

Date: August 3, 2025
Series: The Book of Judges
Title: "Confronting the Darkness: United for God's Glory"
Text: Judges 20



Introduction: The outrageous evil of Gibeah (Judges 19) provoked a response throughout Israel. (Hosea 9:9)

I. God's people must unite in the face of moral decay and outrageous evil. (v. 1-11)

- Israel's unity was demonstrated in several key ways:

- A. They Listened (v. 1-6)
- B. They Took Counsel (v. 7-8)
- C. They Made a Plan (v. 9-10)
- D. They Took Action (v. 11)

II. The Failure to Confront Sin is to Become Partners in Evil. (v. 12-13)

*"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless.
Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)*

Scripture: James 4:17; Galatians 6:1; Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:11

III. The righteous pursuit of justice demands perseverance rooted in God's will & God's glory. (v. 14-28)

- Through defeats, God accomplishes several things:

- A. God Reveals (v. 14-17)
- B. God Disciplines (v. 18-22)
- C. God Draws (v. 23)
- D. God is Glorified (v. 24-28)

IV. The consequences of sin and the price of justice are devastating and costly. (v. 29-48)

Scripture: Proverbs 28:18; 13:15; 1 Samuel 9:1

Questions to Consider & Discuss:

- 1) Where in my life or our community am I (or are we) silently tolerating evil, and what is one concrete step I can take to confront it?
- 2) In what ways might misguided loyalty (to family, friends, or groups) prevent me from confronting sin?
- 3) Have I recently faced a "defeat" or setback when trying to do the right thing? How might God be using these defeats in my life? How ought I respond to these defeats?
- 4) How can our church better unite "as one man" to address moral decay or injustice in our local context?
- 5) Where have you observed the consequences of sin in and around you?
- 6) Considering the devastating cost of sin, what ongoing steps can I take to ensure my own heart and actions are aligned with God's righteousness, avoiding complicity with evil?