

Judges 17

King James Version (KJV)

RECAP: (Approximately 1430 BC to 1080 BC; this goes back in time to Chapter 1 and moves forward to the time of Chapter 16)

(Chapters 17 – 21 document what was happening in Israel during the time of the Judges <chapters 1-16>. The country was rife with multi-culturalism, paganism, sexual perversion and idolatry. They deserted God over and over; and yet He forgave them every time they repented)

17 And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah. (This is not tot the prophet, Micah) (Mount Ephraim – the hill country in Ephraim) (Micah = who is like God. Certainly not this guy)

²And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my son. (The LORD = Yahoveh = I Am That I Am)

(Her son stole her silver savings. She is blessing a thief. What a great value system. God doesn't bless thieves)

³And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee. (She knows about Yahoveh, yet she and Micah are practicing idolatry. The second commandment forbids making graven images to worship)

NOTES: (By now, Israel had forgotten God's Ten Commandments. These graven images were made to worship false gods. Even a graven image to Yahoveh is a sin – if you worship the image instead of God)

(Aaron made a golden calf in the wilderness. Jeroboam made two golden calves for the 10 northern tribes to worship. Easter today, is based upon a holiday to Ishtar, the pagan goddess of heaven. Yet ignorant Christians think it pleases God)

⁴Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made

thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.

(This man Micah is practicing a false religion - the house of Micah. This is idol worship. He set up his own heathen church in his house. The tabernacle to Yahoveh was in Shiloh; not in Micah's house)

⁵And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest. (A priest, but not a priest of Yahoveh)

(teraphims – small idol statues dedicated to false gods. The heathen peoples of Canaan worshipped them)

NOTE: (In Genesis, Laban, the father of Rachel and Leah also worshipped teraphims. In fact, Rachel stole one of them when the family moved back to where Jacob came from)

⁶In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes. (But not right in God's eyes)

⁷And there was a young man out of Bethlehemjudah of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there. (Bad translation - he was a Levite who was living in Judah)

(Bethlehemjudah = the Bethlehem in Judah; there was more than one town named Bethlehem in all of Israel)

NOTE: (All priests were Levites, but not all Levites were priests. Only direct descendents of Aaron were allowed to become priests)

⁸And the man departed out of the city from Bethlehemjudah to sojourn where he could find a place: and he came to mount Ephraim to the house of Micah, as he journeyed.

⁹And Micah said unto him, Whence comest thou? And he said unto him, I am a Levite of Bethlehemjudah, and I go to sojourn where I may find a place. (He is looking for some work and a place to live)

NOTE: (The Levites were out of work because no one was worshipping Yahoveh in the tabernacle. That's why this Levite was looking for work)

¹⁰ And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten shekels of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in. **see Genesis-45:8 (A father can also mean an adviser, as Joseph was to Pharaoh)**

(Micah wanted a Levite "priest" to make his false church seem more legitimate. This is blasphemy against Almighty God)

¹¹ And the Levite was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons.

¹² And Micah consecrated the Levite; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah. **(Micah had no authority from God to do any of this. They were practicing a false religion and worshipping idols)**

¹³ Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest. **(After the death of Joshua, the faith was forgotten. The Israelites lived as the heathen tribes and worshipped their idols)**

NOTE: (The tabernacle of God in Shiloh was in total disarray; so people sought God in the ways of the heathen tribes. Israel had completely lost its way, after the death of Joshua and that generation)