

“The God Who Never Left”

Judges 9:1-57

February 2, 2020

I. The Bloody Crime of Abimelech and Shechem

- A. Entitled Abimelech enlists the help of the city of Shechem in the brutal murder of Gideon’s sons.
- B. With Gideon’s sons dead, the Shechemites crown Abimelech king.
- C. Soon conflict arises between Abimelech and Shechem.
 - 1. By the end, the citizens of Shechem are all dead.
 - 2. Abimelech is also killed in his thirst for vengeance upon Shechem.

II. Where was God in all this?

- A. It was God who brought the sins of Abimelech and Shechem on their own respective heads. (Judges 9:56-57)
- B. It was God who had sovereignly brought about the conflict between Abimelech and Shechem which lead to their judgment. (Judges 9:22-24)

III. Messages of Judges 9 for Today

- A. God is always accomplishing His will in this world, no matter how absent He may appear to be.
- B. God is already judging evil in this world, nationally and individually.
- C. Such awareness should produce the following in God’s people:
 - 1. A great sense of comfort that God’s will is always being done.
 - 2. A healthy fear of the Lord.
 - a. Though believers are free from eternal condemnation, God still disciplines His children.
 - b. We should ask for wisdom in trial.
 - c. We should remember that conflict can be a sign that we are already under the Lord’s discipline.