

JUDGES 18: THE MIGRATION OF DAN



- Took place about the time of the Othniel (1st Judge)
- Era of Judges marked by spiritual darkness
- Micah erected his own sanctuary, made a YHWH image, hired a common Levite to be his private priest
- Probably Judeo-Christianity is the prime example of syncretism that has wrongly mixed culture, agenda, preferences, comfort level with divine oracle

A FAITH GONE ASTRAY

- The 5 scouts of Dan found the perfect place for them, the city of Laish
- Inhabited by a gentle and peace loving people
- 600 soldiers and about 3000 Danites began their march north to their new home
- They stop at Micah's house to steal his idols and appropriate his priest



DAN ATTACKS LAYISH



- No one came to aid the citizens of Layish
- Laish was renamed to Dan
- *Y'honotan* (Jonathon) son of Gershom
- A descendant of Manessah or Moses?
- Mem – Shin – Heh מ ש ה
- N nun נ
- Reader given choice to say Moses or Manessah

TABERNACLE AT SHILOH

- *“As long as the House of God was in Shiloh...”*
- Shiloh was where the Wilderness Tabernacle was erected after entering the Promised Land
- THERE WAS NO KING IN ISRAEL SO EVERY MAN DID WHAT WAS RIGHT IN HIS OWN EYES



JUDGES 19:

THE LEVITE AND HIS CONCUBINE



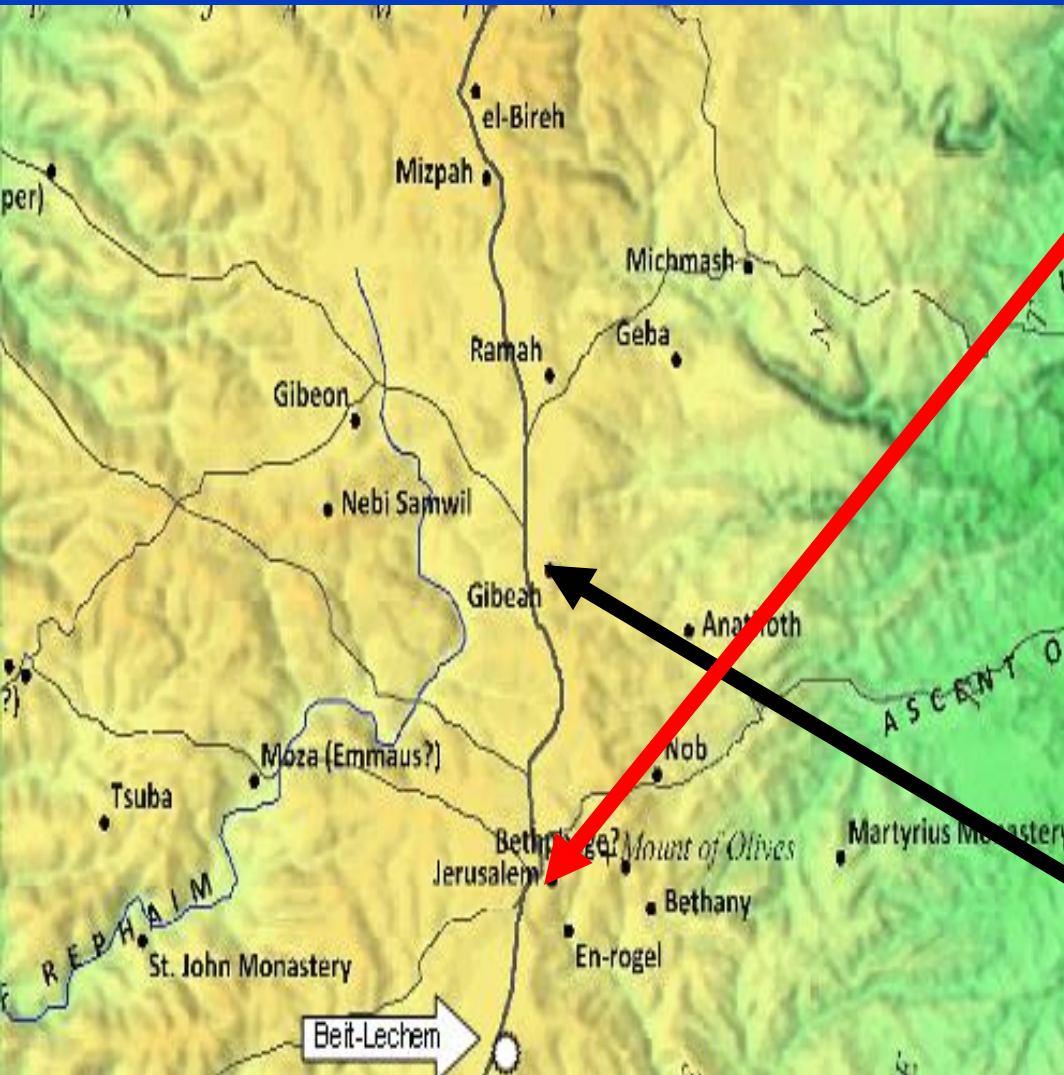
- This story took place even earlier than the story of Micah
- This is a DIFFERENT Levite than in the Micah story
- Levite man living in Ephraim married a Judahite from Bethlehem
- **Zonah** = prostitute
- **Zanah** = behaving unfaithfully
- Jewish consensus is that the couple merely had a serious argument and she was angry
- **Pilegesh** = concubine
- 2nd class wives, not slaves or mistresses

A VERY RELIEVED FATHER!



- After 4 months the Levite missed her and went to Bethlehem to win her back
- Was really just a selfish want of companionship
- Father very glad to see the Levite
- Much shame on the entire family if there was a divorce
- After 5 days at the girl's father's house, they left late in the afternoon

LEVITE STOPS AT GIBEAH



- Arrived at Jebus (later called Jerusalem)
- Levite did not want to stay as Jebus was a “foreign” city
- Made it to Gibeah by sundown, so they decided to stay there for the night
- Gibeah was in the territory of Benjamin

A LACK OF HOSPITALITY IS A BAD SIGN!

- Levite, servant, and concubine go to the city square just inside the city gates
- No one in Gibeah would offer them hospitality
- An old man who is from the same area as the Levite offers to take them in for the night
- **Beit-YHWH** = house of God = Shiloh



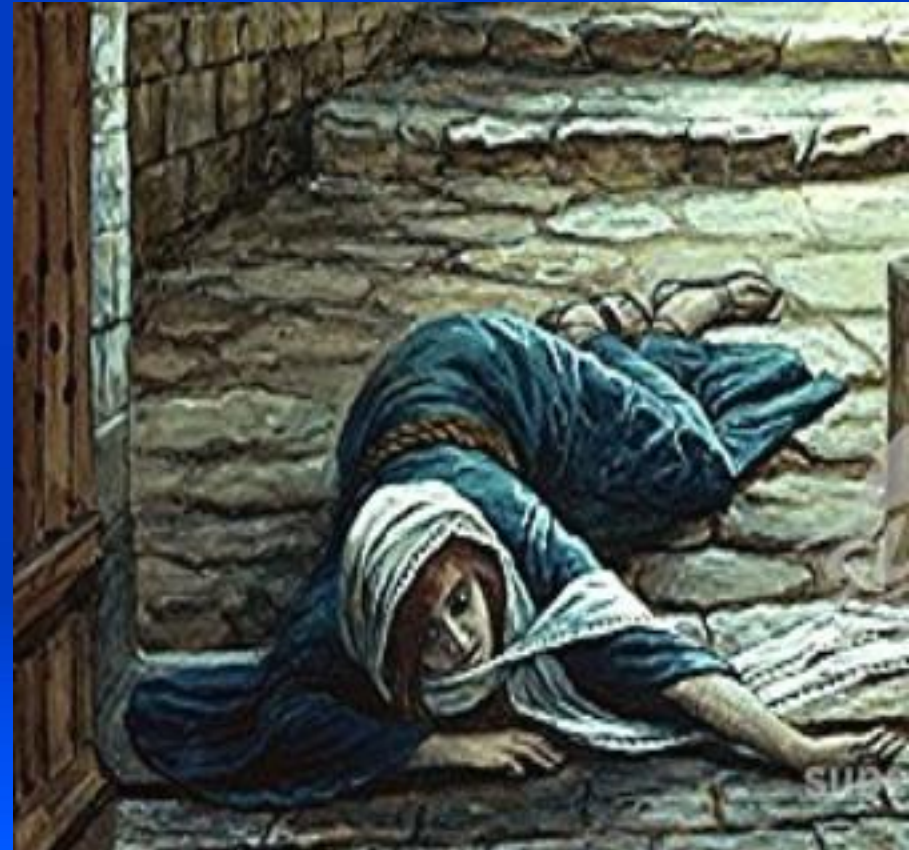
A REPLAY OF SODOM

- A mob of worthless men demanded to have homosexual sex with the old man's guests
- ***Ben-Belial*** = sons of Belial
- ***Daphak*** = violent beating that increases in force
- Host was duty bound with his life to protect his guests **EVEN ABOVE** his own family
- It was the Law of Moses that insisted that women have equal value to men



THE SHOCKING NATURE OF THE EPISODE AT GIBEAH

- Homosexuality played a dominant role
- But even more, at Sodom it was godless pagans who were at fault
- Here it is Hebrews! It is members of the tribe of Benjamin who committed the atrocity
- Concubine handed over to the mob (Levite man had to have consented)
- Concubine died on the doorstep where her husband was hiding



THE BRUTAL KILLING LEFT A LASTING IMPRESSION



- Levite's actions prove his selfish motives for going after the girl
- Sin of Gibeah would be long remembered
- Hosea spoke of it hundreds of years later
- Hosea 9:9
- Hosea 10:9

LEVITE CUTS UP CONCUBINE INTO 12 PIECES



- A terrible desecration of her body
- ***Nathach*** = ritual cutting up of a sacrificial animal
- Levite had some delusional idea of piety or that this was a proper religious act
- Levites were the butchers of that era
- People of Israel were appalled and met to decide what should be done about this atrocity