THE BOOK OF JUDGES
ISRAEL IN THE TIME OF THE JUDGES
1380-1050 B.C.

JUDGES CHAPTER 17:1-13

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:
“So Goes A Nation” — Part 2

Israel during the period of the Judges
And The Establishment of a Nation

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:
Discipleship, Consecration, Devotion, Dedication

Introduction to the Text; Judges 17:1-13

From Judges Chapter 17 to Chapter 19
begins what is called in epilogue or the appendix.

there is no “chronology” to these
upcoming chapters.

But what these chapters are is a “Broad Brush Overview” of the years, The Times and The
Cultural challenges during a period Recorded as; “The time of the Judges” and of course that is of
the nation of Israel.

These 3 Chapters Serve to “Remind Us” of How it was During the Time of the Judges.

Judges 17:5-6
The man Micah (a real weirdo, he and his mom) had a shrine, and made an ephod and
household idols; and he consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest. :6 In
those days there was no king in Israel; (SO)
everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

…he had a shrine, he had an ephod, he had idols and he had a priest
(everything he had was handmade / man-made)
things handmade / man-made will not last.

Note This;
Where There is No “Biblical, God Ordained Government” – Anarchy Will Prevail.

This Week in England, Muslims Rejoiced
To see Islamic Sharia Law placed Alongside English Parliamentary Law.

I Have a Question:
what type of a congress would, and which one of the presidential candidates would be more open to embrace what’s happening in Europe regarding Islamic Sharia Law? – clearly there is no separation of mosque and state in England.

Verse 6
In those days there was no king in Israel; (SO) everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

One Nation Without God
He Had Lovingly Warned Them:

Judges 2:1-2
Then the Angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal (with Joshua - the place of agreement) to Bochim, (with the judges - the place of weeping) and said: “I led you up from Egypt and brought you to the land of which I swore to your fathers; and I said, ‘I will never break My covenant with you. :2 And you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed My voice. Why have you done this?

Proverbs 29:2
When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice;
But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.
Israel and Each Israeli Had Come to Yet Another Junction.
they had the opportunity to choose to go with God or man.

**1 Samuel 8:4-7**
Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, :5 and said to him, “Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.” :6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” So Samuel prayed to the LORD. :7 And the LORD said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.

**John 1:10-13**
He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. :11 He came to His own, but His own did not receive Him. :12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: :13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

**Judges 17:7-13**
Now there was a young man from Bethlehem in Judah, of the family of Judah; he was a Levite, and was staying there. :8 The man departed from the city of Bethlehem in Judah to stay wherever he could find a place (work, employment). Then he came to the mountains of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, as he journeyed. :9 And Micah said to him, “Where do you come from?” So he said to him, “I am a Levite from Bethlehem in Judah, and I am on my way to find a place (employment) to stay.”

not every Levite was a priest.
the sons of Aaron were to be the priests

**Verse 10**
:10 Micah said to him, “Dwell with me, and be a father and a priest to me, and I will give you ten shekels of silver per year, a suit of clothes, and your sustenance.”
So the Levite went in.

“Levite, Come On Down!"
you can almost hear the theme song to the price is right
It Tells Us Things That Aren’t Really True.
It Shows Us a Picture That’s Not Really There.

It’s Like a **Mirage** In The Heat of The Day

So Micah Comes Up with This Idea of
“Renting a Levite”
(I’ve got the money – he’s got the need, I can rent a priest, how cool is that)

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1 Timothy 4:1-2
Now the Spirit expressly says **that in latter times some will depart from the faith,**
giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, **:2 speaking lies in**
hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

**Senseless / Mindless**
(their own conscience seared with a hot iron)

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2 Timothy 3:1-4
But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: **:2 For men will be lovers**
of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents,**
unthankful, unholy, **:3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal,**
despisers of good, **:4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than**
lovers of God,

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2 Timothy 4:2-5
Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort,
with all longsuffering and teaching. **:3 For the time will come when they will not endure**
sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, **because they have itching ears,**
they will heap up for themselves teachers; **:4 and they will turn their ears away from**
the truth, and be turned aside to fables. **:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure**
afflictions, **do the work of** an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

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Verse 11-13

“One dwell with me, and be a father and a priest to me,
Matthew 23:9
Do not call anyone on earth your father; (in the spiritual context)
for One is your Father, (Abba in Hebrew) He who is in heaven.

1 Timothy 2:5-6
For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, :6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

Hebrews 12:22-24
But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, :23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, :24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant,

Verse 11-13

Then the Levite was content to dwell with the man…
(happy about it – met his desires)

“This is Cool;
I am Getting Paid To Tell This Guy What To Do With His Life…”

…and the young man became like one of his sons to him. :12 So Micah consecrated the Levite, and the young man became his priest, and lived in the house of Micah. :13 Then Micah said, “Now I know that the LORD will be good to me, since I have a (Rabbits Foot) Levite as priest!”

It seems like Micah “Leaned” toward things as Idols.

what’s an Idol? - - It’s any person, place or thing (thoughts too) that challenges the throne room of your heart.

Matthew 6:19-21
“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures (idols) on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; :20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. :21 For where your treasure is, there your heart (your passions, devotion, values and issues) will be also.
what am I to do, what are we to do
as Christians and as a church, what’s the nation to do?

as Christians
we are to be doing everything we possibly can to strengthen our relationships with the
Lord and with each other

as a church
we are to be going outside these walls to the world we live in to make a difference for
the kingdom of God – to tell the world that Jesus Christ came for them, that God loves
them and that they need to open up their hearts to Him.

as a nation
we need to repent and turn back to God as a nation. we need to obey the words of our
founding fathers and seek the Lord and dedicate this nation to Him.

Let’s Pray:
the condition of our nation
the issue of marriage
the election in November

End of Study