

April 3/Day 93

Judges 10

Verses 1-2

- Do you remember Abimelech from yesterday? He was the son of Gideon by his concubine. He killed his seventy brothers and was crowned king by his mother's side of the family, the men in Shechem.
- Who became judge next?
- What was his grandfather's name? (Sorry, couldn't help myself.)
- How long did he judge Israel? Then what happened to him?

Verses 3-5

- Who was the next judge?
- How long did he judge Israel?
- What else does the passage tell us about him?
- What happened to him in the end?
- I keep asking this question for a purpose. Hebrews 9:27 says, "It is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment." Every person will die at some point. We saw this repeated again and again in Genesis. It is appointed for every person to die at least once. If a person has received Jesus, he will die once.
- If a person does not receive Jesus, there is a second death. Revelation 21:8 says, "But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death." This passage is talking about the patterns of a person's life. For instance, anyone can lie, but if it is a pattern of their life, it is evidence they are not born again. As a note, "cowardly" here does not mean experiencing fear over a situation, it means shrinking back from a professed faith into apostasy due to persecution.

Verses 6-9

- What did the sons of Israel do again?
- What did God do about it? Do you think God is vindictive in His actions, or do you think these hardships are meant to draw them back to Himself?
- How many years did the Philistines afflict the Israelites?

Verses 10-16

- What did they do in their oppression? What did they acknowledge?
- What does God say in verse 13?
- Who should they cry to instead?
- When they put away the foreign gods, did God relent?

Verses 17-18

Judges 11

Verses 1-3

- What two things are said about Jephthah in the first verse?
- What did Jephthah's two half-brothers say and do to him?

Verses 4-11

- What caused the elders of Gilead to want to retrieve Jephthah?
- What did they offer to do for him?
- Do you remember Mizpah from Genesis and the parting of Jacob and Laban? Mizpah means "watchtower", where Laban states, "May the LORD watch between you and me when we are absent one from the other." Many think this is such a beautiful blessing because they take it out of context, but Jacob and Laban were at odds and they were swearing to do each other no harm deceitfully, out of the sight of the other.
- Now, review what is said this time at Mizpah.

Verses 12-28

- What was Jephthah summarizing for the king of the sons of Ammon?
- What does he say in verse 27?
- How did the king receive this message?

Verses 29-33

- What came upon Jephthah?
- What vow did he make to the LORD?

Verses 34-40

- Who came out to greet him? Was she his only child?
- Did he take his vow to the LORD seriously?
- Did God require him to keep this hastily made vow? The nations around him were sacrificing their children to their false gods and God hated this practice and warned the Israelites about it. Do you remember the situation between Abraham and Isaac?

Judges 12

Verses 1-6

- This tribe of Ephraim had a way of showing up after the battle and acting offended at not being hailed. What did they say they would do to Jephthah?
- How did this work out for everybody?

Verse 7

- How long did Jephthah Judge?
- So, can God use an illegitimate child of a harlot to do His work?
- What happened to Jephthah in the end?

Verses 8-10

- How long did Ibzan judge?
- What do we know about him?
- What happened to him in the end?

Verses 11-12

- How long did Elon judge?
- What happened to him in the end?

Verses 13-15

- Who judged next and for how long?
- What else are we told about him?
- What happened to him in the end?

See you tomorrow.