Joshua 7
The Fierce Anger of God

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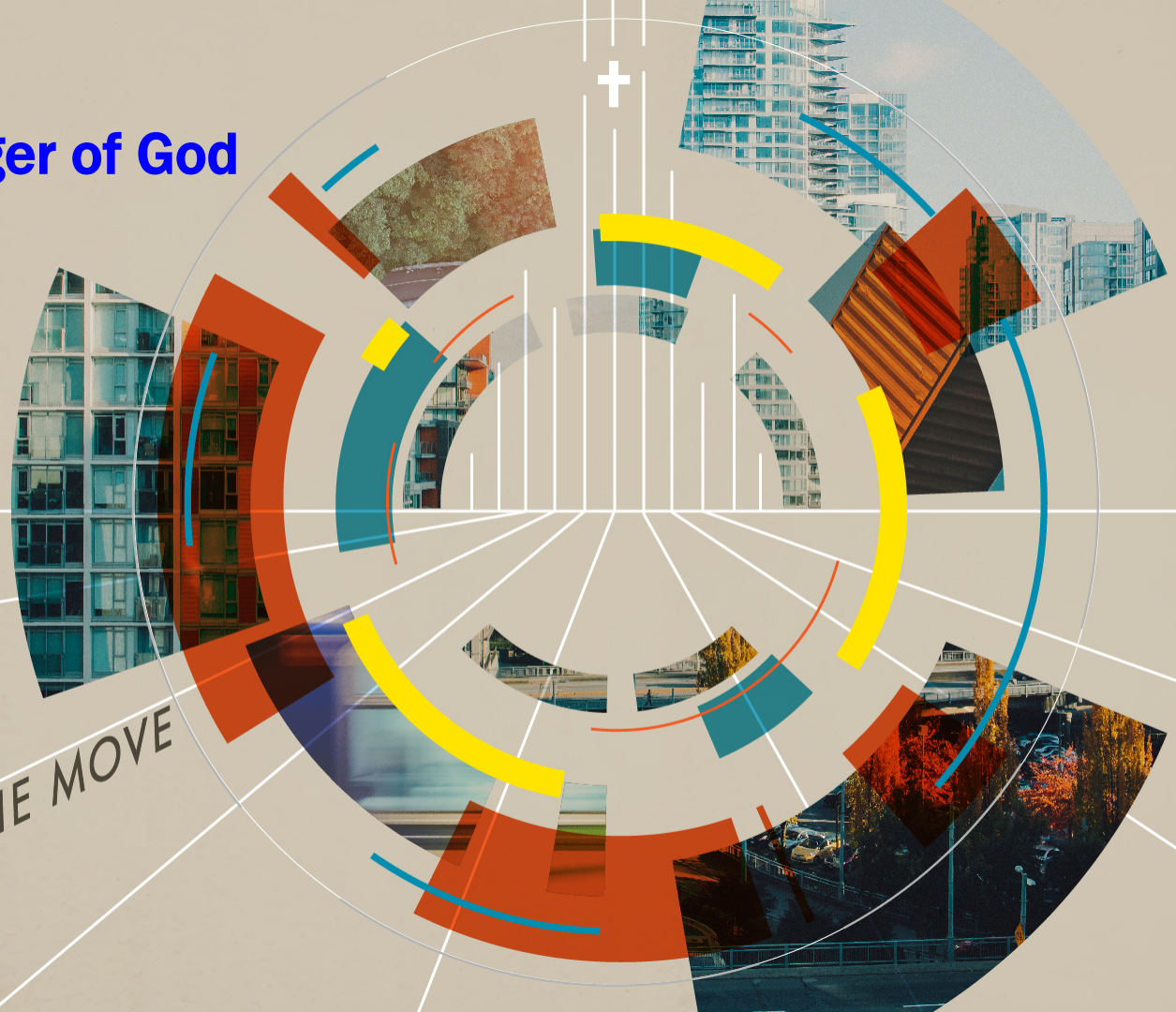

CHURCH ON THE MOVE

Joshua 7: Achan's Sin and God's Fierce Anger

Josh. 7:24-26 **24** Then Joshua, together with all Israel, took Achan son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the gold bar, his sons and daughters, his cattle, donkeys and sheep, his tent and all that he had, to the Valley of Achor. **25** Joshua said, "Why have you brought this trouble on us? The Lord will bring trouble on you today."
Then all Israel stoned him, and after they had stoned the rest, they burned them. **26** Over Achan they heaped up a large pile of rocks, which remains to this day. *Then the Lord turned from his fierce anger.* (ESV - burning anger; Hebrew bible - blazing anger)

Joshua 7: Understanding God's Anger

#1 - Covenant level blessing requires covenant level obedience.

Josh. 7:11 - Israel has sinned; they have violated **my covenant**, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions.

Joshua 7: Understanding God's Anger

#2 - All of Israel understood the terms of their covenant responsibility at Jericho.

Josh. 7:20 – 20 Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel. This is what I have done: 21 When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

Joshua 7: Understanding God's Anger

#2 - All of Israel understood the terms of their covenant responsibility at Jericho.

Josh. 6:18b - **18** But as for you, only keep yourselves from the things under the ban, so that you do not covet them and take some of the things under the ban…"

Joshua 7: Understanding God's Anger

#3 – Achan's act of stealing was tantamount to looting.

Here is the point of God's "outrage" (7:15 – NIV): God's glory would not be spent on looting.

Josh. 6:18b - **18** But as for you, only keep yourselves from the things under the ban, so that you do not covet them and take some of the things under the ban, and make the camp of Israel accursed and bring trouble on it.

God's anger keeps us from sinning and keeps us holy.