



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, August 1, 2021 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

“A Crazy Story of a Wrong Oath”

Judges 10-11

1. The pain of half-hearted repentance
(Judges 10)
2. The problem of being born into a bad family
(Judges 11:1-11)
3. The past is one huge debate.
(Judges 11:12-28)

4. The poor decision that comes from the worship of success (Judges 11:29-40)

Table Talk

- 1) What did Israel do? (10:6) What did God do? (10:7-9) How would you characterize the conversation between the Lord and Israel in Judges 10:10-16? Have you ever prayed a prayer like Judges 10:15? Is that a good or a bad prayer?
- 2) What are the problems in Jephthah's family? (11:1-3) How does Jephthah handle being in a bad family? How might being from such a family affect Jephthah's decision making? Does Jephthah show any bitterness at how he has been treated? (11:6-9) What circumstances bring Jephthah to leadership in Israel? (11:9-11) What problems do you experience because of the family that you have? How might the errors of Jephthah be avoided?
- 3) What is the debate between Jephthah and the king of the Ammonites? (11:12-28) In what ways is this debate over "whose land is it?" still going on? How does the king of the Ammonites respond to Jephthah's historical evidence? (11:28) In what ways do we see the problem of not listening happening in today's world? Why is it hard to listen to another side when we are convinced of our position?
- 4) Why does Jephthah make his vow? (11:30) What "god" is he worshipping? How might his family of origin have distorted his judgment? Have you ever worshiped the "god" of success? Why is that so dangerous?
- 5) What do you think happened? Did Jephthah sacrifice his daughter, or was she never able to marry? (11:34-40) Either way, does God offer any opinion at all in this chapter regarding the rightness of Jephthah's vow? Why not? In what ways are vows to the Lord good, and in what ways are they bad?