

Sermon: **Peak Canadian Decadence & the Wrath of God (Judges 19)**

Date: **June 10, 2018**

We are taking a break from our series in the Beatitudes this week to study Judges 19. Over the course of the book of Judges, the people of God drift further and further away from the LORD. There is a cycle of sin that repeats itself with greater intensity throughout the book. (1) Israel serves the LORD. (2) They fall into sin and idolatry. (3) They become enslaved to one of their enemies. (4) They cry out to the LORD for help. (5) God raises up a Judge to deliver them. (6) They are delivered and begin to serve the LORD again until the cycle repeats itself. In Judges 19, we see the devastation of sin on full display in a city called Gibeah. We see a people that have completely abandoned the fear of the LORD. They no longer acknowledge the reign of God. They no longer obey his law. They have completely rejected him. Gibeah was full of sexual immorality, homosexuality, and rebellion. The story culminates when a man's concubine is defiled and left for dead and in response to this wicked act, he chops her up into 12 pieces and sends them to the 12 tribes of Israel in order to rally them against Gibeah. As a result, the nation descends into civil war. As we study Judges 19, we will see some parallels between the nation of Israel in that day and our nation of Canada here in the 21st century. We will be encouraged to repent of sin, flee from it, and find refuge in Jesus Christ, the only hope for our broken nation.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Judges 19 and ensure that you've listened to Sunday's sermon.
 - a. Briefly summarize the context of this passage. What is going on in the book of Judges?
 - b. Read verses 1-9 and summarize the events that take place.
 - c. What is the city of Jerusalem (Jebus) like during this time (v. 10-12)?
 - d. Why does the Levite and his concubine want to go to Gibeah (v. 13-14)?
 - e. How were they received in Gibeah? What does this tell us about the state of Israel?
 - f. What else was wrong with Gibeah (see v. 22-24)? What similarities are there with this situation in Gibeah and the story of Sodom (Genesis 19:4-9) in this text?

- g. Summarize what happens next in verses 25-30.

- h. What would you say to someone that says “Well this story is just an example of judgement in the OT, it doesn’t apply to nations right now”?

- i. Do you believe that Canada might now be under the judgment of God? Why or why not?

- j. What is the solution to the state that Canada finds itself in? What is Canada’s only hope?

- k. Towards the end of his sermon, Pastor Jacob brought up the book of Ruth. What does this book have to do with the book of Judges? How does it give us hope?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?

2. What was the state of Israel in Judges 19? What sins were they guilty of? How did things get this bad in Israel?

3. What is the moral state of our country today? What are some evidences that Canada might be under the judgment of God?

4. What are some lessons that we learn from the story of Judges 19 and what application can we make to our situation today?

5. As Christians what is our hope in the midst of the civilization and culture in which we find ourselves? How can we practically point others to this hope?