Date: February 9, 2025 Series: Judges: Mankind Exposed Title: The Best of Times, The Worst of Times Text: Judges 2:1-3:6



INTRODUCTION

I. THE AWESOME PROCLAMATION (Judges 2:1-5)

1) This messenger and this movement demonstrates to Israel that there's a problem!

2) The Angel of the LORD communicates a message of <u>self-inflicted</u> pain and trouble.

(Jeremiah 2:12-13)

3) The people wept and even sacrificed, but there was no true change or repentance.

(Joel 2:12-13)

II. THE APATHETIC GENERATION (Judges 2:6-10)

Note: It's not enough to be content and satisfied with our own spiritual growth and knowledge; we must ALWAYS be passionate to teach, to model, to encourage, to <u>disciple</u> those around us SO THAT they may know, love, and follow Jesus!

(1 Timothy 4:12; 1 Corinthians 11:1; 2 Timothy 2:2)

III. THE ASTONISHING REVELATION (Judges 2:11-3:6)

Judges 2:11-19 - A Cyclical Pattern: Sin, Servitude, Supplication, Salvation, Silence.

SIN...

SERVITUDE...

SUPPLICATION ...

SALVATION...

SILENCE...

Judges 2:18 - A Comforting Passion: The heart of God is such that He is moved to compassion even when His people are suffering because of their <u>own</u> sin and stupidity!

Judges 2:20-3:6 - A Cleansing Purpose: God is both testing and growing His people through the <u>discipline</u> that He brings.

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

- 1. What is significant about the locations of Gilgal and Bochim? Why did the Angel of the Lord move?
- 2. In verses 4-5, the people wept and made sacrifices after hearing God's message; was this a good response, a bad response, an incomplete response?
- 3. What should verses 6-10 motivate us to do? In what ways can you model faith and disciple others?
- 4. What basic, cyclical pattern in described in verses 11-19? What truths do we learn from this pattern?
- 5. What are some of God's good purposes for the discipline that He brings? (see Hebrews 12:7-17)