



The thorn in my flesh

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The Holiness of God

Genesis 22:12 (NKJV)

¹² And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."



The Holiness of God

Exodus 34:12-17 (NKJV)

- ¹² Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land where you are going, lest it be a snare in your midst. ¹³ But you shall destroy their altars, break their *sacred* pillars, and cut down their wooden images ¹⁴ (for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name *is Jealous, is a jealous God*),



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Exodus 34:12-17 (KNJV)

- ¹⁵ lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they play the harlot with their gods and make sacrifice to their gods, and *one of them* invites you and you eat of his sacrifice, ¹⁶ and you take of his daughters for your sons, and his daughters play the harlot with their gods and make your sons play the harlot with their gods.
- ¹⁷ "You shall make no moulded gods for yourselves.



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Numbers 14:22-24 (NKJV)

²² because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, ²³ they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. ²⁴ But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.



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MOTH AND CANDLE

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Deuteronomy 32:51-52 (ESV)

⁵¹because you broke faith with me in the midst of the people of Israel at the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, and because you did not treat me as holy in the midst of the people of Israel. ⁵²For you shall see the land before you, but you shall not go there, into the land that I am giving to the people of Israel."

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Deuteronomy 20:17-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷but you shall utterly destroy them: the Hittite and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, just as the LORD your God has commanded you, ¹⁸lest they teach you to do according to all their abominations which they have done for their gods, and you sin against the LORD your God.

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Joshua 6:9 (NKJV)

⁹The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while *the priests* continued blowing the trumpets.

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Joshua 6:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it

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Joshua 7:1 (NKJV)

¹But the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, ²the 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.

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Joshua 7:11b (NKJV)

^{11b}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.

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Joshua 7:10-12 (NKJV)

¹² Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, *but* turned *their* backs before their enemies, because they have become doomed to destruction. Neither will I be with you anymore, unless you destroy the accursed from among you

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Joshua 7:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Then Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the LORD until evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads.

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Joshua 7:10 & 13 (NKJV)

¹⁰ So the LORD said to Joshua: "Get up! Why do you lie thus on your face?"

¹³ Get up, sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you."

HOW DO I IDENTIFY IT?

The thorn in our flesh

2 Corinthians 12:7-9 (NKJV)

⁷ And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. ⁸ Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me

The thorn in our flesh

2 Corinthians 12:7-9 (NKJV)

⁹ And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.



How do I prevent from ending up there:

- Spending Honest time with God
- Obedience to God's word and the Holy Spirit
- Pursue God **ALONE**. Not God and.....



You can not do it unless you have:

1. Given all to Jesus

AND

2. Received the Holy Spirit