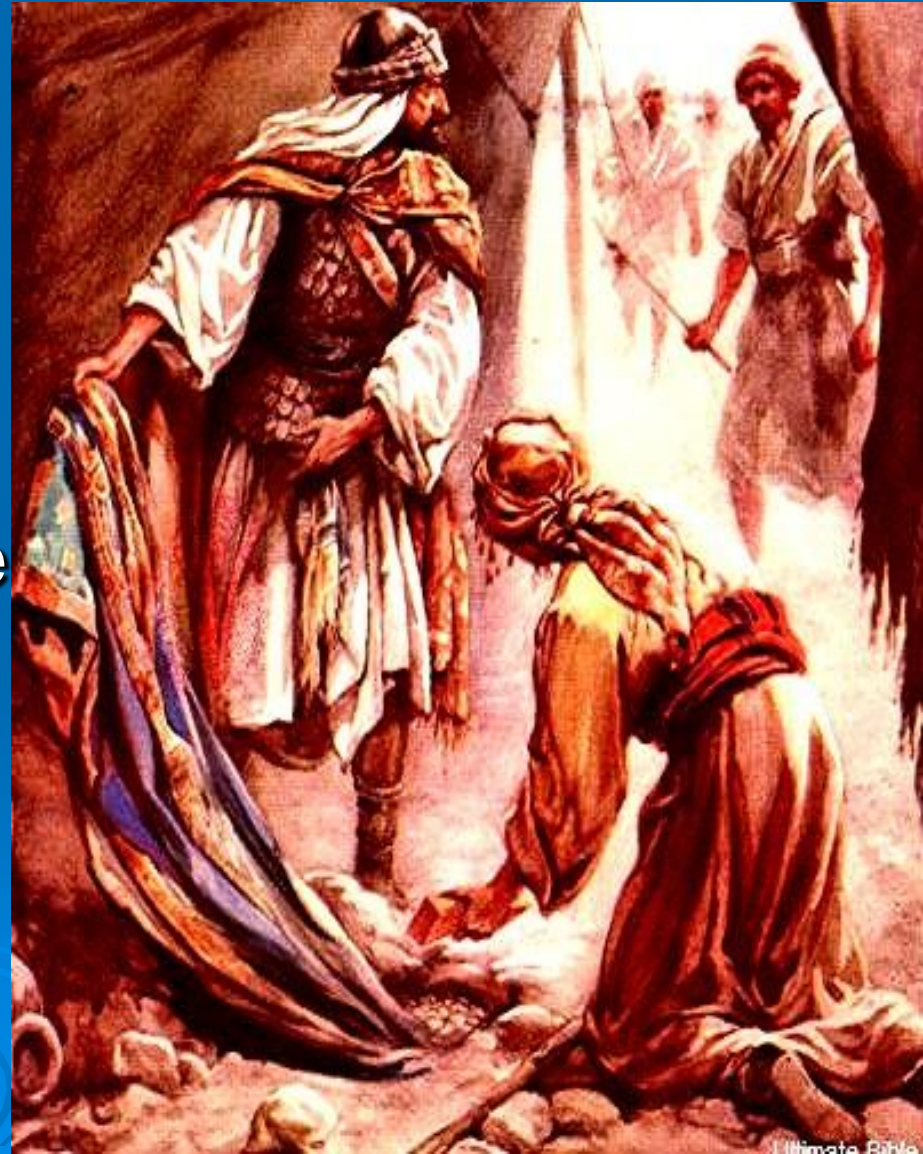


COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Burden of Achan's sin was upon Israel, NOT guilt
- Adam's sin is still upon everyone born in this world
- The ONLY people exempt from guilt for Adam's sin are those who trust Yeshua
- The "kind" of sin that Adam has put upon us is called the "sin nature"
- Another "kind" of sin comes from our personal behavior, intents, actions
- The Sacrificial System DID atone for MOST behavioral sins
- The Sacrificial System DID NOT atone for our sin nature

ISRAEL BROKE THE COVENANT BECAUSE OF ACHAN'S SIN

- How can Israel restore its covenant relationship with God?
- Achan's confession is the beginning of restoration
- His confession confirms the Lord's perfect justice
- Robe of Shinar
- Gold and Silver
- Hid items in the ground under his tent

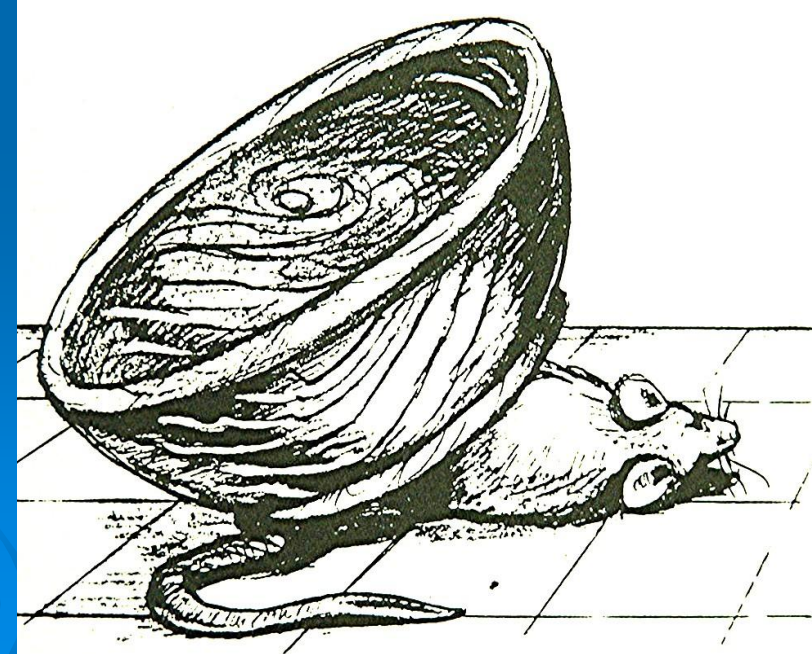


STONING OF ACHAN



- Holy property recovered from Achan's tent
- Achan, family, livestock, stolen ban taken to Valley of Achor and destroyed
- Killed, burned, stones piled on top
- ***Achor*** = trouble
- Achan and his family BECAME ban
- Treated like the enemy of Jericho

HOLINESS AND DEFILEMENT CAN BE TRANSMITTED



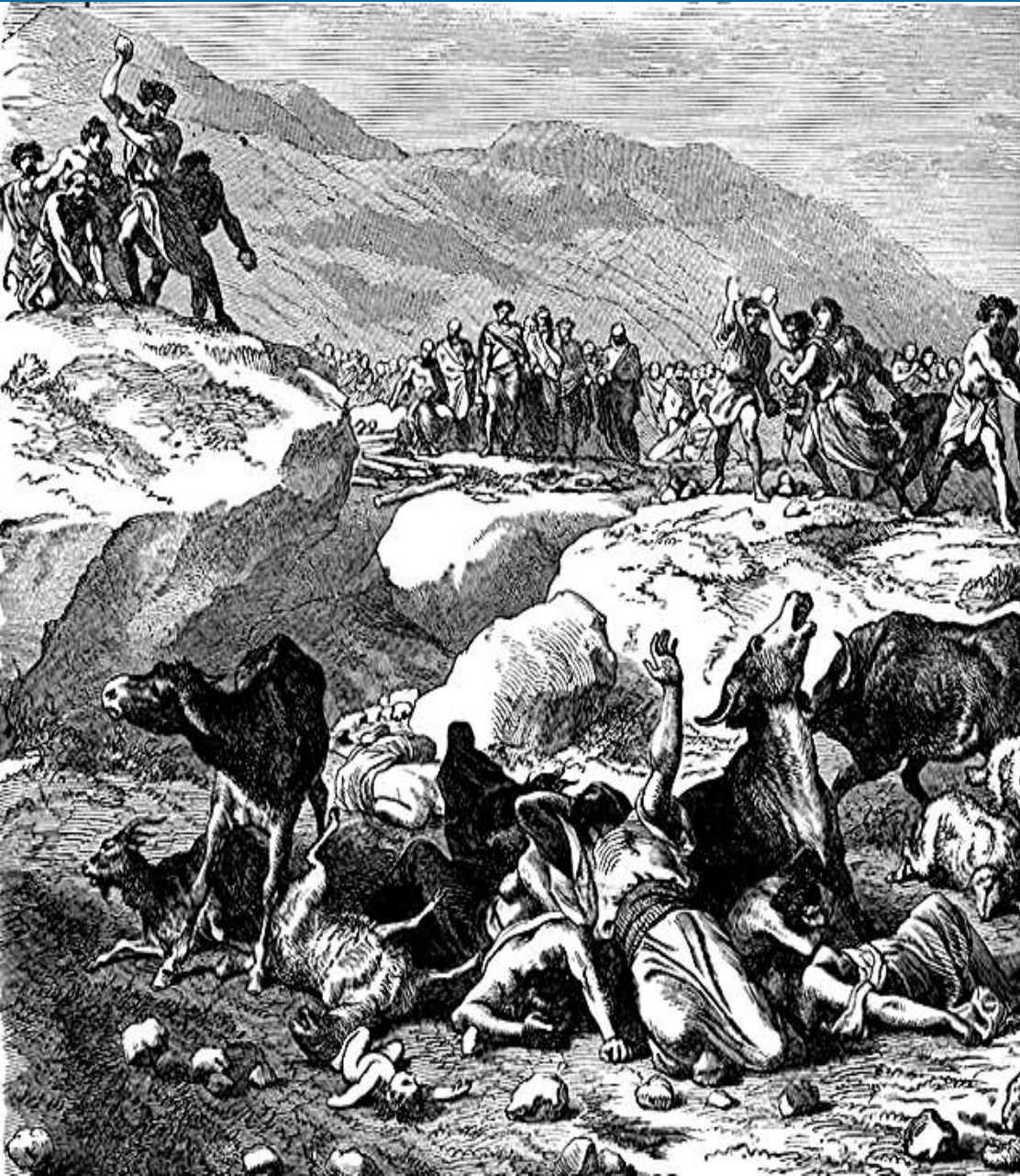
- Remedies for being infected with impurity range from washing to destroying
- Holiness CAN be transmitted but God does NOT allow it unless it is authorized
- Instead, God destroys what has inappropriately contacted holiness

GOD DESTROYS TO STOP IMPROPER TRANSMISSION OF HOLINESS

- Out in the Wilderness, Korah and the fire pans
- Korah brought personal fire pans filled with common wood coals
- God destroyed fire pans and the 200 men who brought them to the Tabernacle, near to His presence!!



WHY WAS ACHAN'S FAMILY KILLED?



- Achan touched the ban of Jericho
- Achan was contaminated with holiness
- He touched his family and possessions and contaminated them
- All had to be destroyed as a result!

JOSHUA 8: DO NOT DESPAIR.....

- Achan destroyed, holy property returned, justice done, restoration has happened
- God tells Joshua not to despair, but to go back to Ai and this time it will be for victory
- The Lord says that the Israelites CAN have some of the spoils from Ai
- The spoils that are not under ban are NOT holy property



BATTLES OF JERICHO AND AI PATTERNED AFTER FIRSTFRUITS



- First of everything belongs to God
- Lev. 19: 23
- Lev. 23:10
- While everything belongs to God, only some things are DEVOTED to God
- All firstfruits are devoted to God
- Firstfruits are God's holy property
- Even if we don't physically turn over our firstlings to God, they're automatically His anyway!!

TO HOLD BACK THE FIRSTFRUITS IS TO MISAPPROPRIATE HOLY PROPERTY

- God *demands the firstfruits* of all that we have, but we can keep the remainder for our use
- He *already owns* the firstfruits
- Jericho was the firstfruits given to Israel upon entering Canaan, therefore God banned it all!!
- Ai was the 2nd city given, so Israel was permitted to keep some and give the first part to Yehoveh
- “Give to God what is God’s”, means to turn over to God what is **ALREADY HIS**