

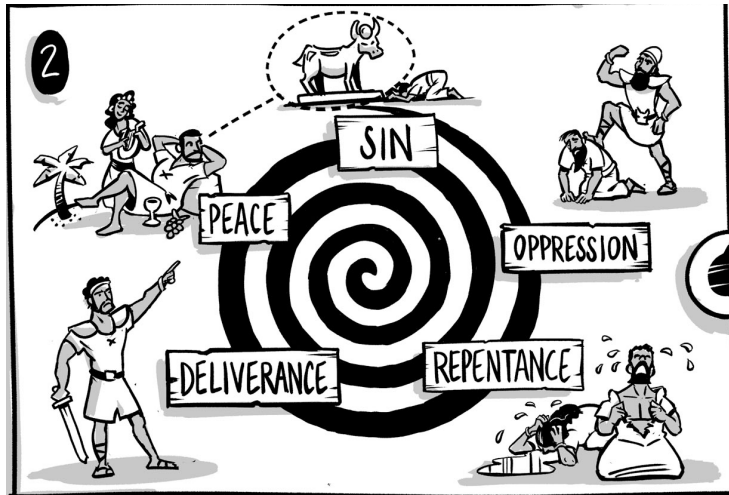
Sermon Outline

"IN THOSE DAYS ISRAEL HAD NO KING ..." | Geoff Lin

Bible Reading: Judges 19 (p.367)

The story so far ...

i. **Judges 1-2:** executive summary/synopsis



(Source: The Bible Project)

ii. **Judges 3-16:** specific judges (Othniel, Ehud, Deborah/Barak; Gideon; Samson)

iii. **Judges 17-21:** "who will lead us?"

Jdg 17:6 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

Jdg 18:1 In those days Israel had no king.

Jdg 19:1 In those days Israel had no king.

Jdg 21:25 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

Judges 17-18 = religious chaos/idolatry in Israel

Judges 19-21 = moral chaos/immorality in Israel

2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1. Moral chaos in Israel (Judges 19)

vv1-10: a Levite from Ephraim takes a concubine from Bethlehem ...

vv11-28: they journey home via Jebus (aka Jerusalem) and Jabesh Gilead (in Benjamin)

vv29-30: the gory aftermath as the entire nation of Israel is called to arms ...

2. From bad to worse (Judges 20-21)

Ch 20:

- Israel's ultimatum to the tribe of Benjamin: hand over the wicked men of Gibeah
- the Benjamites refuse, leading to civil war with the rest of Israel
- Israel completely defeats the Benjamites (apart from 600 soldiers)
 - Q. How will they stop the tribe of Benjamin being lost from Israel?

Ch 21:

- Israel destroys Jabesh Gilead for not joining the battle against Gibeah (apart from 400 virgin women who are given as wives to the 600 Benjamite survivors)
- the 200 remaining Benjamite men are allowed to kidnap 200 young women of Shiloh and take them as wives

Jdg 21:24 At that time the Israelites left that place and went home to their tribes and clans, each to his own inheritance. 25 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

3. Reading Judges today

How to read the OT: not moralizing from the characters, but seeing what GOD is like and what HE does for us (HE is the main player in the bigger and better story we belong to)

No matter how badly we treat each other, our betrayal of God is worse

Ps 51:4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight ...

Ps 51:1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

The Lord's Supper

Ruth 1:1 In the days when the judges ruled ...

Homework: please read **Ruth 1-4**