

The Avengers

Judges 19-21

Judges 17-21 – an epilogue?

Events must have taken place early

- 20:28, Phinehas, grandson of Aaron (Nu.25:7)
- Hosea 9:9, They are deeply corrupted, As in the days of Gibeah. He will remember their iniquity; He will punish their sins.
- Hosea 10:9, O Israel, you have sinned from the days of Gibeah; There they stood. The battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity Did not overtake them.

I. The Setting, ch.19

- 1: no king. “No rules” (Benjamites).
- 2-3: consequence of husband-wife problems
- 4-13: Jebus / Jebusites. Gibeah

- Route of Danite migration north *Dan (Laish)*
- Israel attacks Gibeah (position of ambush unknown)
- Benjaminites flee to rock of Rimmon



- Travel in ancient world:
 - Lk.2:44, safer in groups
 - Gn.18, no fast food
- 2 Co.11²⁶ in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; ²⁷ in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness...

- 14-15 . . . no hospitality
- 16-21 . . . hospitality . . . for some
- 22-26, sodomy / inexcusable cowardice
 - Gn.19, Israel sank to Sodom's status

- 27-30: cut into twelve parts
 - When people shun law, morals...evil fills the vacuum. Mt.12:43-45
 - Israelite criminals were . . .
 - Perverted, 22
 - Immoral, 22. *Slouching Towards Gomorrah* (collapse of American culture). 2 Pt.2:7-8

A dramatic, low-key photograph of the Statue of Liberty. The statue is the central focus, holding its torch high. Behind it, a large American flag is visible, its stars and stripes partially obscured by dark, swirling clouds. The overall mood is somber and patriotic.

**AMERICA:
OFFENDED BY
EVERYTHING
BUT SIN.**

Victor

VICTORMARX.COM

- 27-30: cut into twelve parts
 - When people shun law, morals...evil fills the vacuum. Mt.12:43-45
 - Israelite criminals were . . .
 - Perverted, 22
 - Immoral, 22. *Slouching toward Gomorrah* (collapse of American culture). 2 Pt.2:7-8
 - Aided by cowards, 24 [1 Sm.30; Mal.2]

I. The Setting, ch.19

II. The Sword, ch.20

From Dan to Beersheba (1)



From Dan to Beersheba (2)

- Congregation...as one man (1, 8, 11)
 - Before LORD – ¹righteous cause; ²punish sinners; ³remove curse from nation. Nu.35
 - War: time, effort; lives ... to obey God
- 2:** 400,000 soldiers (shows importance of task)

From Dan to Beersheba (3)

3-11: just the facts

- Determination to finish job; punish evil
- United as one man (allies)
- Knew God's law
 - 1 Co.5; 2 Co.12; 2 Th.3...

How could this happen? (12-13)

Hand over sons of wickedness

Benjamin refused:

- Pride? Protect own? Confess nothing? (15-16)
- Problem: no king [not even God]; law of the jungle; no right or wrong
- God's people must do right thing even if all others do wrong

Last resort: prepare for battle (14)

16: Ben-jamin

- Many hours of practice, dedication
- Helpful in defense of tribe
- Pride in being 'the best'
- Overcame many failures (misses)
- Greatest miss: blessings of God

To the battlefield (17-21)

21-25: Judah's losses

26a: united despite severe losses

26b: wept [obedience can be costly]. Ac.7

27: inquired of God

28-35: trust + perseverance

47: 600 Benjamites flee to wilderness

48: burned cities, killed men, animals

I. The Setting, ch.19

II. The Sword, ch.20

III. The Success

Their attitude toward God

- Humbly submitted to God's commands
- Continued to fight after suffering losses
- Kept fighting till justice was served
- After fighting, pursued peace

Their attitude toward God

Their attitude toward fellow soldiers

- Unity is precious (Ps.133)
- No unity with impenitent sinners. 1 Co.5:1

Their attitude toward God

Their attitude toward fellow soldiers

Their attitude toward the enemy (1)

- At first, sinful? (Their losses may imply it)
 - When correcting others, must first consider self. Ga.6:1
 - If they were negligent during this time, they were in poor shape to correct others, 19:1. Mt.7:5
 - If motivated by personal revenge... 20:48
 - If proud (Jg.7:2-3) they need a reminder

Their attitude toward God

Their attitude toward fellow soldiers

Their attitude toward the enemy (2)

- Desire for massacre turned to mercy.
- Willing to forgive, restore the tribe.

There were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went over the Jordan before the king
– 2 Sm.19:17

Conclusion: attitudes

1. Ex.1:20. Egypt, powerful nation...
2. 2 Co.12:...10 (13:4)

I asked God for strength that I might achieve.
I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked for health that I might do greater things.
I was given infirmity that I might do better things.

I asked for riches that I might be happy.
I was given poverty that I might be wise.

I asked for power that I might have the praise of men.
I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life.
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing I asked for, but everything I hoped for.

Almost despite myself, my
unspoken prayers were answered.

I am, among all men, most richly blessed.

Conclusion: attitudes

1. Ex.1:20. Egypt, powerful nation...
2. 2 Co.12:...10 (13:4)
3. Ph.4:13.

Paul's strength came not from his commission as an apostle, but from his faith as a saint.