

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 2

*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 ended with what History Teaches Us -
And That Is the Pathology of a Nation, a Culture, a People.

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!”*

**When a Nation is About to Die,
When It’s About to Hit the Bottom**

it falls from within, it caves in or implodes - America !

Judges 21:25

In those days there was no king in Israel;
everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

**When This Happens;
God Becomes a Problem to a Nation.
He Becomes a Threat to a Government.**

“WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE LISTEN TO US”

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

“We Just Wanna Have Fun”

**Right Now America is Ripe for Judgement
and I believe that the only thing keeping His judgment from falling is
that He is Patiently waiting for the Christian to Wake Up.**

America Belongs to God – so does Atheistic China...

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

WE’VE NOT BEEN CREATED TO BE IN CONTROL

Charles Darwin 1:1 Says

Look out for yourself. life’s an accident, grab what you can
do what is right in his own eyes. let your feelings lead.

Proverbs 3:5-8

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; :6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. :7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. :8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.

Psalms 1:1-3

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; :2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. :3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

We left off here at verse 14

2.) We lean upon our own strengths

v. 12-17

!!! Civil War Breaks Out !!!

All Because The Tribe of Benjamin Chooses to “Defend Evil”

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.**

Verse 14

Instead the children of Benjamin gathered together from their cities to Gibeah, to go to battle against the children of Israel.

“Instead”

(rather than hand the wicked over to the other tribes for judgment, the tribe of Benjamin chose to defend them...)

All Because The Tribe of Benjamin Chooses to “Defend Evil”

Proverbs 28:13

He who covers his sins will not prosper,
But whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy.

Choosing to Defend Evil

Will Always Bring About Judgment

!!! >>>>>>> Abortion <<<<<<<<< !!!

Exodus 23:7

Have nothing to do with a false accusation and **do not put an innocent person to death**, for I will not acquit those guilty of this.

Psalm 10:8

The wicked man sits in the hidden places of city; In the secret places he **murders the innocent**; His eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless.

we have a new president coming to office that has vowed, that his first order of business is to *“increase U.S. funding for abortions on an international scale”* and to *“expand the influence of planned parenthood.”*

What Will Judgment Look Like?

what it has always looked like – immorality, enemies invade - (911) violence, lawlessness, ethnic-wars, environmental catastrophe, crop failure, famine, earthquakes, anarchy, - godless leaders

Matthew 24:5-9

For many will come in My name, saying, “I am the Christ,” and will deceive many. **:6** And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. **:7** For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. **:8** All these *are* the beginning of sorrows. **:9** “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake.

Verse 14

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 Sin <<<<<<<

**“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....

“ Lord, We’ve Got a Plan Here, Now You Bless It.”

(you have a multiple choice on this one God – which tribe goes first?)

Proverbs 16:25

There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

...: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.”**

Say “Please”

“ I ’ v e H e a r d T h a t B e f o r e . ”

Yes But This Time **YOU'RE Different** – You've Changed.

When we decide to let God in for Real...
that's when the “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 (600) 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 (only 600 left)

there are no cities left, no woman left, no animals left, nothing left

It Was Civil War -

Jewish Brother Against Jewish Brother...

**All Because Sin Would Not Be 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
One 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* —————