

“A Living Sacrifice?”
Judges 10:17-11:40
February 23, 2020

I. Jephthah Assessed...Positively?

- A. He is in the Lord’s position during his exchange with the elders of Gilead.
- B. He shows excellent Biblical knowledge in his communication with the King of Ammon.
- C. He was filled with the Holy Spirit and won a great victory.
- D. But didn’t he sacrifice his only daughter!?
 - 1. The grammar of his vow could be interpreted to mean he was going to dedicate someone as a permanent tabernacle servant (Ex. 38:8; 1 Sam. 2:22; 1 Sam. 1).
 - 2. The reaction of Jephthah’s daughter pushes in this direction.

II. Jephthah’s and His Daughter’s Ordeal Previews the Gospel

- A. God the Father gave His only Son (John 3:16).
- B. Jesus lived a life of total (sacrificial!) dedication.

Philippians 2:5–7 - ⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, being made in the likeness of men.

Philippians 2:8 - Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:9–11 - ⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- C. The Gospel calls believers to live the “sacrifice” of Jephthah’s daughter.

Romans 12:1 - Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service of worship.