

A.M. OUTLINE  
2/28/2021

**"HIEL, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?"**

**(Joshua 6:20-27) and (1 Kings 16:29-34)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

**(Joshua 6:20)** "the wall fell down flat" **(v24)** "they burned the city and all that was in it"  
**(v26)** "Joshua charged them at that time, saying, Cursed be the man before the Lord who rises up and builds this city Jericho, he shall lay its foundation with his firstborn, and with his youngest he shall set up its gates."

**(1 Kings 16:34)** "In his days (king Ahab's) Hiel of Bethel built Jericho. He laid its foundation with Abiram his firstborn, and with his youngest son Segub he set up its gates, according to the word of the Lord, which He had spoken through Joshua the son of Nun."

Lessons may be learned from our own mistakes and/or from the mistakes of others.  
Here are some lessons to be learned from the mistake of Hiel.

### **1. LACK OF INFORMATION IS DANGEROUS**

Perhaps, maybe, Hiel was unlearned about the curse or nobody warned him.  
(Hosea 4:6) "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"  
(2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; Revelation 1:3)

### **2. GOD'S WORD IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL (TRUTHFUL)**

Even after 500 years, God's word proved true, and (Joshua 6:26) was followed to the letter.  
(Psalm 19:7) "The testimony of the Lord is sure" (Psalm 111:7-8) "All His precepts are sure. They stand fast forever and ever." Note: (Galatians 6:7)

### **3. GOVERNMENT MAY EXERT A STRONG INFLUENCE**

(1 Kings 16:30) "Ahab ... did evil in the sight of the Lord, more than all who went before him" (v33) "Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger ..."  
(v34) "In his days Hiel of Bethel built Jericho ..."  
Perhaps, maybe, Hiel followed Ahab's example of contempt for God's law.  
Something legal in society may not be approved by God.

### **4. SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS (UNBELIEF) IS POWERFUL**

Evidently Hiel came to believe that God did not mean what He said.

### **5. TIME DOES NOT VOID GOD'S WORD - (2 Peter 3:8)**

Perhaps, maybe, Hiel thought, "Hey, this is the 8th century BC, let's change God's law."

### **6. EVEN A COMMAND THAT SEEMS STRANGE TO US MUST BE OBEYED**

Baptism by immersion? Attendance and Lord's supper every week?  
Have the Bible as the supreme source of authority in Christianity?  
(Isaiah 55:7-9) "... neither are your ways My ways, says the Lord ..."

### **7. WE IGNORE GOD'S WORD AT OUR OWN PERIL**

(Proverbs 3:5, v7; Colossians 3:17; Revelation 22:18-19)  
Do not choose to ignore God's word. Hiel did that and his sons died.