

ANARCHY IN ISRAEL

Judges 21:25

I. The death of godly leadership fuels the defection of God's people.

II. The defection of God's people fuels the desire for godly leadership.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. How does our culture think about authority? Is authority itself bad?
2. Who is the source of all authority, and how does He delegate His authority in the spheres of the home, the church, and the state?
3. How does the two-part prologue of Judges (1:1-3:6) mirror the two-part epilogue of Judges (17:1-21:25)? Why does this matter?
4. What are the two accounts focused on in the epilogue? And what is the constant refrain that explains the reason for these accounts (17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25)?
5. Will any king do to deliver Israel from their apostasy, or only a certain kind of king?
6. Did David and Solomon bring to pass the great desire for a king who would restore the fortunes of Israel? If not, who does?
7. Though Jesus is presently in heaven, how does He manifest His rule over His people on the earth? Why should we be grateful for the leaders He raises up in the church?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Do I have a negative view of authority? Why, or why not? How does understanding that all authority is ultimately derived from God inform my thinking here?
2. How is apostate Israel a picture of my own heart? What does the fourfold refrain in the epilogue of Judges teach me about my need for Christ and His undershepherds?
3. Read Deuteronomy 17:14-20. How is the Deuteronomic ideal for a king realized in Jesus Christ?