

JUDGES

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

Week 11: Improper Inauguration

Scripture Reading: Judges 8:29 – 9:21

- *From Judges 8:1 – 10:6, God's name is ABSENT from the narrative*

1. Gideon's death (verses 29-35)

- Gideon the hermit
- Verse 31:
 - *Common practice for wives to have concubines*
 - *Remember the significance of Shechem*
 - Genesis 12, Joshua 24
 - *The name of Gideon's son*
- The unsettling reality of verses 33-35:
 - *"As soon as Gideon died"*
 - The horror of their new commitment: Baal-berith
 - Forget about God
 - Forget about Gideon's family

2. Abimelech's murder (verses 1-6)

- Abimelech is NOT a judge. *He is a self-appointed king & dictator by sinful methods*

- Execution of his family
- Only one survives: Jotham, *“The Lord is perfect & blameless”*
- **Like father, like son:** *Gideon murders his church family, Abimelech – his actual family. He is improperly inaugurated for it in return.*

3. Jotham’s speech (verses 7-21)

- Significance of Mount Gerizim:
 - Deuteronomy 27
- Prophetic challenge of Jotham
- **What do we learn from Judges 8:29–9:21?**
 - *Be strong in your faith*
 - 1 Samuel 16, Psalm 51:10-11
 - *Be bold in your faith*
 - 2 Corinthians 12:10