

The RISE of Jephthah – The Negotiating Judge - Judges 10:6-11:29

<p>Judges 10:6 ⁶ Then the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the LORD and did not serve Him.</p>	<p>1. The _____ of Israel</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Israel did THE evil in the sight of the Lord Served Baals and Ashoreth Served gods of many nations They forsook the Lord Notice their scope of idolatry has increased
<p>⁷ So the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and into the hands of the people of Ammon. ⁸ From that year they harassed and oppressed the children of Israel for eighteen years -- all the children of Israel who <i>were</i> on the other side of the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, in Gilead. ⁹ Moreover the people of Ammon crossed over the Jordan to fight against Judah also, against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was severely distressed.</p>	<p>2. The _____ of Israel</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God's punishment: He sold them into the hands... Israel's oppressors: The Philistines and the Ammonites The length of the oppression: 18 years The place of the oppression: both sides of the Jordan – the Israelites in the land of the Ammorites (Reuben, Gad, half Manasseh); Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim.
<p>¹⁰ And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, saying, "We have sinned against You, because we have both forsaken our God and served the Baals!"</p>	<p>3. Israel _____ to God</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cry out to the Lord A confession <ol style="list-style-type: none"> We have forsaken our God We have served the Baals
<p>¹¹ So the LORD said to the children of Israel, "<i>Did I not deliver you</i> from the Egyptians and from the Amorites and from the people of Ammon and from the Philistines? ¹² "Also the Sidonians and Amalekites and Maonites oppressed you; and you cried out to Me, and I delivered you from their hand. ¹³ "Yet you have forsaken Me and served other gods. Therefore I will deliver you no more. ¹⁴ "Go and cry out to the gods which you have chosen; let them deliver you in your time of distress."</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> God answers Israel's confession <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God's past deliverance Israel's failed responses God's immediate response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "I will not deliver you" Let the gods you worship deliver you
<p>¹⁵ And the children of Israel said to the LORD, "We have sinned! Do to us whatever seems best to You; only deliver us this day, we pray." ¹⁶ So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the LORD. And His soul could no longer endure the misery of Israel.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Israel's second confession <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Another admission of sin A plea for deliverance A change of actions God's responds to Israel's Second Confession
<p>¹⁷ Then the people of Ammon gathered together and encamped in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled together and encamped in Mizpah. ¹⁸ And the people, the leaders of Gilead, said to one another, "Who <i>is</i> the man who will begin the fight against the people of Ammon? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead."</p>	<p>4. God Raises Up a _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gilead and Mizpah Israel is without a leader <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They asked for a man They did not ask God for a deliverer They offered to make him the head...
<p>Judges 11:1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor, but he <i>was</i> the son of a harlot; and Gilead begot Jephthah. ² Gilead's wife bore sons; and when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out, and said to him, "You shall have no inheritance in our father's house, for you <i>are</i> the son of another woman." ³ Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and dwelt in the land of Tob; and worthless men banded together with Jephthah and went out <i>raiding</i> with him.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Israel seeks a warrior leader. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jephthah ("He opens") A Giliadite Son of a harlot Driven out from the family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tob – (lit. "good")between Ammon and Syria No inheritance – Jephthah had the full rights of an inheritance Leader of "worthless" men <ul style="list-style-type: none"> פֶּתַח - req - empty, vain Their vocation – raiding?

<p>⁴ It came to pass after a time that the people of Ammon made war against Israel. ⁵ And so it was, when the people of Ammon made war against Israel, that the elders of Gilead went to get Jephthah from the land of Tob. ⁶ Then they said to Jephthah, "Come and be our commander, that we may fight against the people of Ammon."</p>	<p>5. Jephthah _____ with the Elders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The people seek out Jephthah <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The people of Ammon made war against Israel ii. The elders of Gilead sought out Jephthah <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o He probably was an accomplished warrior
<p>⁷ So Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "Did you not hate me, and expel me from my father's house? Why have you come to me now when you are in distress?"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Jephthah rebukes the elders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. They drove him out ii. Now, the want his help iii. A very well crafted -sarcastic response.
<p>⁸ And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "That is why we have turned again to you now, that you may go with us and fight against the people of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead." ⁹ So Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "If you take me back home to fight against the people of Ammon, and the LORD delivers them to me, shall I be your head?" ¹⁰ And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "The LORD will be a witness between us, if we do not do according to your words."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. The elders offer a position <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If he fight with them, they will make him the head of the people of Gilead ii. Jephthah asks for confirmation – again well crafted and perhaps sacrastic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o If they take him back o If the LORD delivers the enemy to him o Jephthah seems to been motivated by seeking the best for himself. iii. The leaders swear by the Lord
<p>¹¹ Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and commander over them; and Jephthah spoke all his words before the LORD in Mizpah.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jephthah agrees to lead the people
<p>¹² Now Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon, saying, "What do you have against me, that you have come to fight against me in my land?"</p>	<p>6. Jephthah _____ with Ammon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jephthah seeks a peaceful solution
<p>¹³ And the king of the people of Ammon answered the messengers of Jephthah, "Because Israel took away my land when they came up out of Egypt, from the Arnon as far as the Jabbok, and to the Jordan. Now therefore, restore those <i>lands</i> peaceably."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. The King of Ammon Accuses Israel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Israel took their land ii. Israel needed to give the land back
<p>¹⁴ So Jephthah again sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon, ¹⁵ and said to him, "Thus says Jephthah: 'Israel did not take away the land of Moab, nor the land of the people of Ammon; ¹⁶ 'for when Israel came up from Egypt, they walked through the wilderness as far as the Red Sea and came to Kadesh. ¹⁷ 'Then Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, "Please let me pass through your land." But the king of Edom would not heed. And in like manner they sent to the king of Moab, but he would not <i>consent</i>. So Israel remained in Kadesh. ¹⁸ 'And they went along through the wilderness and bypassed the land of Edom and the land of Moab, came to the east side of the land of Moab, and encamped on the other side of the Arnon. But they did not enter the border of Moab, for the Arnon was the border of Moab. ¹⁹ 'Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, king of Heshbon; and Israel said to him, "Please let us pass through your land into our place." ²⁰ 'But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together, encamped in Jahaz, and fought against Israel. ²¹ 'And the LORD God of Israel delivered Sihon and all</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Jephthah Corrects the King's Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Israel asked the kings to pass through their land ii. The kings refused them. iii. God gave Israel the land of the Amalakites <p>Numbers 21:21-25 ²¹ Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying, ²² "Let me pass through your land. We will not turn aside into fields or vineyards; we will not drink water from wells. We will go by the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory." ²³ But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel in the wilderness, and he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel. ²⁴ Then Israel defeated him with the edge of the sword, and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the people of Ammon; for the border of the people of Ammon was fortified. ²⁵ So Israel took all these cities, and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and in all its villages.</p>

<p>his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them. Thus Israel gained possession of all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country. ²² 'They took possession of all the territory of the Amorites, from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan.</p>	
<p>²³ 'And now the LORD God of Israel has dispossessed the Amorites from before His people Israel; should you then possess it? ²⁴ 'Will you not possess whatever Chemosh your god gives you to possess? So whatever the LORD our God takes possession of before us, we will possess. ²⁵ 'And now, <i>are</i> you any better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever strive against Israel? Did he ever fight against them? ²⁶ 'While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and its villages, in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities along the banks of the Arnon, for three hundred years, why did you not recover <i>them</i> within that time? ²⁷ 'Therefore I have not sinned against you, but you wronged me by fighting against me. May the LORD, the Judge, render judgment this day between the children of Israel and the people of Ammon.' ²⁸ However, the king of the people of Ammon did not heed the words which Jephthah sent him.</p>	<p>d. Jephthah Accuses Ammon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The LORD God gave Israel the Land ii. Their god has “given” them the land they possess iii. Jephthah states Balak was not able to take the land (Numbers 22-24) iv. In three hundred years they did not press a claim of ownership v. Jephthah puts the issue into God's hands to decide vi. The king of Ammon did not listen.
<p>²⁹ Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced <i>toward</i> the people of Ammon.</p>	<p>e. God's Deliverance</p>

Takeaways:

1. **SIN → SLAVERY → SAVIOR – This is _____**
2. **God may decide to quit _____. God is under no _____ to help us if we continue in sin.**
3. **God may choose to _____. God may respond when we _____ and put away other gods.**
4. **We should not _____ people based on their birth, skin or economic status.**