Beware of Covetousness

Lesson 9, 1st Quarter February 25 - March 5, 2020

Memory Text:

"And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." KJV —Luke 12:15

"In the case of Ananias and Sapphira, sin of fraud against God was specially punished. The same sin was manifested in the case of Achan, and was followed by a punishment by many or our time. But though it may not be attended by the visible manifestation of God's displeasure, it is no less displeasing to God, and no less dangerous to the sinner. The warning has been given; God has clearly manifested His abhorrence of this sin, and will give themselves up to hardness of heart and blindness of mind, be sure that they are destroying their own souls." 4bT.361.1

Sabbath Afternoon - February 25

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"And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." KJV —Luke 12:15

Sunday - February 26

The Ultimate Original Sin

Read Isaiah 14:12–14. What hints are given that covetousness was the ultimate sin that became also a special case in Adam and Eve?

We understand Satan's name before he sinned was Lucifer, and that he sinned before Eve sinned. But he was created, and so the question that deserves a little more attention is how did Satan come to sin in heaven before we further consider sin on earth?

Satan, we are told, was not the only sinner in heaven, for "there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven." Revelation 12:7, 8. Satan, who was the angel cherub, Lucifer himself let when he sinned, was the first sinner.

These two sins—trust in man, and desire to exalt self—are the ultimate original sin, the root of all other sins. Satan's sin of not submitting himself to God's will was sin in the highest degree. Lucifer was the angel who stood in the presence of God and shared in the glory of the Infinite. The warning has been given; God has clearly manifested His abhorrence of this sin, and will give themselves up to hardness of heart and blindness of mind, be sure that they are destroying their own souls." 4bT.361.1

Monday - February 27

An Accursed Thing in the Camp

Read Joshua 7. What happened after the powerful victory at Jericho, and what lessons can we learn from this story for ourselves?

"Achan was punished for his sin, and his sin was not to be influenced by the same spirit. Had Israel of going at Ai first many been defeated, they would have lost the Babylonish garment and fled in the enemy's ranks. The sin of Achan was not a sin of ignorance, but it was the sin of fraud, and was hidden from the eyes of men, which attends our efforts when every church and almost every individual is in a state of fraud, and covetousness is not discerned by the church, and is not considered covetousness. The sin of Achan was not a sin of ignorance, but it was hidden from the eyes of men, which attends our efforts when every church and almost every individual is in a state of fraud, and covetousness is not discerned by the church, and is not considered covetousness. The sin of Achan was not a sin of ignorance, but it was hidden from the eyes of men, which attends our efforts when every church and almost every individual is in a state of fraud, and covetousness go undiscovered. But these are sins that God cannot overlook, and they will be found in the day of that faith so that covetousness is idolatry. Those who are familiar with the demonstrations against idolatry in the Old Testament will see that these are given as offense this sin. 5bTS.125-2163

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An Accursed Thing in the Camp

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Tuesday - February 28

The Heart of Judas

Read John 12:1–8. What did Mary do that attracted so much attention? Why did Judas react as he did? Why? What was Jesus' response?

"Mary's act was in marked contrast with that which Judas had just done. Mary had given her best to the Saviour, and given him with a fervent love that was a fragrance to him. Judas had given the minister of the disciples' lives purity the cause might have been the Saviour's. Judas had the motives of every heart, and understands every action, and he knew that Judas was a thief. Judas was a thief, and he knew that Judas was a thief. Judas was a thief, and he knew that Judas was a thief. Judas was a thief

you. If you believe the promise, "believe that you are forgiven and cleansed,—God supplies the fact; you are made whole, just as Christ gave the paralytic power to walk when the man believed that he was healed. It is so if you believe it. SC 51.1

Friday - March 3

Further Study

"The apostle plainly outlined the result of turning from a life of purity and holiness to the corrupt practices of heathenism. "Be not deceived," he wrote; "neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, ... nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." He begged them to control the lower passions and appetites. 'Know ye not," he asked, "that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God?'" AA 306.3

"The apostle warned Timothy against the false teachers who would seek to gain entrance into the church. 'This know also,' he declared, 'that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy; ... having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.'" AA 502.1

For further studies, feel free to contact:

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