

MAKING HOLY THINGS COMMON (PROFANE)

Josh 6:17-25

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Review instructions about "consecrated" things Josh 6:18,19
- B. 'Holy' means separated to God, devoted, sanctified.
- C. Achan abused the devoted things of God: Note the results from Josh 7
 - 1. Israel lost battle v.3
 - 2. Achan & family stoned and burned at God's command vs. 24,25
- D. This should convince us that we must distinguish between "holy" and "common" (profane) things.
- E. Side note: we sometimes make common things holy
 - 1. washing hands, feet, pots, cups Mk 7:5-9
 - 2. Mechanical instruments of music in worship
- F. This study limited to making holy things common

DISCUSSION:

I. LORD'S NAME IS HOLY Psa 145:21

- A. Holy and Reverend is His name Psa 111:9
- B. Reverend misused today
 - 1. Latin "Reverendus" meaning 'fear' Matt 10:28
 - 2. Webster: "worthy of reverence, used especially as a title of respect given to ecclesiastics." Note: He also defines Baptism as sprinkling - His definition does not coincide with scripture.
 - 3. "Reverend" is a synonym for "worship"
 - 4. "He sent redemption" Psa 111:9 - man has not done that -- God is holy.
- C. "Father", "Rabbi"(master in contrast to slave), "Master" Job 32:21,22; Matt 23:8-10
- D. "Profane" - "to violate or treat with irreverence" Ezek 36:21-23
 - 1. EUPHEMISM - the substitution of an agreeable or inoffensive expression for one that may offend or suggest something unpleasant
 - 2. "Gosh", "good Lord", "gee", "golly" a minced oath, used as a substitute for God" Funk and Wagnols

II. LORD'S DAY IS HOLY Rev 1:10; Acts 20:7

- A. Same as saying "Holy Day" (Separated to God, devoted, sanctified)
- B. Lord's day means the day belongs to God and we, like Achan, covet this day.
 - 1. Tired, got to sleep - catch up on work
 - 2. Take Lord's day to start vacation don't worship
 - 3. Involve ourselves in recreation of all kinds
 - 4. Lord's day implies all day belongs to Him.

III. LORD'S SUPPER IS HOLY Lk 22:18-20

- A. Corinthians profaned the L.S. 1Cor 11:20 made a meal of it. Let us take heed to manner with which we observe this memorial.
- B. Not only can we profane L.S. in manner we take it but also by:
 - 1. Forsaking assembly Heb 10:25
 - 2. Discuss using evening service as a convenience
 - 3. What about missing just 1 or 2 services willfully? How many times for stealing to be sin?
 - 4. Illustrate: Husband leaves family with no explanation, then comes back with no explanation.

IV. LORD'S MONEY IS HOLY 1Cor 16:1,2; 1Cor 10:26

- A. We are stewards 1Pet 4:10; 1Cor 4:2 in the broad sense of our life, time, talents, words etc everything is God's.
- B. In narrow sense "church treasury is Lord's 1Cor 16:1,2; Acts 5:4
 - 1. Israel robbed God when they did not give to God that which was rightfully His Mal 1:6-8; 3:8
 - 2. There is a part of our income that belongs to God "is holy" 1Cor 16:1,2; 2Cor 9:5-8
 - a. As prospered, cheerfully, etc.
 - b. anything less is taking the devoted thing
- C. Mission of church Eph 4:11,12 Edification., Evangelism, Limited benevolence.
 - 1. Money used for other purposes is taking devoted thing.
 - 2. We cannot worship with congregation doing such.

V. LORD'S CHURCH IS HOLY Matt 16:18

- A. Church belongs to Christ Acts 20:28
- B. Church is holy 1Pet 2:9,10, Eph 5:25-27
- C. Church is set apart for spiritual purpose not material
 - 1. Beware of "my church", "your church terminology
 - 2. Sponsoring unauthorized events and institutions profane the church.
- D. Some profane the church by making it a fund raising agent for colleges, hospitals, missionary societies, Institutional homes, even politics.
- E. Some profane the church by substituting a denomination for it Matt 15:9
- F. The church is God's institution designed to do His work.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Are we making the same mistake that Achan did? If so we will be put to death also (spiritual death)
- B. The church & gospel are holy (set aside) for saving souls. Are you profaning God's word by rejecting it?
- C. Are you profaning God's purpose for you as a Christian?