Crown <u>ME</u> King! Judges 9

CENTRAL IDEA:

Truth & Integrity are essential for Righteous Living!

- I. Abimelech's Plot for Power vv.1-6
 - A. Abimelech's Plot to Rule vv. 1-3
 - B. Abimelech's Path of Destruction vv.4-6
- II. Jotham's Parable and Prophecy vv.7-21
 - A. Parable of the Bramble vv.7-15
 - **B.** The Prophecy of Abimelech's reign vv.16-21
- III. The God's Plan Fulfilled vv. 22-57
 - A. Abimelech's difficulties vv. 22-41
 - **B.** Abimelech's depravity vv. 42–49
 - C. Abimelech's death vv. 50–57

APPLICATION:

Like the people of Israel, without truth and integrity, a government and culture can easily fall into civil disobedience and rebellion.

Beware of the Cultural Slippery Slope:

- A. Moral Decline
- **B.** Educational Breakdown
- C. Prejudicial Legal Rulings
- D. Privileged Positions of Other Religions
- E. Breakdown of Law and Order

The proud agenda of our elite and educated leadership will result in the humiliation of our nation!

The Church's Response:

We must exalt the Cross! (1 Corinthians 1:18-31)

TAKEAWAYS:

- A. God permits both the wicked and righteous to rule (Daniel 4:17)
- B. God uses events in history to show that He is in control even though man thinks he is in control
- C. Truth always triumphs in the end, even if falseness initially finds success