

GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sermon by Ray Reynolds

YOU BE THE JUDGE: A SERIES ON THE BOOK OF JUDGES

Lesson Eleven = From Grace To Disgrace

Judges 21:1-25

Introduction: God's people seem to be absolutely disgraceful. No matter how badly they behave in the book of Judges, the next chapter seems to show them on an extended downward spiral. Can it get any worse? Will there ever be any hope for Israel? Keep in mind that God still has a lot of grace to offer His children. He still loves them. Let's study this last chapter together

Discussion:

I. The Declaration of the Israelites (v.1)

- A. A rule of justice, morality, and prudence
- B. A rule made in anger and out of vengeance
- C. A rule of selfishness, bias, and ignorance

II. The Crisis of the Israelites (vs.2-5)

- A. Significance of their decision
- B. Consequences to their decision
- C. Penalties because of their decision

III. The Sorrow of the Israelites (vs.6-15)

- A. Worshipping without the tribe of Benjamin
- B. Grieving over their ignorant decisions
- C. Stealing the daughters of Jabesh-Gilead
- D. Reconciling with the men of Benjamin

IV. The Agenda of the Israelites (vs.16-24)

- A. The history of their fathers
- B. The oath of their leaders
- C. The future of the Benjaminites
 - The kidnapped the dancers of Shiloh
- D. The recognition of their God

V. The Fate of the Israelites (v.25)

- A. The Israelites did not have a king
- B. The Israelites did not have any morality

Conclusion: There are so many lessons to learn from the book of Judges. Above all else, there are two specific points that should be noted: (1) When people do what is right in their own eyes, there will be anarchy and disaster. (2) God is ready to extend His grace to those who are willing to faithfully trust in Him. We all know that God is still good, all the time! Let's pray that we are doing what is right in His eyes!!!