

SMORGASBORD SPIRITUALITY

Judges 17-18

The smorgasbord is a fitting symbol of our _____ ; this consumer mentality even affects our _____

To understand the off-beat story of smorgasbord spirituality in Judges 17-18, we must understand 2 points:

1) The author never mentions _____ and He does not speak: God has nothing to do with these events

2) Although the author seems like a reporter, under the veneer of objectivity is an undercurrent of _____

The theme of the book of Judges is spiritual _____ and Judges 17-18 is a supreme example of such failure

17:1-4: Micah's mother worshipped Yahweh, but by commissioning _____, she broke the 2nd commandment

17:5: Micah consecrated his own _____ breaking the Law that only descendants of Aaron could serve as priest

17:6: The author believed that the only antidote to this kind of smorgasbord spirituality is the right kind of _____

Today, God gives this authority to the _____: its leaders must ensure that we bow to ALL that God has said

These Israelites believed what they were doing was _____, much like the post-modernists in our culture

17:7-10: The Levite found a cushy job stocking the spiritual smorgasbord: the NT links false teachers to _____

17:11-13: Those who use pick and choose from the spiritual smorgasbord assume that God _____ them

18:1: The Danites were seeking an _____ because they had disobeyed God and failed to drive the Canaanites from the inheritance God had given them and they were squeezed into 2 cities, Zorah and Eshtaol

18:2-6: When the Danites discovered the Levite priest they inquired of God and got the _____ they looked for

People use the spiritual smorgasbord because it gives them _____ to big questions that they want to hear

18:7-10: In Numbers 13-14, when the 12 spies brought back a _____ report and discouraged the people from obeying God; ironically these 5 spies sounded like men of faith & encouraged the Danites "to possess the land"

18:11-20: The homemade religion that started with one man, Micah, now infected the entire _____ of Dan

Some Bible scholars believe that these Danites later influenced _____ when he split the northern

10 tribes of Israel from Judah; his perverted religion eventually ended with God taking Israel into _____

People often reap the consequences of smorgasbord spirituality only in the _____: influence & eternity

18:21-24: The reality of the situation is finally voiced by Micah himself: what kind of God can be _____ or stolen

If we can pick and choose the kind of God we want, then we have _____ God at all; such a God bows to us and our desires rather than our desires bowing to Him and to His _____

18:25-31: The Danites end up with a god who can be made, a priest who can be bought and a city that was not defended; v.30 indicates that this was the legacy of this tribe until the day of the _____ of the land

This chapter is an illustration of Ps.115:4-8: we become like the _____ we make; the Danites took to them a god who had no power & they ended up a tribe with no _____ to conquer anything but an undefended city