

GOD PLUS WHAT? A BIBLICAL RESPONSE TO A CONFUSED WORLD!

Judges 17-18

I. THE BREAKDOWN OF THE HOME 17:1-6

- A. The Superstitious Mother v.2
- B. The Spoiled Child v. 3
- C. The Sin Filled Family vv.4-6

“Everyone did what was right in his own eyes” Which is distinct from “doing what is right in the eye of the Lord” (Ex.15:26; Deut.6:18; 12:25,28; 13:19; 21:9, Jer. 34:15) The people did not need a king to lead them in sin as they did it by themselves!

II. THE BREAKDOWN OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY 17:7-13

- A. The Failure to Support the Priesthood vv. 7-8
- B. The Failure to Sustain His Calling vv. 9-10
- C. The Failure to Serve in the House of the Lord vv.11-13

The people would not support the priesthood and the priests began to support themselves. It happened several times in the history of Israel and each time the religious community suffered as the worship of the Lord was diluted as priests attended to personal and family matters instead of the Lord’s work and word! Without godly leadership the religious purity and activity became haphazard and sloppy. No accountability leads to improper worship!

III. THE BREAKDOWN OF CULTURE 18:1-31

- A. The Laziness of the Tribe of Dan v.1
- B. The Lust of the Tribe of Dan vv. 2-10
- C. The Lawlessness of the Tribe of Dan vv. 11-31

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

- Breakdown of a nation occurs in phases:
 - 1st the Family
 - 2nd the Church
 - 3rd the Community
 - Lastly the Culture
- Superstition and True Religion cannot coexist
- When Culture breaks down there will be Confusion, Covetousness, Ungodly Counsel and Chaos (Violence and Murder)

APPLICATION:

- Personal Revival is the beginning point to a return to godly culture

- Personal holiness develops family holiness (Devotions and prayer time essential)
 - Family altars are necessary for children to experience intimate worship
- The mixture of personal opinion with the true Gospel weakens its message!
 - An unbiblical principle will weaken the Gospel message.
 - An unbiblical lifestyle will alter the Gospel message
- Evil produces more evil, even with a veil of religion. Only men and women filled with the Holy Spirit can overcome evil with good.