

4. The Danites stop by Micah's house again. How do they repay his previous hospitality to them (18:14-26)?

5. When faced with the loss of his priest and his household idols Micah wails, "What else do I have left?" Micah failed to understand a very important principle. Look up the following verses and explain what he missed: Ps. 17:15; 37:4; 63:3; 73:25; Is. 26:8-9.

6. What clues can you glean from Chapters 17 and 18 that tell you the spiritual state of the Levite priest. What does that tell you about the spiritual state of the tribe of Dan?

Chapter 19

7. The events of this chapter are so terrible and vile that it is hard to even read the chapter let alone spend any time studying it, yet God has included this sad piece of Israel's history for a reason. Read 1 Cor. 10:1-14. Keeping that in mind, how is 19:30 a commentary upon this time in Israel's story?

8. The idolatrous Israelites were shocked out of their complacency by the wickedness that had taken place within their own nation. They couldn't imagine how things had gotten to such a state. Read through Rom. 1:18-32. What do we know about the state of their hearts at this time?

Chapter 20

9. The nation gathers to hear the details of the crime. What action do they propose in 20:8-11?

10. What request is made of the tribe of Benjamin and how do they respond in 20:12-16?

11. What events happen in the battle that drive the men of Israel to seek the Lord in 20:18-28?

12. How does God use Israel's previous defeat against Benjamin in the remaining verses of this chapter?

Chapter 21

13. Once the dust settled, remorse set in over Israel's rash vows taken at Mizpah. What had they vowed and what was the consequence of those vows (21:1-4)?

14. Who didn't participate in the assembly at Mizpah (21:9)?

15. How was that group's lack of attendance a means of providing for the Benjamites? See 21:12-15.

16. Israel came up with another plan for providing wives for the Benjamites in 21:19-24. What was this new plan?

17. Explain the line of reasoning the Benjamites were to use if any fathers or brothers objected to the girls being taken (21:21-22).

18. The Bible Knowledge Commentary states, “Though Israel suffered under the oppression of many enemies, God’s grace was repeatedly evident when the people turned to Him in repentance. The Book of Judges illustrates both God’s justice and His grace—justice in punishing sin and grace in forgiving sin.” How has the book of Judges enhanced your understanding of God’s justice and His grace?

19. Write down a few words or phrases that you would use to describe the book of Judges. What chapter, event, or judge was the most significant to you? Why?

Warren Wiersbe wrote this at the conclusion of his commentary for the book of Judges: “For the fourth time (17:6; 18:1; 19:1), the writer tells us that “there was no king in Israel”; and for the second time (17:6), he adds that “every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” Today, there is no king in Israel because the nation chose Barabbas instead of Jesus (Luke 23:13–25). They said, “We will not have this man to reign over us” (Luke 19:14). Because there’s no king in Israel, people are rebelling against God and doing whatever pleases them; and it will be that way until the King returns and takes His throne on earth.”

“But God’s people today don’t live in the Book of Judges; they live in the Book of Ruth! It’s difficult to believe that the story narrated in the Book of Ruth takes place in the time of the Judges (Ruth 1:1). The story of Ruth is a love story about a man seeking a bride. It’s a redemption story, about a wealthy man willingly paying the price to purchase his beloved bride and make her his very own. It’s a harvest story about the Lord of the harvest bringing in the sheaves.”

“Through faith in Jesus Christ, all of God’s people today share in His love. We belong wholly to Him because He redeemed us by His blood when He died for us on the cross. We are laborers together in the harvest. What a wonderful life we have in a world torn apart by sin and selfishness! And what a wonderful privilege we have to share the Good News with others!”

In which book are you living—the Book of Judges or the Book of Ruth?

“The tragic comment of the inspired historian who wrote the book of Judges notes that a nation unified under Moses, and miraculously victorious under Joshua, had now fallen into sin, defeat, and disunity. Thus, the book of Judges gives us a picture of the tragic results of sinful compromise with an ungodly world. Fortunately, the appendix of the book of Ruth indicates that God was still at work among His people, even during this dark hour. A ray of hope was about to dawn through which God’s man would come to rule His people (The KJV Bible Commentary).”