

what effect will it have? It will stop it. Yes, and unless it is gotten out, the watch will be of no use. The different tribes of Israel were like wheels of a great watch. Achan's one sin was like the grain of sand dropped in among them. *It stopped the watch.* It could not be set in motion again until the grain of sand was taken out. The sin of Achan occasioned great trouble to others, as well as himself. In *this* way, covetousness is injurious.

And then it is often *injurious too, as occasioning the death of those who are guilty of it.*

I might mention a great many instances to illustrate this part of our subject, but I shall give you only one.

Some years ago, there was a large ship, called the Kent, going from England to the East Indies. On her voyage she caught fire. The flames could not be put out. While she was burning, another vessel came in sight, and offered to take off her crew and passengers. The sea was very rough, and the only way to get the people off the burning ship was to let them down by ropes, from the end of a boom, into the little boats that were tossed about, like corks, by the rough waves below.

One of the sailors, who knew that the mate had a large quantity of gold in his possession, determined to get it, and take it with him. So he broke into the mate's cabin, forced open his desk, and taking two thousand dollars in gold pieces, put them in a belt, and fastened it round his waist. His turn came to leave the burning ship. He got out to the end of the boom, slipped down the rope, and let go, expecting to drop right into the boat that was beneath him. But a sudden movement of the waves carried the boat out of his reach, and he was plunged

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