

BIB 211 History of Israel I

Lesson 4 - Depravity of Israel and conformity to pagans Judges 17-21

Intro. They are now going to reap from their failure to heed warnings, the effect of compromise, which will lead to these two horrendous sins of Idolatry and immorality. Joshua 23 and his warnings were not heeded. Dt. 31:14-27 Moses warnings were not heeded. What of America be if we lose sight of our God?

1. The Idolatry of the Nation 17-18
 2. personal idolatry - their approach and concept of God reveals degradation (17)
 3. tribal idolatry (18) wasn't just a single individual or family revealed by Danites competing over priest

Note: the view of the ministry: first he left his inheritance for a better offer, then stair-stepped his way when another better offer came along

Note: man made religion goes hand in hand with idolatry

Note: 18:7 Dangers of isolation and no magistrate (judges)

2. The Immorality of the Nation 19
 3. personal immorality (v. 1-10) possessing a concubine
 4. Tribal immorality (11-30) reflected in the Benjamites Sodomy

Note: like people, like priest Hosea 4:6-10

Note: immorality in ministry rise of instances today - let him that thinketh he standeth

Note: Dangers of our streets and being out after dark

3. The Infamy of the Nation 20 - Revenging the rebellious Benjamites
 - a. the confederacy (1-11) united front
 - b. the confrontation (12-17) - refusal to repent
 - c. the confusion (18-25) why the defeat?
 - d. the confession (26-28) continue to seek God's face
 - e. the conflict (29-48)

Note: what a testimony to the surrounding nations when the tribes (churches) are devouring each other.

Note: maybe this was God's way of purging or punishing the nation

Note: only 600 Benjamites left

4. The Inclusion of the Nation 21 Restoring the repentant Benjamites
 5. difficulty of discipline 1-7 grief to other tribes
 6. delinquency in participation punished 8-15 Jabesh-Gilead didn't obey
 7. diligence in restoration necessary 16-25 finding wives for all of them

Note: church discipline and how to effectively deal with iniquity and defiance. The difficulty, the delinquency, and the diligence to produce proper repentance and restoration

Conclusion

All of the problems stemmed from the wickedness of the Levites

- It was a Levite that promoted the idolatry in Micah

- It was a Levite that had a concubine it wasn't supposed to have

Everything rises and falls on leadership - so let us not be too hasty in judging others when

“The time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God. And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?”