



Sunday, February 4, 2018

This morning, we began our series on the book of Ruth.

1. As a group, discuss the sermon and highlight anything that stood out to you in particular.
2. **Verse 1 says that it was “in the days when the judges ruled.” Let us be reminded of what this means when the author says that.** Get your Bibles ready.

Mosaic Covenant- Deuteronomy 28: 1-2 (Blessings); 28: 15-19 (Curses)- here God tells the people what will happen if they do not obey His commands.

Joshua’s Final Words- Joshua 23: 9-16- before his death, Joshua reminds the people of God’s commands.

The Sequence for the Downfall of the Nation: follow this pattern to see the downfall of the nation during the period of the judges.

- Step 1: Partial Victory- (Judges 1: 19-21)
- Step 2: Co-Existence with the Enemy- (Judges 1: 33-34)
- Step 3: Cooperation with the Enemy- (Judges 2: 1-3)
- Step 4: Corruption by the Enemy- (Judges 2: 8-13)
- Step 5: Divine Discipline- (Judges 2: 14-15)
- Step 6: Divine Help- (Judges 2: 16-18)
- Step 7: Continual Wickedness- (Judges 2:19)

This all ultimately leads to the end of Judges and Judges 21:25 that we started with this morning.

- Look at each step in this process. How do these play themselves out practically in our lives and the lives of those we may know?
3. **How did Elimelech’s move to a land with foreign gods and with racial animosity toward Israel cause spiritual compromise within his family?**
 - Why do we sometimes see “strange lands” as preferable to God’s promises to us?
 - What “strange land” do we sometimes put ahead of the promises of God?
 - How do these choices not to trust in God’s promises affect those closest to us?