

The Judges: When Sin is In Charge

When we are warned about sin, many times our understanding of the consequences of sin is simplistic. However, sin does not just have one consequence. It has many and they are unexpected.

Scripture(s): Judges 1-2; Romans 6:12-23

AS: Life isn't like checkers. There is more than one consequence if we lose.

I. The first reality we face if we let sin reign in us is we will only see _____ at work. Our human reasons remove _____ from the equation.

Judges 1: 19 Now the Lord was with Judah, and they took possession of the hill country; but they could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley because they had iron chariots. 20 Then they gave Hebron to Caleb, as Moses had promised; and he drove out from there the three sons of Anak. 21 But the sons of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites who lived in Jerusalem; so the Jebusites have lived with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem to this day.

Judges 2: 1 "I brought you up out of Egypt and led you into the land which I have sworn to your fathers; and I said, ' I will never break My covenant with you, 2 and as for you, you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars. ' But you have not obeyed Me; what is this you have done? 3 Therefore I also said, ' I will not drive them out before you; but they will become as thorns in your sides and their gods will be a snare to you.

II. The second reality we face if we let sin reign in us is rebellion leads to _____. What do we expect will happen to us when we ignore God's plan for _____ ?

Judges 2:12 and they forsook the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed themselves down to them; thus they provoked the Lord to anger. 13 So they forsook the Lord and served Baal and the Ashtaroth. 14 The anger of the Lord burned against Israel, and He gave them into the hands of plunderers who plundered them; and He sold them into the hands of their enemies around them, so that they could no longer stand before their enemies. 15 Wherever they went, the hand of the Lord was against them for evil, as the Lord had spoken and as the Lord had sworn to them, so that they were severely distressed.

III. The final reality we face if we let sin reign in us is our flawed leaders will highlight our _____. The moral failures that we excuse in our leaders says much about where _____ are as a people.

Judges 17:5-6 ⁵ And the man Micah had a shrine and he made an ephod and household idols and consecrated one of his sons, that he might become his priest. ⁶ In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes.

Hebrews 11:32-34 ³² And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

Remember this - If sin is left _____ it will hurt us in unexpected ways.

Our challenge: Give your allegiance to God rather than _____ .

1. If you cannot see God, ask what is _____ you.
2. Let your personal _____ draw you once again to the God of life and hope.
3. Let the sin of the culture sound the _____ for us to brace against the sin in our own lives.

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"He Is So Precious to Me" 452

"All I Have is Christ"

"Knowing You"

* Pastoral Prayer & Time in the Word *

"Lord, Be Glorified" 457