

THE FALLEN PEOPLE IN ISRAEL

Introduction: In the last five chapters of the book of Judges two stories are recorded that reveal the rotten fabric of Israel's spiritual and moral life. The first story exposes Israel's idolatry (17:1-18:31) while the second story uncovers her immorality (19:1-21:25). Around these two major areas of sin were a number of other sins that added to the corruption of Israel's life. God had to severely punish Israel from time to time to bring her to sincere repentance or else she would have become as corrupt as Sodom and Gomorrah.

Lesson Aim: Remind believers that they need to turn from all sins and follow after righteousness.

Memory Verse: "For he that will love life, and see good days . . . let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it" (1 Pet. 3:10, 11).

Outline of the Lesson and Questions to Answer:

I. Idolatry — 17:1-18:31

A. By Micah — 17:1-13

1. Name the Ten Commandments that Micah disobeyed in the home of his mother? 17:2; Ex 20:1-17
2. Name the Commandment that Micah's mother disobeyed? 17:4
3. What sins are evident in Micah's house? 17:5, 12

B. By the Danites — 18:1-31

4. How did the Danites try to correct their failure to possess the land given to them? 18:1-2
5. What sins did the 600 migrating soldiers of Dan commit? 18:18

II. Immorality — 19:1-21:25

A. By the Concubine — 19:1-4

6. How did the concubine sin against her husband? 19:2

B. By Gibeah — 19:5-30

7. What Commandment did some men in Gibeah violently disobey? 19:22-25
8. What story is similar to this one? Gen 19:1-5

C. By Benjamin — 20:1-21:25

9. What happened to the woman that was so cruelly treated by some wicked men in Gibeah? 20:5
10. Why did the Levite cut up his concubine and send one piece of her to each tribe in Israel? 20:6-7
11. What did Israel ask the tribe of Benjamin to do? 20:12-13
12. How did the tribe of Benjamin respond? 20:13-14
13. How many men of Israel died in the first two battles? 20:21, 25
14. How did Israel respond to the heavy losses of men that they suffered? 20:23, 26
15. How many men of Benjamin died in the final battle? 20:46-48
16. Why was sin so rampant in Israel at this time? 21:25