

“Why?”
Judges 21:1-25
May 31, 2020

I. Judges 21 – A Litany of Stupidity and Atrocity

A. The stupidity:

1. Israel is surprised somehow by the lack of wives for the Benjamite survivors.
2. Their rash vow prevented them from giving their daughters in marriage to the survivors of Benjamin.
3. Even after “getting” 400 wives from Jabesh-Gilead, they still seem surprised that wasn’t enough for the 600 men of Benjamin.

B. The atrocity:

1. The slaughter of the men, women, and children of Jabesh-Gilead.
2. The kidnapping, forced-marriage, and rape of the 400 virgins from Jabesh-Gilead.
3. The kidnapping, forced-marriage, and rape of the 200 dancing girls.
4. The robbing of these Israelite fathers of their daughters.
5. Israel’s nerve to blame God for this whole mess (v. 3).

Proverbs 19:3 - A man’s own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord.

II. Why?

A. Why did these people act this way? (v. 25)

B. Why did the Lord continue to put up with them?

Psalm 78:70–72 - ⁷⁰ He also chose David His servant And took him from the sheepfolds; ⁷¹ From the care of the ewes with suckling lambs He brought him To shepherd Jacob His people, And Israel His inheritance. ⁷² So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, And guided them with his skillful hands.