SERIES: Judges **People Without a King**

Judges 19-21

Judges 19: The Shocking Nature of Sin

- A Shocking Marriage: Compromise Paves the Way for Moral Decay (19:1-9)
- Shocking Lack of Hospitality: Common Courtesy Disappears as Society Declines (19:10-21)
- Shocking Sexual Immorality: Unrestrained Sin Leads to Spiritual Callousness (19:22-26)
- A Shocking Letter of Dismemberment: Graphic Signs to Grab the Attention of a Numb Culture (19:27-30)

Judges 20: The Painful Process of Purging Evil

- Sin is never **private**.
- Sin will bring about God's judgment.
- Sin must be dealt with, not **defended**.
- Sin causes us to fight with each other.
 - The failure to conquer Canaan and walk with God has led to civil war.
 - They are not fighting God's enemies; they are fighting God's **people**.
- Sin distorts justice.
 - This is not justice. It is genocide.
 - o Bitterness leads to vindictiveness.
 - The only way to avoid bitterness is to practice <u>forgiveness</u>.

Judges 21: Messy Situations... Messy Solutions

- Israel tries to solve their problems, but they keep creating bigger problems.
- Even though we are the problem, we cannot be our own **solution**.
- We need a righteous king to rule us and a merciful king to rescue us.
 - We need a deliverer who can come without being called for, since human beings are not really seeking God (Rom. 3:11).
 - He will have to do it all himself, since we will not be able to contribute anything to our salvation.
 - He will save us through weakness, a victorious defeat-through his death, not just his life.
 - We need a king who can "purge" us of evil in our hearts, not just in our society.

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