



“Israel Kills Their Own”

Judges 20-21

- I. Israel assembles the greatest number of warriors in the history of the judges, but sadly, this gathering attacks their own tribal brothers, _____ (20:1-2).
 - a. The Levite gives a recap of the events to the assembled _____ (20:3-7).
 - b. Diplomacy fails and both sides are resolute in their determination to _____ (20:8-17).

- II. Israel seeks God’s counsel and God approves of the attack, but the first two battles do not have the _____ of God’s blessing (20:18).
 - a. Israel loses 40,000 soldiers in two battles having _____ of God prior to each and receiving approval for their fight (20:19-28).
 - b. In case we begin to wonder whether God is involved at all in these battles, the Scriptures tell us that it is _____ Who defeats Gibeah and Benjamin (20:29-48).

- III. After a complete slaughter of every Benjaminite, except 600 soldiers who fled into the desert and hid for four months, Israel _____ over the loss of a tribe (21:1-3).
 - a. Israel devotes one unfaithful camp, Jabesh-Gilead, to _____ (likely of the tribe of Gad) and spares 400 virgins of the 600 virgins needed for Benjamin (21:4-15).
 - b. Israel secures the final 200 virgins from a gathering in Shiloh by _____ them (21:16-24).
 - c. If you are confused at the wisdom of devoting the tribe of Benjamin to destruction, only to then spare Benjamin from utter destruction by sparing 600, destroying the camp of Jabesh-Gilead to secure 400 virgins and stealing another 200 virgins from a festival, the author shares your angst in 21:25, “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his _____ eyes.”