



Sowing the Word



Judges 1 **October 6th-13th, 2011**

So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped *them* to understand the reading.

(Nehemiah 8:8)

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Helpful Study Resource:
Explore the Book by J. Sidlow Baxter

Online Help:
http://preceptaustin.org/judges_commentaries.htm

Commentary:
**The commentary used with permission throughout
this booklet is:**
**With the Word Bible Commentary
by Warren W. Wiersbe.
ISBN 0-8407-9108-9**

Outline

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Micah's Religious Establishment (Chap. 17)

Micah and the Danites (Chap. 18)

The Levite and His Conqubine (Chap. 19)

The War and Benjamin (Chaps. 20,21)

-MacDonald, William, Believer's Bible Commentary, "Judges

With the Word Bible Commentary

The Book of Judges

Judges is the book of “no king” (17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25). God was their King, but the nation refused to obey Him. Their disobedience led to defeat (chaps. 1–2), discipline (chaps. 3–16) and decay (chaps. 17–21). Eight times we are told that the people “did evil” in God’s sight and therefore had to be chastened. When God disciplined them, they cried out for mercy and were delivered, but then they lapsed back into their evil ways and had to be disciplined again.

In the book of Joshua, God was with the whole nation as they conquered the land. But in Judges, God turned from the nation and gave victory to individuals He called and empowered by His Spirit (3:10; 6:34; 11:29; etc.). Thirteen different judges are named in the book. Judges 2:16–19 is the best summary of Israel’s history at this period—and a sad history it is.

We are living in a similar period today. God’s people in general do not appear to be marching from victory to victory; but here and there, God enables selected servants, by the power of His Spirit, to accomplish great things for His glory. There will be no peace until there is a King in Israel.

Judges 1

After the death of Joshua and the move of the two and a half tribes to the east of the Jordan, the nation did not function as one great army. Individual tribes fought to claim their inheritance, and often the tribes worked together; but something was definitely lost in the transition. God’s people must endeavor “to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Eph. 4:3).

What began with conquest (vv. 1–26) soon became compromise (vv. 27–36) as the defeated tribes gave in to the enemy. If we do not defeat the enemy completely, the enemy will eventually defeat us. Israel learned their ways and worshiped their gods, and the Lord had to chasten His people to bring them back. They forgot the warnings of Moses (Deut. 7) and Joshua (Josh. 23).

It has well been said, “The one thing we learn from history is that we do not learn from history.” Read 2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1 and take it to heart.

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (Jdg 1:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

"The Canaanites would dwell in that land."

Judges 1:27

Written By: *F B Meyer*

Taken From: *Our Daily Homily*

How persistent evil habits are! They have dwelt in our lives so long that they dislike being dislodged. Why should they quit their dwelling-place and go out into the void? Sometimes, at the beginning of our Christian life, we make a feeble effort against them, and hope to cast them out; but they stubbornly resist. Whenever a remonstrance is addressed to us, we are apt to reply, "Do not find fault; we couldn't help it. These Canaanites are self-willed and persistent, they would dwell in the land."

But the one point that Israel should have borne in mind was that they had no right there. The land was not theirs, it had become Israel's. And, moreover, God was prepared to drive them out; so that his people would have no fighting to do, but only to chase a flying foe. One man was to chase a thousand (Joshua 23:10).

So these evil habits have no right to persist in the believers life. The whole soil of his heart has been made over to the Son of God, and there should be no part left to weeds. "Sin shall not have dominion over you," said the Apostle. Nor is this all. The Holy Spirit is prepared to lust against the flesh, that we may not fulfil it in the lusts thereof, or do the things we otherwise would. The hasty temper may be natural to you: but seeing that your position is Christ is supernatural, this Canaanite must be conquered. There is a complete deliverance possible to all who will open their hearts to the might of the Spirit of God. Talk no more of these Canaanites who would stay in the land; but say of the blessed Spirit, "He is well able to drive them out."