

## **The Incumbent – Lawgiver**

**October 24-25, 2020**

**Isaiah 33:22 (NIV)** – “For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us”.

**Judges 21:25 (NIV)** – “In those days, Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit”.

**Joshua 24:21-24 (NIV)** – But the people said to Joshua, “No! We will serve the Lord”. Then Joshua said, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the Lord”. “Yes, we are witnesses”, they replied. “Now then”, said Joshua, “throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel”. And the people said to Joshua, “We will serve the Lord our God and obey Him”.

**Judges 1:1-2 (NIV)** – After the death of Joshua, the Israelites asked the Lord, “Who of us is to go up first to fight against the Canaanites”? The Lord answered, “Judah shall go up; I have given the land into their hands”.

**Judges 1:19 (NIV)** – “The Lord was with the men of Judah. They took possession of the hill country, but they were unable to drive the people from the plains, because they had chariots fitted with iron”.

“Strange! Were the iron chariots too strong for Omnipotence?” – **Adam Clarke**

**Judges 1:19b (NLT)** - “But they failed to drive out the people living in the plains, who had iron chariots”.

**Psalms 20:7 (NIV)** – “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God”.

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**Judges 2:10-13 (NIV)** – “After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what He had done for Israel. Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals. They forsook the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the Lord’s anger because they forsook Him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths”.

**2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)** – “For we live by faith, not by sight”.

**Judges 1:27-29 (NIV)** – “But Manasseh did not drive out the people of Beth Shan or Taanach or Dor or Ibleam or Megiddo and their surrounding settlements, for the Canaanites were determined to live in that land. When Israel became strong, they pressed the Canaanites into forced labor but never drove them out completely. Nor did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites living in Gezer, but the Canaanites continued to live there among them”.

“An unconverted person is here who has been thinking of coming to Christ, but he says, ‘I cannot give up all my sins. One of them I must retain; all the rest I can leave, but that one is invincible, for it has chariots of iron. I cannot drive it out’. That sin must die, or you will perish by it. Depend upon it, that sin which you would save from slaughter will slaughter you” –

***Charles Spurgeon***

“You are not beaten until you admit it. Hence, don’t!” – ***General George S. Patton***

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**Judges 1:36-2:3 (NIV)** – “The boundary of the Amorites was from Scorpion Pass to Sela and beyond”. The angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bokim and said, “I brought you up out of Egypt and led you into the land I swore to give your ancestors. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you, and you shall not make a covenant with the people of this land, but you shall break down their altars’. Yet you have disobeyed me. Why have you done this? And I have also said, ‘I will not drive them out before you; they will become traps for you, and their gods will become snares to you’”.

**Judges 17 (NIV)** – Now a man named Micah from the hill country of Ephraim said to his mother, “The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from you and about which I heard you utter a curse—I have that silver with me; I took it.” Then his mother said, “The Lord bless you, my son!” When he returned the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, she said, “I solemnly consecrate my silver to the Lord for my son to make an image overlaid with silver. I will give it back to you.” So after he returned the silver to his mother, she took two hundred shekels<sup>[b]</sup> of silver and gave them to a silversmith, who used them to make the idol. And it was put in Micah’s house. Now this man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and some household gods and installed one of his sons as his priest. <sup>6</sup> In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit. A young Levite from Bethlehem in Judah, who had been living within the clan of Judah, <sup>8</sup> left that town in search of some other place to stay. On his way<sup>[c]</sup> he came to Micah’s house in the hill country of Ephraim. Micah asked him, “Where are you from?” “I’m a Levite from Bethlehem in Judah,” he said, “and I’m looking for a place to stay.” Then Micah said to him, “Live with me and be my father and priest, and I’ll give you ten shekels<sup>[d]</sup> of silver a year, your clothes and your food.” So the Levite agreed to live with him, and the young man became like one of his sons to him. Then Micah installed the Levite, and the young man became his priest and lived in his house. And Micah said, “Now I know that the Lord will be good to me, since this Levite has become my priest.”

**Judges 17:6 (NKJV)** - “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes”.

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**Christian Research Center at Arizona Christian University**

**January 2020 survey of 2,000 evangelical adults**

52% - no objective moral truth; the Bible isn't inerrant or trustworthy in all its content;

75% - people are basically good, not basically sinful;

43% - Jesus sinned during his time on earth;

58% - Holy Spirit is merely a symbol rather than a Person;

44% - Bible's teachings on abortion are ambiguous;

40% - human life is not sacred;

34% - marriage is not solely between one man and one woman;

43% - God doesn't have a unified purpose for all people