

**Doers of the WORD Bible Fellowship (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; James 1:22)**

**Title of Holy Bible Message: *Hidden in the Tent***

**Holy Bible Focus: *Joshua 7***

**Holy Bible teaching theme: *Coveting causes a person to become S.I.N.F.U.L.***

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What do you have hidden in your “tent”? The “tent”, for this biblical teaching lesson, represents inside a person’s heart, mind, and soul. Is there a secret desire to become rich, powerful, or successful? Do you look at other people’s blessings from green eyes of envy? Speaking of “green”, do you want to walk over to the other side of what appears to be green grass? It sure does look inviting, colorful, fun, easy, and you may say to yourself, “If they got it, can’t I get it, too?” Well, before you start strolling over to your neighbor’s or friend’s or coworker’s other-green-grass side, read about what happened to a child of Israel whose eyes of jealousy was bigger than his heart of loving and obeying the Most High and Exalted One LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty.

Joshua and the Hebrew children of Israel had been successful in battle against all their enemies up until meeting Ai (v. 5). Joshua was perplexed about losing this battle because this was supposed to be an easy win. Joshua went into a prayer of petitioning the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty of the reason why they lost the battle to such few Ai men (vv. 6-9). The LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty told Joshua why the children of Israel lost to Ai. Joshua 7:11 NKJV

Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. For they have even taken some of the accursed things, and have both stolen and deceived; and they have also put it among their own stuff.

Achan saw some beautiful items that were off limits to everyone. The LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty had given instructions to Joshua for certain accursed materials not be among the children of Israel. The LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty gave Joshua instructions to rid the camp of the accursed thing. Joshua was unaware that Achan had taken some of the accursed items.

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Joshua 7:1 NKJV

But the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed things; so the anger of the Lord burned against the children of Israel.

When the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty gives us warning to do or not to do something we need to listen, heed, and obey. Because of Achan's coveting, the children of Israel lost a simple battle to a small group of men from Ai. Achan's rebellion caused unnecessary loss of life of his brothers. In Joshua 7:20-22 NKJV, Achan stated

When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.

The willful coveting sin of Achan had caused undue heartache and curses upon the children of Israel. By the directions and leading of the Hand of the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty, Joshua and the other children of Israel took part in the extermination of Achan, his family, and all his possessions (Joshua 7:23-26).

**“Definitions from Dictionary.com:**

“*Covet*” or “*Coveting*” – “to desire wrongfully, inordinately, or without due regard for the rights of others”; “to wish for, especially eagerly”; and “to wish, long, or crave for (something, esp the property of another person).”

“*Crave*” – “long for; want greatly; desire eagerly”; “to desire intensely”; “to need greatly or urgently”; and “to beg or plead for.”

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“*Intense*” – “existing or occurring in a high or extreme degree”; “acute, strong, or vehement, as sensations, feelings, or emotions”; and “characterized by deep or forceful feelings.”

“*Desire*” – “a longing or craving, as for something that brings satisfaction or enjoyment”; to wish or long for; crave; want”; “sexual appetite or a sexual urge”; “lust”; and “a person or thing that is desired.”” Or “*Coveting*” – “to desire wrongfully, inordinately, or without due regard for the rights of others”; “to wish for, especially eagerly”; and “to wish, long, or crave for (something, esp the property of another person).”

***Coveting causes a person to become S. I. N. F. U. L.***

**S – Sadness; I – Idol worship; N – Neglectful; F – Fear; U – Undermine; L – Lust**

**S.I.N.F.U.L.**

***Sadness***

Sadness is defined as a person “affected by unhappiness or grief; sorrowful or mournful” (Dictionary.com, n.d.). Coveting causes a person to become unhappy and sorrowful because he or she is longing for and desiring what he or she does not have, and wishing for their neighbor’s possessions. Holy Bible Scriptures: Ezekiel 13:22; Mark 10:21-23

**S.I.N.F.U.L.**

***Idol worship***

The person who craves his or her neighbor’s possessions is, unknowingly, in fact performing idol worship. Having emotions of desiring another person’s possessions is a form of worshiping an idol. Idols are not always a statue of gold and silver. Some idols are created by insatiable emotions wanting another person’s belongings. Holy Bible Scriptures: Leviticus

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19:4, 26:1; 1 Kings 21:26; 2 Kings 17:9-16; 21:11-12; Psalms 106:36; Isaiah 45:16; Ezekiel 14:3, 20:16; Hosea 8:4, 13:2; 2 Corinthians 6:16; and 1 John 5:20-21.

***S.I.N.F.U.L.***

***Neglectful***

A person coveting will neglect his or her faith walk duties as a servant of the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty. The person will begin to jeopardize his or her faith walk by disregarding the precious relationship with the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty. He or she would fail to maintain and omit important daily devotion and prayers to LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty. The coveting emotions will cause the person to forget about the care and attention of pleasing the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty. Holy Bible Scriptures: Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Timothy 4:14-16; Hebrews 2:1-4; and 2 Chronicles 29:11.

***S.I.N.F.U.L.***

***Fear***

When a person covets, by wanting the properties of his or her friends or neighbors, he or she begins to fear and be afraid of not having enough to survive. The coveting person thinks the other person's possessions is what he or she needs to become successful. The coveting spirit will cause them to compare themselves to others by looking around at another person's possessions producing distress and low self-esteem. The coveting person will start comparing him- or herself to what the neighbor, friend, or coworker possesses. The coveting emotion will cause thoughts of desiring what the neighbor or friend possesses. The coveting emotions will cause a person to fear and to perform unthinkable actions to gain what his or her neighbor or friend

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owns thinking this will bring success. Holy Bible Scriptures: Exodus 15:16, 20:20, 23:27; 2 Chronicles 14:13-14, 20:29; Revelation 11:11; 1 John 4:18; Romans 8:15 and Luke 21:25-28.

## ***S.I.N.F.U.L.***

### ***Undermine***

Desiring what another person owns will slowly excavate the believer's once joyous spiritual relationship with the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty. Coveting will manifest unhealthy emotions of desiring other people's belongings that would weaken or impair the believer's faith walk with the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty. The longing for the neighbor's or friend's personal property would cause envious emotions that would "turn" underneath and damage the believer's solid ground faith walk with the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty. Holy Bible Scriptures: 2 Chronicles 15:17; Joel 13:10; Matthew 26:41; and Mark 14:38.

## ***S.I.N.F.U.L.***

### ***Lust***

The person who covets will have great emotional strength to seek after and gain his or her neighbor's or friend's possessions. Many people associate lust with sexual appetite. However, lust is also considered coveting for another person's title, status, position, and employment power inside a company or organization. The coveting individual may lust for another person's house, automobile, boat, or even family relationship. Lusting will bring unhealthy emotions of jealousy that will cause sorrows of hurting themselves and others in trying to gain a neighbor's or friend's personal effects. Holy Bible Scriptures: Jude 16, 18; 2 Peter 2:18; 1 Peter 4:1-6, 2:11-12, 1:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:22, 3:6, 4:3; Titus 2:12, 3:3; James 4:5; Galatians 5:17;

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Deuteronomy 12, 14; 1 Corinthians 10:6; 1 John 2:16; 2 Peter 2:10, 1:4; James 4:2, 1:14-15; Galatians 5:16, and Matthew 5:28.

**People in the Holy Bible who coveted.**

- Achan: Joshua 7:1, 18-24.
- Ahab: 1 Kings 16:30, 33; 22:29-40.
- Dathan: Numbers 11:16; Psalm 106:17; and Numbers 16:31-33.
- Gehazi: 2 Kings 4:8; 5:27.
- Jezebel: 1 Kings 18:4; 21:6-15, 25-26; and 2 Kings 9:30-37.

**Listverse (2014) has a list of evil people from the Holy Bible.**

- Herod Antipas: St Luke 13:31-33,
- Herodias: St Mark 6:22-25,
- Cain: Genesis 4:1-8,
- Herod “the Great”: St Matthew 2:16-18, and
- Judas Iscariot: The Acts of the Apostles 1:16-19

No matter how tempting and exciting, the grass is NOT greener on the other side. We may not be aware of what a person did or did not do, and the person’s actions of achieving his or her seemingly position, power, and wealth. Was the wealth a blessing from the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty? Did the person gain wealth in an honest, ethical, and integrity manner? Sometimes the grass on the other side is painted green to appear that it is good when it could be a farce. When the person is attracted to walk on the other falsely-painted-green side, he or she will see the truth of the green grass fallacy. Now that we have seen from the Holy Bible what

coveting is, and have defined the meaning of coveting, how does a person prevent practicing coveting?

**How to Prevent Coveting.**

1. Ask the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty forgiveness of all your sins, past, present, and sins committed knowingly and unknowingly.
2. Recognize the sin of coveting.
3. Acknowledge that coveting is wrongdoing in the eyes of the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty and it displeases Him.
4. Repent and turn away from coveting by prayer to the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty asking forgiveness of that sin.
5. Seek the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty in prayer to help you rid of unhealthy emotions of coveting.
6. Ask the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty to take away the works of the flesh of coveting and replace with a good spirit the Fruit of the Spirit.
7. In contrite prayer to the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty thanking Him for His blessings from the past, present, and future.
8. If you are going through a physical, emotional, financial struggle, ask the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty forgiveness of all sins and His assistance through the power of His Hand and Holy Spirit to overcome obstacles.
9. A gratitude of remembering the blessings from the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty to foster Holy Spirit confidence in His strength.
10. Pray for others who are hurting and helpless and ask the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty to bless them to overcome the same coveting sin you are dealing with.

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11. Pray for the person you are coveting (this may prove difficult since you may have a wrong spirit of coveting), that the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty will bless him or her to become saved by the Hand of the Everliving, Everlasting, and Eternal One.
12. Keep your mind on the things that matters most, such as a devoted, determined, and discerning faith walk with the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty and Holy Spiritual assistance in obedience to His Word.

**More Holy Bible Scriptures on coveting and how to prevent it.**

1 Timothy 6:6-10; Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 4:11-13; Proverbs 17:1, 15:16-17, 23:4-5, 28:6, 30:8-9, 16:16-17, 21:6; Luke 12:15-21, 9:46-48; Mark 4:1-20; Colossians 3:5; Matthew 6:24, 33, Ecclesiastes 4:6, 5:8-17, 12:13-14; 1 Kings 21:1-14; and 2 Kings 20:12-19; 5:19-27.

Some people may know not to covet is one of the Ten Commandments of the Heavenly Father, however, but many today have this sin hidden inside their “tent” of heart. Exodus 20:17 NJKV “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.” These people, with a hidden sin of coveting inside their heart, attend church or place of worship every week. However, they may not know that the Most High and Exalted One sees the hidden forbidden coveting spirit inside their heart. Is it possible that the person’s hidden in the “tent” forbidden coveting spirit is preventing that person, his or her family from going forward with the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty? Could it be possible that GODLY promotions, GODLY answered prayers, GODLY guidance and directions, and even GODLY healing are disallowed when the person is hiding inside his or her “tent” a forbidden emotion of



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unforgiveness, resentment, greed, pride, and coveting? I pray this message from the LORD Yahweh Elohim Almighty will bless you and all who read will listen, heed, and obey His Word through the Messiah by the Holy Spirit, Amen, Amen, and Amen.

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