

Lessons from Judges 1-2

--5/8/2011, Sun Valley, tp

Intro

- A. Israel began their service to God as a nation in the Promised Land in **Judges 1-2**.
- B. Had to learn three very important lessons:
 - 1. Our days are full of labor and strife, tears and sorrow, as in **Psalm 90:10**
 - 2. Sinners are in the hand of an angry God.
 - 3. Our Lord is full of mercy.

I. Our days are full of labor and strife.

- A. Had to fight to take and hold their land from the wicked and perverse Canaanites and Perizzites
 - 1. Cut off the thumbs and great toes of their vanquished kings: barbaric and cruel.
 - 2. Characterized by abominations as described in **Deuteronomy 18:12**... all manner of sexual immorality, child sacrifice, witchcraft, divination, cult prostitution. **Deut 12:31; 18:10; 23:17-18**.
 - 3. The iniquity of the Amorite was full, **Genesis 15:16**
- B. Today we are living in the inheritance of Christ as kings and lords, priests and saints, **1 Peter 2:9**, but we must struggle here as pilgrims and strangers, **1 Peter 2:11-12**.
 - 1. We must fight the good fight. **2 Timothy 4:6-8**; armed as good soldiers, **Ephesians 6:14-20**
 - 2. We must weep, (**Psalm 6:6**) **Luke 6:21; John 16:20; Acts 20:19; 2 Timothy 1:4; Romans 12:15**; ... but God shall wipe away our tears, **Rev 7:17; 21:4**

II. Sinners are in the hands of an angry God.

- A. The Amorites whose sins were full experienced God's order of "cherem" or sacred execution, they were under the ban.
 - 1. **Deut 18:12** God is driving them out before you.
 - 2. **Deut 20:16** save alive nothing that breathes ... complete destruction, devoted to the Lord
 - 3. As God did to the people of Noah's flood, **Genesis 6:5-8**
 - 4. As God did to the people of Sodom, **Genesis 19**, with fire and brimstone
- B. The Israelites did not have the right to justify those that God had condemned.
- C. Likewise, we are as condemned as the "sinners" if we do the same or accept the sins without God's judgment.
 - 1. **Judges 2:14**
 - 2. **Romans 1:32** "who knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them."
 - 3. **Acts 2:22-24, 36**

III. The Lord is full of mercy.

- A. **Judges 2:16-18** the judges were saviors like Jesus
- B. **John 3:16**
- C. **Acts 3:19-20** "Seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord"