

In The Days When The Judges Ruled

Lesson 18

The "Second Appendix" The Tragedies Of Civil War Judg. 19-21

Introduction

The second "appendix" is both similar to and different from the first one. It is similar in that it continues to depict the overall unfaithfulness found rampant in Israel during the judges' days. It is different in that it focuses more on *moral* deficiencies instead of *spiritual* failures. Particularly, the low esteem of human life is emphasized more than once (*rape, mutilation, civil war*).

The story revealed in these final 3 chapters reflects immorality that was indeed grisly and horrific. Such is the nature of a people spiraling downward when it abandons the will of God.

- 1) What descriptive phrase is repeated in **19:1a**? (**17:6**) How does this fit into the overall spiritual & moral climate in Israel?

- 2) Who is mentioned in **19:1b**? What did he do?

- 3) What did the concubine do? (**19:2**) How did the Levite try to get her back? (**19:3a**)

- 4) What chain of events are recorded in **19:3b-9**?

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- 15) When Israel confronted Benjamin, what was demanded? **(20:12-13a)** What was Benjamin's reply? **(20:13b-16)** Observation: if early enough in the days of the judges, who could have been involved? **(3:15)**
- 16) Described the battle in stages. **(20:17-48)**
- 17) In the aftermath of their "great victory," what did Israel bemoan? **(21:1-4)** How did they show their remorse? **(21:5-7)**

