

JUDGES 21 vs 1

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The author of this book is uncertain, some suggest Samuel, the high priest. It was written around 1050-1000bc. The events in the book cover the stormy period of the history of Israel between their return from Egypt until the time a monarchy was set in place. The judges were military and civil leaders during the confederacy of the 12 tribes plus Ephraim and Manasseh who occupied the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The Book of Judges



The aftermath of the Benjamite war vs all Israel,

¹ Now the men of Israel pledged in Mizpah, saying, None of us will give his daughter to any of Benjamin to be a wife.

² So the people came to Bethel / the house of God, and stayed there till evening before God, and lifted up their voices, and wept bitterly;

³ and said, O LORD, God of Israel, why has this happen in Israel, that there should be one tribe missing today in Israel?

⁴ And it happened the next day, that the people arose early, and there built an altar, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

⁵ And the children of Israel said, Who is there among all the tribes of Israel who did not come up with the assembly to the LORD? For they had vowed a great oath concerning him who did not come up to the LORD at Mizpah, saying, He will surely be put to death.

⁶ And the children of Israel reconsidered because of Benjamin their brother, and said, One tribe from Israel is cut off from Israel today.

⁷ What will we do for wives for those who remain, seeing we pledged by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters to be their wives?

⁸ And they said, Who is there of the tribes of Israel who did not come up to Mizpah to the LORD? And, behold, no one had come to the camp from Jabesh-gilead to the assembly.

⁹ For when the people were numbered, behold, not one of those living in Jabesh-gilead was there.

¹⁰ And the congregation sent 12,000 valiant men, and instructed them, saying, Go and strike those living in Jabesh-gilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children.

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11 And this is the thing that you will do, You will utterly destroy every male, and every woman that has lain by man.

12 And they found among those living in Jabesh-gilead four hundred young virgins, who had not known a man by lying with him: and they brought them to the camp to Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan.

13 Then the whole congregation sent some to speak to the children of Benjamin who were at the rock Rimmon, and proclaimed peace to them.

14 And Benjamin returned again at that time; and they gave them women who they had kept alive of the women of Jabesh-gilead: and yet they were not enough for them.

15 And the people reconsidered for Benjamin, because the LORD allowed a breach in the tribes of Israel.

16 Then the elders of the congregation said, What will we do for wives for those who remain, since the women are destroyed out of Benjamin?

17 And they said, There must be an inheritance for the survivors of Benjamin, so that a tribe may not be eliminated from Israel.

18 But we cannot give them wives of our daughters: for the children of Israel have pledged, saying, Cursed is he who gives a wife to Benjamin.

19 So they said, Behold, there is a feast of the LORD yearly in Shiloh on the north side of Bethel, on the east side of the highway that goes up from Bethel to Shechem, and on the south side of Lebonah.

20 So they instructed the children of Benjamin, saying, Go and lie in wait in the vineyards;

21 and watch, and behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to participate in the dances, then you come from the vineyards, and each of you catch his wife of the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin.

22 And it will be, when their fathers or their brothers come to us to complain, that we will say to them, Give them to us voluntarily, because we did not take for each man of Benjamin a wife in the war: nor did you give to them, that you now should be guilty.

23 And the children of Benjamin did so, and took wives, according to their number, of those who danced, whom they caught and carried away. And they went and returned to their inheritance, and repaired the cities, and lived in them.

24 And the children of Israel departed from there at that time, every man to his tribe and family, and each one of them went out from there to his inheritance.

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²⁵ **In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did what was right in his own eyes.**

We are grateful to God that the Saudi govt has preserved the Mountain of Moses.

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The Laws Of Nature – CSLewisDoodle

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