

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

BIBLICAL TRUTH CONCERNING THE STATE OF ISRAEL

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PART 3: REBELLION IN THE PROMISED LAND

A FATAL MISTAKE

The leadership of Israel didn't understand their terrible mistake of compromise. God had told them kill every Canaanite and any other nationality in the Promised Land; no one was to be spared. **Deuteronomy 7:1-2**

God sent an angel to pronounce judgment on the children of Israel. **Judges 2:1-3**

The first generation of people realized that they had made a huge mistake and had to live with the consequences. **verses 4-6**

Their disobedience became a "spiritual cancer" that never left the physical descendants of Abraham and just one generation later the cancer manifested itself. **verses 7-13**

A SWIFT RESPONSE FROM GOD

God does not tolerate sin, especially not idolatry, and used other nations to punish the twelve tribes of Jacob. **verses 14-18**

GOD'S PERFECT WILL

It is devastating for a nation or an individual when they are removed from God's perfect will and forced to live in His permissive will. The Israelites were given a thorn in the flesh that is still with them today because they rebelled and refused to obey God's commandment. **verses 19-23**

They went in the opposite direction instead of repenting and crying out to God to forgive and restore them from their fallen status. **Judges 3:1-6**

It is now a little bit over 4,000 years since Abraham was called by God. The vast majority of his physical descendants lived in rebellion and died in their sins. They have created their own belief system instead of accepting the Messiah that God provided for them. From the time of the captivity in Babylon, the Jewish people knew more about the Talmud and the Cabala than the Old Testament. There are very few Israelites in heaven. Isaiah 10:20-23

THE TIME OF THE JUDGES

It was about 400 years from the time of Joshua until the beginning of the kings in Israel. The dark events during this time are written down in the book of Judges. It



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is clear that only a small percentage of the people were able to obtain salvation through faith in the coming Messiah. Most of them lived a life of rebellion and ended up in hell.

The rebellion continued for generation after generation and the Book of Judges is a record of man's depravity and the power of sin. This historical book shows the following cycle:

1. People falling away
2. Judgment from God
3. People crying unto the Lord
4. Mercy and deliverance from God

The cycle repeated itself as soon as that generation died.

- ❖ Othniel, the man of God. **Judges 3:7-11**
- ❖ Ehud, the man of God. **Judges 3:12**
- ❖ Deborah, the woman of God. **Judges 4:1-24**
- ❖ Gideon, the man of God. **Judges 6:1-40; 7:1-25**
- ❖ Jephthah, the man of God. **Judges 10:6-18; 11:1-33**
- ❖ Samson, the man of God. **Judges 14:1-19**

The Book of Judges closes with this verse, *"In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes."* **Judges 21:25**

The children of Israel lived in rebellion for some 400 years and God turned them over to ANARCHY!

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS?

Nations and individuals are cursed when they turn from God and will have to live a life of misery, sickness, war, oppression and an early death. Hell is waiting for the individual when they die.

If sinners turn to God and repent, He will forgive and start a restoration process. Turning to God and calling on the Messiah (Jesus) will give them eternal life.

Which road are you traveling on through life? **Matthew 7:21-27**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?