



Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline

Pastor Philip Thomas, March 2, 2025

Judges 20:1-28 – The Need for True Justice (Part 2)

A large number of Israelite soldiers were willing to lose their lives for the sake of administering justice. However, they weren't spurred to action by a violation of God's commands and righteousness. They decided on a violent course of action based solely on the Levite's report.

Don't administer justice based on emotions.

Don't administer justice based on hearing what you want to hear.

We respond and apply the Word of God we have heard by acting justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God.

May you not boast about your wisdom, strength, or riches. May you boast about this: that you have the understanding to know God who exercises kindness, justice, and righteousness on earth, for in these He delights. May you do good, be rich in good deeds, and be generous and willing to share. In this way, you will lay up treasure for yourselves as a firm foundation for the coming age so that you may take hold of the life that is truly life. (Jeremiah 9:23-24, 1 Timothy 6:18-19)

Discussion Questions:

- How is Phinehas, the priest, a link between Joshua 22 and Judges 20? How did the Israelites' perception of injustice and how to administer justice change from Joshua 22 to Judges 20?
- How did the Levite describe what had happened in Gibeah? What did he want the Israelites to do? How did they respond?
- Why should we be careful not to administer justice based on emotions?
- What did the Israelites do before they asked the Lord who should lead the attack against the Benjamites?
- Why did the Lord tell the Israelites to proceed with two unsuccessful attacks against the Benjamites?
- What have you learned from Judges 20 and the example of Jesus about administering justice?