

# THE DIVINE TAPESTRY

## Part 21

### “What Are You Doing Here?”

Judges 17

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In farming or horticulture two axioms are of great importance.

1) You must pay attention to the root.

Plants, shrubs, and trees are very susceptible in this area. Neglect the roots and the tree cannot drink water, gather nutrients or stabilize itself. When roots are healthy it is evident, when they are not death is near. Even weed killers target the root.

2) You never reap in the same season that you sow.

In farming it is months away. With fruit trees it is 3-5 years. With some bamboo it is 5+ years... but the harvest will come. The question that matters most is, “What did you plant?”

As we wrap up the Book of Judges we see what happens spiritually when men don't take care of the root (the truth of the Word of God) and doubt the harvest. They reap what they have sown.

## JUDGES TO REMEMBER

- Gideon: \*Hailed as a **mighty warrior** while hiding.

\*Said he would not be **king**...named son **Abimelech**.

Key – God does not need numbers.

- Jephthah = Bold Warrior

\*Did not allow advancement to **inflate** him or adversity to **inhibit** him.

\*Made a poor **oath** and sacrificed his **daughter**.

Key – God does not need men of “lineage” or good breeding.

- Samson: \***Supernatural** birth.

\*Reckless in **life** and **faith**.

Key – God does not need strength, but spiritual sight.

\*All **three** are in the Hall of **Faith** (Hebrews 11)

# SLOUCHING TOWARD GOMORRAH

In spite of having giants for leaders – Israel still spiraled downward. Chapters 17-18 tell us why, chapters 19-21 tell us how bad.

## SOME OBSERVATIONS

These chapters show us a nation that had:

- 1) A **compromised** view of God.
- 2) A **corrupt** view of worship.
- 3) Compromised **clergy**.
- 4) **Market driven** ministry.
- 5) Mistook success for **divine approval**.
- 6) Respected **force**, not faith.

## Shocking revelation

- The weak priest used as an example – **Moses' grandson**.
- The consequences of this **spiritual adultery** would remain until the **captivity** of the land.

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