

# BIBLE BOWL -2016

Lesson #7 –Israel’s Disobedience

Scripture Reading: Judges 2:7-10

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Introduction:

1. Jesus said, “If you love me, keep My commandments” –Jn 14:15 (Cf. 1 Jn 5:4)
2. Israel did not achieve a complete conquest of the land due to their disobedience toward God.
3. In this lesson we will discuss four ways Israel disobeyed God...

## **I. THEY DID NOT DRIVE OUT THE INHABITANCE OF THE LAND -1:27-2:6**

### **A. THE FAILURE -1:27-36**

1. They put them under tribute rather than destroy them
  - a. Manasseh, Ephraim, Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan were all guilty of disobedience
  - b. It was not that they could not drive them out, but that they refused to do so.
2. God had given commands to destroy and the promise He would be with them –Jo 1:5, 23:5, 9-10
3. Likewise, men today believe they have sin and temptation under control and refuse to destroy it.
  - a. Men are to die to sin –Ro 6, Ga 2:20, Co 3:5
  - b. Some refuse to do so; they just set sin aside believing they can control it.

### **B. THE CONSEQUENCE -2:1-6**

1. God would never break His covenant with His people -2:1-2
2. However, He would no longer drive out the inhabitation of the land -2:3
3. The people wept for they had sealed their fate -2:4
4. Our choices today will seal our eternal destiny either with God or without Him.

## **II. THEY DID NOT TEACH THE NEXT GENERATION -2:7-10**

### **A. THEY WERE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO**

1. Moses gave the command to the people –De 6:6-25
2. While Joshua and the elders were alive, the people served the Lord -2:7

### **B. THEY HAD FAILED –Ju 2:10**

1. The next generation endured affliction for a lack of knowledge of God –Ho 4:6, Je 2:32
2. We are always one generation from apostasy.
  - a. We greatly desire the best for our children and grandchildren
  - b. The way to ensure this is to teach by words and deeds

## **III. THEY DID NOT LISTEN TO THE COUNSEL OF THE JUDGES -2:11-23**

### **A. GOD HAD SOLD HIS PEOPLE TO THEIR ENEMIES**

1. They disobeyed God by worshipping false deities
  - a. The worship of Baal
    - 1) Baal was the “sun god” or “god of weather”
    - 2) Some artist will depict him with a thunder bolt in his hand
  - b. The worship of Ashtoreth
    - 1) She is the “moon goddess”
    - 2) She is usually carved from a tree –De 16:21-22, Jo 6:25
    - 3) The people would commit sexual immorality in worship to her
2. God had therefore brought all the calamity He said He would –Ref. De 28:14-ff

### **B. GOD HAD GREAT MERCY UPON HIS PEOPLE**

1. He sent judges to deliver them.
2. While the judge was alive God blessed His people
3. When the judge passed away, the people reverted more severely than before -2:19
4. We have to be careful not to serve God only when times are difficult, but even when times are good.

#### **IV. THEY DID NOT KEEP THEMSELVES PURE -3:1-6**

##### **A. THE LORD'S TESTING**

1. They were now surrounded by evil influences.
2. They disobeyed God by intermarrying with them –vs. 6 (Cf. Jo 23:11-13)
3. Consequently, they began to serve their gods –Note 1Co 15:33

##### **B. OUR TESTING TODAY**

1. We are lights in the world –Ph 2:12-16, Mt 5:13-16
2. We are to be examples to others around us -2Ti 4:12

##### **Conclusion:**

1. Our Promise Land is heaven itself
2. We are not battling against people, but rather against the works of the flesh –Ep 6:12
3. Let us learn from the examples of Israel by hearing and obeying the word of God that heaven may be ours  
–Ro 15:4, 1Co 10:11