

THE BOOK OF JUDGES

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

JUDGES CHAPTER 20:1-48

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE LISTEN TO US” – PART 1

*ISRAEL DURING THE PERIOD OF THE JUDGES
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATION*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Civil War, Rebellion, War, Works of The Flesh

Introduction to the Text;

Judges 20:1-48

Judges Chapter 19 ends with what History Teaches Us -
Is the Pathology of a Nation, a Culture, a People.

According to The Bible, Nations are Fragile Things
and in time, every nation on earth must die, it must fade away.

Regarding The Death of a Nation
it never happens over night, but it does happen
while people are asleep.

asleep in their wealth or asleep in their captivity;
wherever faith in God is missing - there you will find people asleep
in apathy...

It's sad to see a nation die
but when a nation forgets God, it needs to pass away.

Judges 17:6

In those days there was no king in Israel;
everyone did what was right in his own eyes. – *that's situational ethics
which leads to a cultural breakdown, to anarchy, to rebellion!*

**It Doesn't take a Spiritual Einstein to See That
The United States of America is dying. What the
Founders Founded, Can Scarcely be Found Today!**

Jeremiah 18:7-10

If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, :8 and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. :9 And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, :10 and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.

Chapter 19 ends with a Haunting Exhortation;

Verse 30

:30 And so it was that all who saw it said, *“No such deed has been done or seen from the day that the children of Israel came up from the land of Egypt until this day. Consider it, Confer, and Speak up!”*

the KJV reads...

“take advice, and speak your minds.”

the NIV reads...

“Think about it! Consider it! Tell us what to do!”

the NLT reads...

“Shouldn't we speak up and do something about this?”

the NASB reads...

“Consider it, take counsel and speak up!”

**“WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN WE LISTEN TO US”**

1.) We take matters into our own hands v. 1-11

Judges 20:1-11

So all the children of Israel came out, from Dan to Beersheba, as well as from the land of Gilead, and the congregation gathered together as one man before the LORD at Mizpah. **:2** And the leaders of all the people, all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, four hundred thousand foot soldiers who drew the sword. (400K - swordsmen alone) **:3** (Now the children of Benjamin heard that the children of Israel had gone up to Mizpah.) Then the children of Israel said, **“Tell us, how did this wicked deed happen?”** **:4** So the Levite, the husband of the woman who was murdered, answered and said, *“My concubine and I went into Gibeah, which belongs to Benjamin, to spend the night. :5 And the men of Gibeah rose against me, and surrounded the house at night because of me. They intended to kill me, but instead they ravished my concubine so that she died. :6 So I took hold of my concubine, cut her in pieces, and sent her throughout all the territory of the inheritance of Israel, because they committed lewdness and outrage in Israel. :7 Look! All of you are children of Israel; give your advice and counsel here and now!”* **:8** So all the people arose as one man, saying, *“None of us will go to his tent, nor will any turn back to his house; :9 but now this is the thing which we will do to Gibeah: We will go up against it by lot. :10 We will take ten men out of every hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, a hundred out of every thousand, and a thousand out of every ten thousand, to make provisions for the people, that when they come to Gibeah in Benjamin, they may repay all the vileness that they have done in Israel.”* **:11** So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, united together as one man.

A Civil War Begins to Take Shape

Deuteronomy 13:12-18

the penalty for spiritual deception and sexual corruption
was to be death, burn the city, furniture & animals
(autoclave it all)

“WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE LISTEN TO US”

2.) We lean upon our own strengths v. 12-17

Judges 20:12-17

Then the tribes of Israel sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, **“What is this wickedness that has occurred among you? :13 Now therefore, deliver up the men, the perverted men who are in Gibeah, that we may put them to death and remove the evil from Israel!”** But the children of Benjamin would not listen to the voice of their brethren, the children of Israel.

**The Penalty for Rape
Deuteronomy 22:25-26**

If a man comes upon a girl and rapes her, that man who has done this shall be put to death. :26 Do nothing to the girl; she has committed no sin

**But What Started Chapter 20 was What Happened in Chapter 19
It was The Gang Raping by Homosexuals or Bisexual Men of a Young Girl**

Judges 19:22

While they were enjoying themselves, some of the wicked men of the city surrounded the house. Pounding on the door, they shouted to the old man who owned the house, *“Bring out the man who came to your house so we can have sex with him.”*

Leviticus 20:13

“If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

**Jack, What If Someone is Guilty Today –
What Does The Scripture Say?**

Matthew 12:31

“Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy *against* the Spirit will not be forgiven men.

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

1 John 1:6-9

If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. :7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. :8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. :9 **if we confess** our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hope Hope Hope Hope 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Hope Hope Hope Hope

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither **fornicators**, nor **idolaters**, nor **adulterers**, nor **homosexuals**, nor **sodomites**, :10 nor **thieves**, nor **covetous**, nor **drunkards**, nor **revilers**, nor **extortioners** will inherit the kingdom of God. :11 **And such were some of you**. But you were **washed**, but you were **sanctified**, but you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Judges 20:14-17

Instead, the children of Benjamin gathered together from their cities to Gibeah, to go to battle against the children of Israel. :15 And from their cities at that time the children of

Benjamin numbered twenty-six thousand men who drew the sword, besides the inhabitants of Gibeah, who numbered seven hundred select men. (SEALS) :16 Among all this people *were* seven hundred select men *who were* left-handed; every one could sling a stone at a hair's *breadth* and not miss. :17 Now besides Benjamin, the men of Israel numbered four hundred thousand men who drew the sword; all of these *were* men of war.

Sin, left alone, will corrupt a people and
defile the land.

>>>>>> God Judges Our Sins <<<<<<<

“WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE LISTEN TO US”

3.) We suffer the results of our own making v. 18-48

Judges 20:18-40

Then the children of Israel arose and went up to the house of God to inquire of God. They said, “Which of us shall go up first to battle against the children of Benjamin?” ¶ The LORD said, “Judah first!” :19 So the children of Israel rose in the morning and encamped against Gibeah. :20 And the men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin, and the men of Israel put themselves in battle array to fight against them at Gibeah. :21 Then the children of Benjamin came out of Gibeah, and on that day cut down to the ground **(22K) twenty-two thousand men of the Israelites**. :22 And the people, that is, the men of Israel, encouraged themselves and again formed the battle line at the place where they had put themselves in array on the first day. :23 Then the children of Israel **went up and wept before the LORD until evening, and asked counsel of the LORD, saying, “Shall I again draw near for battle against the children of my brother Benjamin?”** ¶ **And the LORD said, “Go up against him.”** :24 So the children of Israel approached the children of Benjamin on the second day. :25 And Benjamin went out against them from Gibeah on the second day, and cut down to the ground **(18K) eighteen thousand more of the children of Israel**; all these drew the sword. (what in the world is going on here? we prayed and got slaughtered)

Judges 20:26

Then all the children of Israel, that is, all the people, went up and came to the house of God and wept. They **sat there before** the LORD and **fasted** that day until evening; and they **offered burnt offerings** and **peace offerings before** the LORD. (wait a minute, I smell victory - I hear brokenness, I see affliction of soul & repentance in the heart going on - victory is certain...)

Judges 20:27-28

So the children of Israel **inquired** of the LORD (the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days, **:28** and Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days), saying, **“Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of my brother Benjamin, or shall I cease?”** And the LORD said, **“Go up, for tomorrow I will deliver them into your hand.”**

“ I ’ ve Heard That Before . ”

Yes But This Time **YOU’RE** Different -
You’ ve Changed .

when we decide to let God in
that’s when real “Deep” Change Comes.

Judges 20:26

Then all the children of Israel, that is, all the people, went up and came to the house of God and wept. They **sat there before** the LORD and **fasted** that day until evening; and they **offered burnt offerings** and **peace offerings before** the LORD. (wait a minute, I smell victory - I hear brokenness, I see affliction of soul & repentance in the heart going on - victory is certain...)

Judges 20:29-40

Then Israel set men in ambush all around Gibeah. **:30** And the children of Israel went up against the children of Benjamin on the third day, and put themselves in battle array against Gibeah as at the other times. **:31** So the children of Benjamin went out against the people, *and* were drawn away from the city. They began to strike down *and* kill some of the people, as at the other times, in the highways (one of which goes up to Bethel and the other to Gibeah) and in the field, about thirty men of Israel. **:32** And the children of Benjamin said, **“They are defeated before us, as at first.”** But the children of Israel said, **“Let us flee and draw them away from the city to the highways.”** **:33** So all the men of Israel rose from their place and put themselves in battle array at Ba’al Ta’mar. Then Israel’s men in ambush burst forth from their position in the plain of Geba. **:34** And ten thousand select men from all Israel came against Gibeah, and the battle was fierce. But the Benjamites did not know that disaster

was upon them. :35 **The LORD defeated** (them) Benjamin before Israel. And the children of Israel destroyed that day (25,100) twenty-five thousand one hundred Benjamites; all these drew the sword. :36 So the children of Benjamin saw that they were defeated. The men of Israel had given ground to the Benjamites, because they relied on the men in ambush whom they had set against Gibeah. :37 And the men in ambush quickly rushed upon Gibeah; the men in ambush spread out and struck the whole city with the edge of the sword. :38 Now the appointed signal between the men of Israel and the men in ambush was that they would make a great cloud of smoke rise up from the city, :39 whereupon the men of Israel would turn in battle. Now Benjamin had begun to strike *and* kill about thirty of the men of Israel. For they said, “Surely they are defeated before us, as *in* the first battle.” :40 But when the cloud began to rise from the city in a column of smoke, the Benjamites looked behind them, and there was the whole city going up *in smoke* to heaven. :41 And when the men of Israel turned back, the men of Benjamin panicked, for they saw that disaster had come upon them. :42 Therefore they turned *their backs* before the men of Israel in the direction of the wilderness; but the battle overtook them, and whoever *came* out of the cities they destroyed in their midst. :43 They surrounded the Benjamites, chased them, *and* easily trampled them down as far as the front of Gibeah toward the east. :44 And eighteen thousand men of Benjamin fell; all these *were* men of valor. :45 Then they turned and fled toward the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon; and they cut down five thousand of them on the highways. Then they pursued them relentlessly up to Gidom, and killed two thousand of them. :46 So all who fell of Benjamin that day were twenty-five thousand men who drew the sword; all these *were* men of valor. :47 But six hundred men turned and fled toward the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon, and they stayed at the rock of Rimmon for four months. :48 And the men of Israel turned back against the children of Benjamin, and struck them down with the edge of the sword—from *every* city, men and beasts, all who were found. They also set fire to all the cities they came to.

The Tribe of Benjamin Paid the Ultimate Price the near extinction of its own tribe (600)

It Was Civil War -
Jewish Brother Against Jewish Brother...

It Was Civil War -
Christian Brother goes Against Christian
Brother

All Because Sin Was Not Dealt With in The Camp of Believers.

The Christian Church Must March to God's Drum;
not the culture's drum, not the media's drum,

not even the churches own drum, and never to the drum beat of the politically correct crowd !!!

James 3:3-10

Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. :4 Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. :5 Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! :6 And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. :7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. :8 But no man can tame the tongue. *It is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. :9 With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. :10 Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

**Well, O.K. Fine Pastor Jack.
But What Am I Supposed To Do Now ?**

Speak This Good Word Upon
Another:

Numbers 6:24-26

“The LORD bless you and keep you; :25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; :26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.” ’

————— *End of Study* —————