

Introduction: Israelites V's Benjaminites!!!!

In **chapter 20** we see that the people gathered at Mizpeh to hear the horrid story of the concubine from the Levite. The Israelites were alarmed at what had happened and demanded that Benjamin give up the wicked men that committed this dreadful act. However, he refused. Instead of humbling himself, acknowledging the dreadful guilt and bringing the guilty ones to judgment, the Benjaminites gathered themselves together to fight their own brethren i.e. the Israelites.

- 1.) How did the people of Israel respond to the levite? _____
- 2.) Complete the verse "...that they may repay all the _____ that they have done in _____. So, all the men of Israel were gathered against the city _____ together as _____ man"
- 3.) What exactly did the men of the tribe of Israel request from the tribe of Benjamin? _____
- 4.) How did the tribe of Benjamin respond to this request? _____
- 5.) How many men of the children of Benjamin draw their swords? _____
- 6.) what was unique about 700 of these men? _____
- 7.) How many men of Israel draw their swords? _____
- 8.) Complete the verse "Then the children of Israel arose and went up to the house of _____ to _____ of God"
- 9.) What exactly did they ask God? _____

The children of Israel ALWAYS sought GOD's counsel! They sought him first in every situation even when they were defeated. This is something very admirable!

So often, we forget about God and we go seek counsel from a close friend or relative. But that person does not have any power over this world. They too are human and are weak! Sometimes they have good intentions but can make matters worse. Other times, they have bad intentions and wish you harm. Ultimately, you don't know what people's intentions are! On the outside, they may appear to be friendly but who knows what lies deep in their hearts. This is where our ALL KNOWING GOD comes in.

You may be blind but God can see everything! He will turn what people meant for harm into good. He always turns tears into Joy. We've seen this over-and-over in the bible. A prime example is Joseph- his own brothers sold him as a slave and told his father that he had died. But God had a bigger plan. As you know Joseph later on becomes the Governor of Egypt and saves his family.

Most people have difficulty going to God first because they cannot physically see him so they feel as though no one is there. And because they don't hear God's voice literally. However, he will speak to you by some other means. When you have inner peace then you know it's God. For this world always snatches away this divine inner joy.



TASK: TRAIN YOURSELF TO GO TO GOD FIRST EVERY TIME YOU HAVE A PROBLEM. LAY EVERYTHING AT HIS FEET- ALL YOUR FEARS, FAILURES, MISTAKES! KNEEL BEFORE HIM IN HUMILITY AND POUR YOUR HEART OUT!

I can guarantee you- you will see his MIGHTY HAND in your life! REMEMBER he is the GREAT "I AM", who holds the whole world in His hands- He is the answer to all your problems!

- 1.) What exactly did they request from God? _____
- 2.) What was God's response? _____
- 3.) How many more men did the children of Benjamin cut down from the children of Israel? _____
- 4.) Complete the verse "then _____ the children of Israel went up and came to the house of _____ and _____"
- 5.) What action did they do until evening? (hint: has something to do with food) _____
- 6.) What was the lords response? _____
- 7.) How many men from Israel came to fight against Gibeah? _____
- 8.) Complete the verse "The _____ defeated _____ before Israel"
- 9.) How many Benjamites did the children of Israel slay? _____
- 10.) What was the appointed signal between the men of Israel and the men in ambush? _____
- 11.) Complete the verse "*The men of Israel turned back against the children of Benjamin, and struck them down with the _____ of the _____ - from every _____, _____ and _____*"



Chapter 21: Finding Wives for the Benjaminites!

- 1.) What is the oath that the men of Israel had sworn? _____
- 2.) Which tribe is missing? _____
- 3.) What did the people of Israel build? _____
- 4.) What was the other oath made for those who had not come up to the lord at Mizpah? _____
- 5.) Whom did the children of Israel grieve for? _____
- 6.) Which tribe did not come up to Mizpah to the lord? _____
- 7.) What were the 12 000 men instructed to do? _____
- 8.) What did they find among the inhabitants? _____
- 9.) What did they decide to do with these inhabitants? _____
- 10.) What happened to the women of Benjamin? _____