

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

H e H a d L o v i n g l y W a r n e d T h e m :

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

(self-deception is the most dangerous of all)

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)

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)

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,

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.

Verse 11-13

"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
