



Judges

Part #9 –

Micah & the Levite

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Introduction

Key Scriptures

- And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name *was* Micah. – Judges 17:1
- And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred *shekels* of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver *is* with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed *be thou* of the LORD, my son. – Judges 17:2
- And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest. – Judges 17:5
- In those days *there was* no king in Israel, *but* every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes. – Judges 17:6



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten *shekels* of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in. – Judges 17:10
- And the Levite was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons. – Judges 17:11
- And Micah consecrated the Levite; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah. – Judges 17:12
- Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to *my* priest. – Judges 17:13



Keys

In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes. – Judges 17:6

- When there are shifting standards, anything will do to satisfy an unquenchable appetite



In this lesson

Monkey business

- No credibility
- No godly standards
- No godly guidance or counsel



No Credibility

And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest. – Judges 17:5

For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. – Acts 17:23

- In search of the missing part or link
- Add one more god to the pile of other gods!
- I make my own rules, and regulations
- “If it feels good, then it is probably the right thing to do”



No Credibility – Cont'd

To have respect of persons is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress. – Proverbs 28:21

Trustworthiness, reliability, integrity, authority, standing, sincerity, believability

- Wannabe
- Priest on fire sale!
- Manipulation
- Sold to the highest bidder for his daily bread
- Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction – Proverbs 29:18 NIV



No Godly Standards

What is a Standard?

Definition of Standard:

A repeatable, harmonized, agreed and documented way of doing something

Noun

- A level of quality of attainment
- An idea or thing used as a measure, norm, or model in comparative evaluations

Adjective

- Used or accepted as normal or average



No Godly Standards – Cont'd

How do standards differ from say goals?

Definition of goal:

Noun

- The object of a person's ambition
- An Aim or desired result
- The end towards which effort is directed
- Something that you hope to achieve



No godly guidance or counsel

When they were by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man the Levite: and they turned in thither, and said unto him, Who brought thee hither? and what makest thou in this place? and what hast thou here? . – Judges 18:3

- We recognize you
- We didn't expect to find you in this estate
- We ask questions because - we wonder about you and how far you have gone?
- The young man said "I am a hired personal priest"



No godly guidance or counsel – Cont'd

And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous – Judges 18:5

And the priest said unto them, Go in peace: before the LORD is your way wherein ye go. – Judges 18:6

- Go ahead!
- Knockoff taken by force - Priestly tools, ephods and garments made by Micah productions – Judges 18:14,17
- Loss of respect for the office or the lack thereof
- Sold to the highest bidder – Judges 18:19, 20; John 10:12,13
- There wasn't a difference in the gods in the mind of Micah – he just needed access to power!



No godly guidance or counsel – Cont'd

And he said, Ye have taken away my gods which I made, and the priest, and ye are gone away: and what have I more? and what is this that ye say unto me, What aileth thee? – Judges 18:24

And they took the things which Micah had made, and the priest which he had, and came unto Laish, unto a people that were at quiet and secure: and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and burnt the city with fire. – Judges 18:27

- Have ye not cast out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made you priests after the manner of the nations of *other* lands? so that whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young bullock and seven rams, *the same* may be a priest of *them that are* no gods. - 2 Chronicles 13:9
- Hath a nation changed *their* gods, which *are* yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for *that which* doth not profit. - Jeremiah 2:11 Also see Jeremiah 5:7



Isolated without protection

Then the five men departed, and came to Laish, and saw the people that were therein, how they dwelt careless, after the manner of the Zidonians, quiet and secure; and there was no magistrate in the land, that might put them to shame in any thing; and they were far from the Zidonians, and had no business with any man. – Judges 18:7

And there was no deliverer, because it was far from Zidon, and they had no business with any man; and it was in the valley that lieth by Bethrehob. And they built a city, and dwelt therein. – Judges 18:28

- Dangers of isolating yourself
- Far removed and unprotected



Summary

Where there is no revelation or vision, people make up the rules to satisfy their appetite



Next Week

We will continue next week, still in the book of Judges