When There Is No King - Judges Pt 15

When there is no King (1st & last vs) shows a horrendous story the depth of human depravity w/out God Jdg 19:1 Now in those days Israel had no king.

Jdg 21:25 In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.

- The Levite's concubine, unfaithful **in marriage**, returns to her father's house (Judg 19:1).
 - The Levite retrieves her, on the way home they stay in **Gibeah**, a town in the tribe of Benjamin
- Men of the city surround the house, demanding homosexual acts with the Levite
 - To save himself, the Levite sends his concubine outside to the mob
- She is repeatedly raped all night long, and crawls up to the door and died on the threshhold
- The Levite cuts her body up into 12 pieces and sends a piece to each of the tribes seeking retribution
- Tribes unite to punish the town They won't turn over the guilty Civil war @ 40,000 are killed
- Tribe of Benjamin is nearly wiped out don't want to lose a tribe over this, so where do we get wives
- Attack Jabesh-Gilead, kill every man & woman who is not a virgin, 400 young women taken as wives
- That was not enough, so they kidnap more women from Shiloh during a festival and give those as well

The problem is universal - we might look at that and say how terrible, but the problem is universal

• Isa 53:6 (a) - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way;

ALL WE - gone astray "WE have turned EVERY ONE

• Ps 81:11–12 But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels.

OWN WAY I am king - Prov 14:12 There is a way that **seems right to a man**, but its end is the way to **death**. **LIKE SHEEP - in message of rebellion - is hidden a sheep/shepherd analogy - strong biblical metaphor**

 Ezek 34:15–16 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak.

The solution is surprising Isa 53:6 (b) and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

INIQUITY OF US ALL - our own way = INIQUITY (perversity, moral evil) Is laid on HIM (Jesus)

• Rev 1:5 - Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the <u>ruler of all the kings of the world.</u> All glory to him who **loves us** and has **freed us** from our sins by **shedding his blood for us**.

BOTTOM LINE

God is king - rejecting Him simply puts us into kingdom of darkness - He transfers us into His kingdom

- Ps 47:7 For God is the King over all the earth. Praise him with a psalm!
- Col 1:13 For he has **rescued us from the <u>kingdom of darkness</u>** and transferred us <u>into the Kingdom of his dear Son.</u>

Entering the Kingdom of God

- Matthew 4:17 ...Jesus began to preach, saying, **Repent**, for the **kingdom** of heaven is at **hand**.
- John 3:3-5...unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God...unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God

Why would we not turn to Him - the king who will judge me is the same one who died for me

• Isa 33:22 - For the Lord is our judge, our lawgiver, and our king. He will care for us and save us.

Is the kingdom and the rule of Christ in my life a priority? Matt 6:33 – But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Jesus taught us to pray by aligning ourselves under the kingdom of God \rightarrow His will on earth

• Mt 6:10 - Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.