

I. Israel's Sin and Judgment (vv 12-14).**A. Israel's Sin (v 12a)**

- 1) *And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD*
- 2) Use, God is always just in His judgment.

B. God's Judgment on Israel (vv 12b-14)

- 1) *And the LORD strengthened Eglon the King of Moab*
 - a) Note, God is sovereign over all the nations, not just Israel
 - b) Eglon, King of Moab
 - i. Whose name means calf (Ex 32:3-4; Gal 6:1)
 - ii. Who was very fat (v 17)
- 2) *He gathered to himself the Ammonites and the Amalekites*
- 3) *And he took possession of the city of palms [Jericho]*
- 4) *And the people of Israel served Eglon (WLC 151)*

II. The Lord Delivers Israel Through Ehud (vv 15-29).**A. The Death of Eglon (vv 15-26)**

- 1) Summary: Ehud rides the Trojan Horse into Moab to slay the Goblin King.
- 2) Israel cries out to the Lord and God provides a deliverer (Lk 17:4)
- 3) The Deliverer (Psa 89:13)
- 4) The Trojan Horse (v 15b, 20)
- 5) The Word of God as the Means of Eglon's Death (vv 16, 21)
 - a) Is a two-edged sword, the Law and the Gospel (Heb 4:12)
 - b) The Word of God is death to the wicked and hard of heart (Rev 19:11, 13, 15; 2 Tim 2:15)
 - c) Use, How will you respond to the Word of God?
- 6) The Death of Eglon
 - a) The Lord provided perfect circumstances
 - b) Eglon's death
 - c) The three-fold irony of Eglon's death:
 - i. Eglon's arising (v 20)
 - ii. Eglon's death itself (v 21) – Matthew Henry, Eglon 'fell like a fatted calf, by the knife, an acceptable sacrifice to divine justice.'
 - iii. The fat of Eglon (v 22; Phil 3:19)

7) The Details of Eglon's Death Typifies the Shame and Destruction of the Wicked

- a) The setting — *And Ehud came to him as he was sitting alone in his cool roof chamber* (v 20a; Rev 21:27a)
- b) The detail — *And the dung came out* (v 22b; Ex 32:19-20; Gen 3:14)
- c) The ignorance of the wicked (vv 24-25)

8) The Deliverance of Ehud**B. The Deliverance of Israel**

- 1) *When he arrived, he sounded the trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim* (v 27)
 - a) The supremacy and victory of Christ (Heb 2:14).
 - b) The faithful following of His people (2 Tim 2:3-4)
 - c) The readiness of His people — So we are to be ready at all times to: (i) Do good; (ii) Flee temptation; (iii) Confess the truth; (iv) Refute lies.
- 2) *And he said to them, 'Follow after me, for the LORD has given your enemies the Moabites into your hand.'*
 - a) The Gospel is, as Machen called it, 'The Triumphant Indicative' (Col 2:13-15)
 - b) The Ensuing Imperative — *Follow after me*

C. The Demise of Moab (v 29)**III. The Land Has Rest (v 30).**

- A. *So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest for eighty years.*
 - 1) This is longest period of peace and rest in the book of Judges
 - 2) Which shows to us the nature of our repentance and sanctification.
 - 3) The faithfulness of Israel extended over two generations. We are not doing anything merely for our own sake, nor only for the external propagation of the Gospel, but also for the internal perpetuation of the Covenant of Grace.
- B. Summary Doctrines and Applications from this Narrative
 - 1) The exclusivity of Christ.
 - 2) The excellence of Christ (Rev 5:9-10)
 - 3) The filth, shame, demise of His foes.
 - 4) The eternal joy and peace of union and communion with Christ.