

Judges 1 Mission: Incomplete

11/30/08 - The Exchange

I. Review

- A. Last week's main points. Didn't touch Judges, did a history survey.
  - 1. Where there is faith, there is life and relationship with God
  - 2. Where there is no faith, there is no life and no relationship with God
  - 3. No turning back
- B. Want to talk more about the "why" behind God giving them this land and the need to drive out the inhabitants.
- C. Want to talk read through the chapter and hit some highlights, especially the incompleteness of their conquest.
- D. Want to compare Judges and the mission of the people with our relationship with Jesus and life in the Spirit.

II. First off

- A. Why did God give them the land? That was His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Begins with a promise.
- B. Why did those people need to be driven out or destroyed? Because they had a culture of sin and death. God is holy, righteous, and just. He will only let sin go on for so long. Both of those must be true of His people as well.
- C. Leviticus 18:1-5 (slide showing refs)
  - 1. 18:3 Don't live your life according to the world I am calling you out of or the world I am calling you into. Egypt's medical vs. God's.
  - 2. 18:4-5 Don't do it your way or anyone else's way, do it My way.
- D. Leviticus 18:24-30 The actions and lifestyles of these people are why this is happening to them. Don't do it or it will happen to you.
- E. Leviticus 20:22-26
  - 1. 20:22-23 Walk in My ways, not in theirs.
  - 2. 20:24 I am giving you the land. Already farmed, already built, all ready for you to live in and be blessed by.
  - 3. 20:25-26 Being holy. Being separated from and separated to. Moody - The place for the ship is in the sea. But God help the ship if the sea gets into it!
  - 4. "God seems so harsh." About as harsh as a warning on a bottle of poison.
- F. What happens if they fail?
  - 1. Unconquered territory means fewer resources, less blessing, and a bad witness.
  - 2. Allowing the inhabitants to remain means opportunity for compromise and corruption.
  - 3. What did God want for His people? To be an example and a light to the world. Deuteronomy 4:6-10.
  - 4. Never promised it was going to be easy. Did promise to be faithful.

III. Read the chapter and highlight as led. Mention it's an out-of-time overview.

IV. A model for believers

- A. Our lives before Jesus are like the land before Israel.
  - 1. Both actions and nature. Makes God want to vomit, makes us defiled. Rom 3:23
  - 2. Result is separation from God and a need for cleansing and transformation. Rom 6:23a
- B. If we believe it and accept it, God has given us a promise to both cleans and continually transform our “land”.
  - 1. 1 John 1:9 is where it begins.
  - 2. Gal. 2:20 and 5:24-25 indicate that death of the “natives” is involved. Along with Jesus’ words “taking up cross daily” and “he who wants to live must die”
  - 3. Gal. 5:16-18 indicate the ongoing battle and need to continually drive out the inhabitants.
- C. What happens if we don’t?
  - 1. Fewer resources, less blessing, and a bad witness.
  - 2. Opportunity for compromise and corruption.
- D. What does God want for us?
  - 1. To be forgiven. 1 John 1:9. Harder to understand in a “victim mentality” culture.
  - 2. To be born again, a new creation. 2 Corinthians 5:17+
  - 3. To walk in Christ, in the Spirit, and in grace. Romans 8:1.
- E. Don’t let your mission be incomplete. God never promised it would be easy, but he did promise to be faithful.