

When Israel Had No King

Judges 17:1-21:25

Key Verse: 21:25

1. Read chapter 17. Why did Micah's mother have idols made? (17:1-6) Why did a young Levite leave Judah? (Nu 18:21-25) How did Micah install this young Levite from Bethlehem to be his personal priest? Why? (7-13) What does this tell us about the Levite's spiritual problem?
2. Read chapter 18. Why and how would the Danites attack the people of Laish? (18:1-28) Why did the Danites steal Micah's idols and his personal priest? What do verses 30-31 tell us about their spiritual confusion?
3. Read chapter 19. What kind of man was this Levite? (1-8) How evil were the Benjamites? (9-26) What does this event show about the depths of moral corruption in Israel at that time? What did the Levite do with his concubine's body? Why?
4. Read chapters 20-21. Why did a civil war occur between Israel and the Benjamites? What was the outcome? Why was it so difficult for Israel to defeat them? Why did Israel mourn? (21:1-6) What effort did they make to preserve the tribe of Benjamin? (7-24)
5. What is the significance of the author's statement "Israel had no king"? (How many times does this phrase appear in these chapters?) Why do people need a king? Who can be our true king? (Isa 9:6; Jdg 8:23; Rev 19:16)