

# Lesson 16: Civil War in Israel

Judges 17-18

# Outline of the Book of Judges

- I. Introduction to the Time of the Judges  
(1:1-3:6)
  
- II. The Careers of the Judges  
(3:7-16:31)
  
- III. Moral Decline During the Time of the Judges  
Highlighted  
(17-21)

## II. The Careers of the Judges (3:7-16:31)

- A. Othniel (3:7-11)
- B. Ehud (3:12-30)
- C. Shamgar (3:31)
- D. Barak (4-5)
- E. Gideon (6-9)
- F. Tola (10:1-2)
- G. Jair (10:3-5)
- H. Jephthah (10:6-12:7)
- I. Ibzan (12:8-10)
- J. Elon (12:11-12)
- K. Abdon (12:13-15)
- L. Samson (13-16)

# Thesis Statement

During the time of the judges,  
the Israelites became like the Canaanites,  
but God preserved them as a distinct, surviving  
people and nation  
by raising up judges who saved them from their  
enemies.

# Israel Likened to Sodom

## Old Testament

- Deuteronomy 32:32
- Isaiah 1:9
- Isaiah 3:9
- Jeremiah 23:14
- Ezekiel 16:48

## New Testament

- Matthew 11:23-24
- Romans 9:29  
*(quotes Isaiah 1:9)*
- Revelation 11:8

# Deuteronomy 32:32

For their vine is from the vine of Sodom,  
And from the fields of Gomorrah;  
Their grapes are grapes of poison,  
Their clusters, bitter.

# Isaiah 1:9

Unless the LORD of hosts  
Had left us a few survivors,  
We would be like Sodom,  
We would be like Gomorrah.

# Isaiah 3:9

The expression of their faces bears witness  
against them,

And they display their sin like Sodom;

They do not even conceal it.

Woe to them!

For they have brought evil on themselves.



# Jeremiah 23:14

Also among the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen a horrible thing:

The committing of adultery and walking in falsehood;

And they strengthen the hands of evildoers,  
So that no one has turned back from his wickedness.

All of them have become to Me like Sodom,  
And her inhabitants like Gomorrah.

# Ezekiel 16:48

“As I live,” declares the Lord GOD, “Sodom, your sister and her daughters have not done as you and your daughters have done.”

# Matthew 11:23-24

And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You will descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day.

Nevertheless I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for you.

# Revelation 11:8

And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.

# Deuteronomy 22:22

If a man is found lying with a married woman, then both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman, and the woman; thus you shall purge the evil from Israel.

# Numbers 35:30, 34-35

If anyone kills a person, the murderer shall be put to death. . .

So you shall not pollute the land in which you are; for blood pollutes the land and no expiation can be made for the land for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it.,

You shall not defile the land in which you live, in the midst of which I dwell; for I the LORD am dwelling the midst of the sons of Israel.

## Judges 2:7-12

*[Israel rebelled against the Lord very early in its national history: right after the generation that had seen Joshua and the conquest died.]*

# Israel Characterized by the Gibeah Incident

- Hosea 9:8-9
- Hosea 10:9



## Hosea 9:8-9

Ephraim was a watchman with my God, a prophet;

Yet the snare of a bird catcher is in all his ways,  
And there is only hostility in the house of his God.

They have gone deep in depravity

As in the days of Gibeah;

He will remember their iniquity,

He will punish their sins.

# Hosea 10:9

From the days of Gibeah you have sinned, O  
Israel.

# Genesis 49:1

Then Jacob summoned his sons and said,  
“Assemble yourselves that I may tell you what  
will befall you in the days to come.”

# Genesis 12:3

In you all the families of the earth will be blessed.

# Genesis 18:17-19

The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do,

since Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed?

For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him.