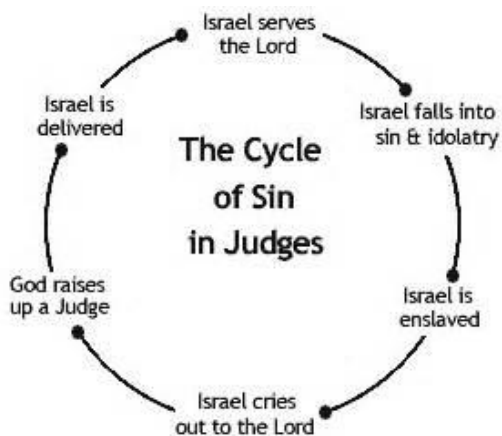


“Not My King!”

Judges 18



Last 3 Months been in Hawaii, many of you BJ

Both doing Same Thing > Going in Circles

Live on ISLAND all you do is Drive in Circles

Book of Judges FAMILIAR PATTERN

Both been DRIVING in CIRCLES

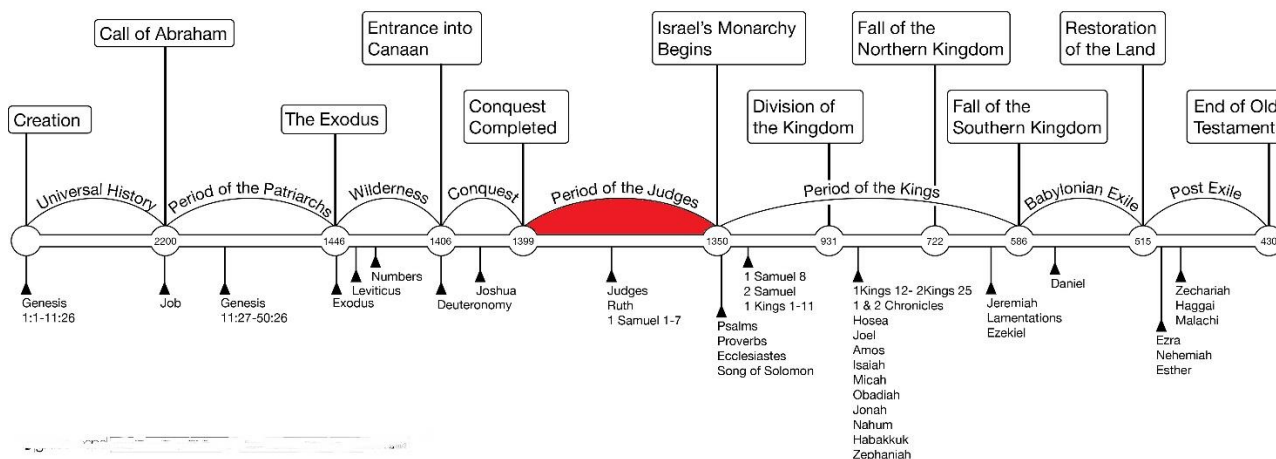
One day got to DRIVE VW Beetle Convertible

Drive around Whole Island of OAHU with TOP DOWN

North Shore – Road Narrows – County Road Ends – Private Narrow – GRAVEL

Judges 17 hit a GRAVEL Road – No More Judges – No Deliverances

OLD TESTAMENT TIMELINE



FLASHBACKS – happened sometime in MIDDLE of 400 yr Period of Judges

“did evil in the sight of the Lord” 3.7,12, 4.1, 6.1, 10.6, 13.1

Last 5 Chapters – Detailed View of that EVIL from Ground Level

Horrible Pictures of How REALLY BAD the Situation in those Days Was

Chapters 17 & 18 RELIGIOUS Chaos // 19 – 21 MORAL Chaos

Chapter 17 – Introduced to DYSFUNCTIONAL CHURCH “Grim Perversion”

in the house of Micah...a shrine...an ephod and household gods... a young man of Bethlehem in Judah, of the family of Judah, who was a Levite...Micah said to him, “...Stay with me, and be to me a father and a priest”... Then Micah said, “*Now I know that the LORD will prosper me, because I have a Levite as priest.*”
Judges 17.4-10,13

Micah VERY PLEASED – He Made a god with OWN Hands

This God Never CHALLENGE or CONVICT him > No power to CHANGE him

Problem Making a god w/ your Own Hands that it is Made w/ your Own Hands!

Such god’s we make have MAGNETIC Attraction – So Comfortable, COZY!!

MAGNETIC Attraction of False Gods CENTER of Ch. 18 > For whole TRIBE

2 Journey’s Ch 18 > Both PASS thru Home of Micah BLINGED OUT w/ gods

1. Tribe with Troubles

v. 1 the tribe of the people of Dan

(Rachel) she gave him (Jacob) her servant Bilhah as a wife, and Jacob went in to her. And Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son. Then Rachel said, “God has judged me, and has also heard my voice and given me a son.” Therefore she called his name Dan.
Genesis 30.4-6

Dan = JUDGE, Contend, Plead // DanIEL = GOD is My Judge

Fast-Forward 500 years – Dan the SON Now Dan the TRIBE – Out of EGYPT

God gave Each of 12 Tribes LAND in Canaan

After the death of Joshua, the people of Israel inquired of the LORD, “Who shall go up first for us against the Canaanites, to fight against them?” The LORD said, “Judah shall go up; behold, I have given the land into his hand.” Judges 1.1

Introduction to Book of Judges > 12 TRIBES OBTAIN God-Appointed LAND

OR NOT get their Land! ... DAN was a BIG NOT!!

The Amorites pressed the people of Dan back into the hill country, for they did not allow them to come down to the plain. Judges 1.34

One of GREATEST MILITARY Failures of the 12 Tribes in CANAAN
God PROMISED Each Tribe LAND in Plains – Grow Crops – FLOURISH

Dan RAN like SCARRED CHICKEN from Amorites – HID in Safety of HILLS
So, lived like NOMADS – No place to PLANT, GROW, EAT their CROPS
DAN the TRIBE like MICAH the MAN > Restless, Alienated, Disobedient

a. Sloth - Forsook their Responsibility

v. 1 ...the tribe of the people of Dan was seeking for itself an inheritance to dwell in, for until then no inheritance among the tribes of Israel had fallen to them.

ALLAN at COVENANT – Finals Week PRAYER for TOTAL RECALL!

God's PROMISES are ACHIEVED thru our LABORS

PRAY for DAILY BREAD > Get Out of Bed and Go to WORK Each DAY!

FALLEN to Them – Hoping Bread, Land, Provisions FALL Out of TREES!

We cannot continue to ignore God's will as expressed in the Scriptures and expect to secure the aid of God's Spirit. A. W. Tozer

Because we TRUST that God is SOVEREIGN we SERVE with Thankfulness

b. Superstition - Formal Ritual

v. 2 So the people of Dan sent five able men from the whole number of their tribe, from Zorah and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land and to explore it.

OT Reader see CLEAR REMINDER of SPIES MOSES sent into Promised Land
 MAY have SPIED Land like JOSHUA & CALEB > Not have FAITH of J & C
 NOT FEAR & FOLLOW God of Heaven & Earth – MAKER of the LAND

vs. 3-6 “Inquire of God, please, that we may know whether the journey on which we are setting out will succeed.” And the priest said to them, “Go in peace. The journey on which you go is under the eye of the LORD.”

FIND Land filled with HELPLESS, UNSUSPECTING People they will Surprise
 Will TAKE it by OWN STRENGTH – but as Religious FORMALITY ask Priest

Couple in Hawaii – Live together w/Out Marriage – Ask Pastor to Bless Home

Lots of FAMILY Dinners in last 3 Months – Asked to Pray – “Closer to God”
 Not sure if that was because I was TALLER or a PASTOR!

ONLY 1 Close to God is JESUS – He is God our Savior – Pray in His Name!

Pastor in Hawaii phone call “Can you DO my KID!?” > Baby wanted Baptized!
 Worried Something BAD Might Happen if No Religious Mumbo-Jumbo Spoken
 No idea what I Believed – Figured I knew More than Them – Do My Kid!

Words of Priest to DANITES // my FUNERAL Sermon, People I did not Know
 “Go in peace. The journey on which you go is under the eye of the LORD.”
 Best I could Say > “They are in God’s Hands” > Heaven? Or Hell? HE knew
 EVERYTHING that happens – Good/Bad, Right/Wrong – SEEN BY GOD!

Now with that BLESSING from PRIEST > Dan go out and DO BAD!

c. Slaughter – Fake Religion

vs. 6, 7 And the priest said to them, “Go in peace. The journey on which you go is under the eye of the LORD.” Then the five men departed and came to Laish and saw the people who were there, how they lived in security, after the manner of the Sidonians, quiet and unsuspecting, lacking nothing that is in the earth and possessing wealth...

NAME of God – Yahweh, Emperor, Allah, or Jesus – used for Terrible THINGS
See it Happening in ANCIENT ISRAEL and Today in Many Lands

There IS a lot of Killing in books of JOSHUA & JUDGES > God ORDERS

NO Surprise – 500 years of WARNING – Possibility for REPENTANCE

On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites.”
Genesis 15.18-20

GOD of the Bible is HOLY – SET APART, UNIQUE, GLORIOUS, GOOD
ETERNAL Purpose is to have HOLY PEOPLE who will Behold HIS GLORY
PROMISED Land INTENDED to be HOLY – Like Eden was Garden of GOD

When God PROMISED Land to Abe – Spiritual TOXIC WASTE DUMP
INHABITANTS were being EVICTED because they were REVOLTING

400 yrs Later – As Moses leads them to BORDER – Iniquity MATASTISIZED

In the cities of these peoples that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance, you shall save alive nothing that breathes, but you shall devote them to complete destruction...that they may not teach you to do according to all their

abominable practices that they have done for their gods, and so you sin against the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 20.16-18

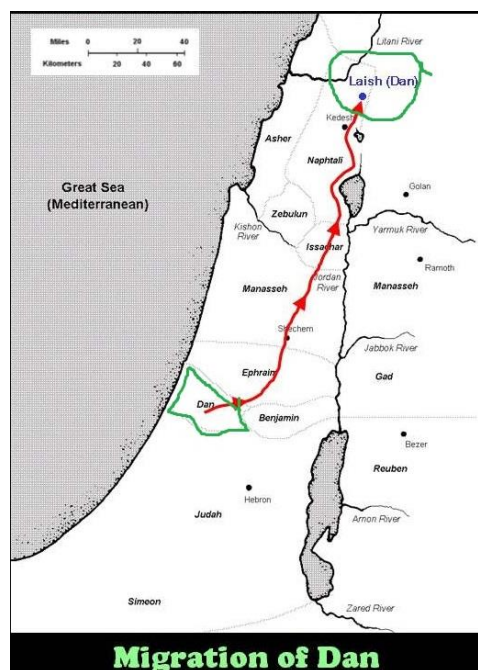
Book of JOSHUA describes CONQUEST of this LAND

Even BEFORE the 1st BATTLE – SQUATTERS Well Aware IN God’s Land

(Rahab) said to the men (spies in Jericho), “I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you” Joshua 2.9

CANNOT Deny This if you want to be CHRISTIAN – Our Bible, Our God

HUMBLY but HONESTLY Consider this ERA of History of OUR FAITH



Bible teaches God’s JUST, MEASURED, FOREWARNED Destruction

NOT seen Chapter 18 – DAN on their OWN

Failed to Take land PROMISED by God for Them

Traveled OUTSIDE Promised Land & Stole a CITY

v. 7 the Sidonians, quiet and unsuspecting

vs. 27 ...and they came to Laish, to a people quiet and unsuspecting, and struck them with the edge of the sword and burned the city with fire.

Author of Judges rarely has Sympathetic words for Pagan Tribes

But Clearly these People were AMBUSHED and SLAUGHTERED

11 Tribes of Israel listed in Revelation 7 – Redeemed & Sealed by God

12th Tribe – DAN Not Included among 144,000 in Presence of God

In those days there was no king in Israel. *Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*

Judges 17.6, 21.25

v. 1 In those days there was no king in Israel. And in those days *the tribe of the people of Dan was seeking for itself an inheritance to dwell in*

2. Priest who gets Promoted

Ch 17 Wandering Levite fell into a Great JOB working for MICAH

Micah said to him, “Stay with me, and be to me a father and a priest, and I will give you ten pieces of silver a year and a suit of clothes and your living.” And the Levite went in. And the Levite was content to dwell with the man, and the young man became to him like one of his sons. And Micah ordained the Levite, and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah. Judges 17.10-12

Got lots of COOL INSTAGRAM Photos of Self in those Jazzy OUTFITS

Priest and his EPHOD > Magnetic Attraction to Tribe of Dan in Chapter 18

1st Visited by 5 Spies > 5 Spies bring 600 Soldiers on SACRED PILGRIMAGE

v. 27 the people of Dan took what Micah had made, and the priest who belonged to him

vs. 16-20 Now the 600 men of the Danites, armed with their weapons of war, stood by the entrance of the gate. And the five men who had gone to scout out the land went up and entered and took the carved image, the ephod, the household gods, and the metal image... ***“...come with us and be to us a father and a priest. Is it better for you to be priest to the house of one man, or to be priest to a tribe and clan in Israel?”*** And the priest’s heart was glad.

Made SAME Promise MICAH made in Ch 17: Father & Priest WHOLE TRIBE!

Clearly in VIOLATION Word of God > But he Prayed About It, Sure Felt Good!

We, like Micah’s family, are reshaping God to fit our society and hearts instead of letting God reshape our hearts and society...we don’t have a God that can contradict our deepest desires or say “no” to us...we can end up worshipping a much more comfortable God, but also a non-existent one. Tim Keller

Levite was HOMELESS WANDERER Now becomes Archbishop of TRIBE
 Been telling One Man what wanted to Hear > Now gives Empty Promises 1000's
 Has own TELEVISION Show – All Happy all the Time – Feels Really Good!

IDOLATRY of Micah's Household embraced by DAN'S TRIBE for Centuries!
 Jeroboam rebelled against father Solomon – ran to Fertile Ground of Evil in Dan

Jeroboam said in his heart, "If this people go up to offer sacrifices in the temple of the LORD at Jerusalem...they will kill me and return to Rehoboam king of Judah." So the king took counsel and made two calves of gold. And he said to the people, "...Behold your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt." And he set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. Then this thing became a sin, for the people went as far as Dan to be before one. 1 Kings 12.26-30

Self-Promoting Priest fulfills Jesus words to Pharisees...

Jesus: "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel across sea and land to make a single proselyte, and *when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.*" Matthew 23.15

1 more SAD Detail about PRIEST we LEARN at End of TERRIBLE STORY

v. 30 ...Jonathan the son of Gershom, son of Moses, and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the captivity of the land.

Levite who will COMPROMISE Everything and Anything for Self-Advancement

Is the GRANDSON of MOSES...clear God has NO Grandchildren

Each Person must FIND God PERSONALLY and INDIVIDUALLY

...to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1.12,13

One generation knows the gospel, the next assumes it, and the third loses it.

Donald Carson

3. Man who is Miserable

vs. 22-26 Micah...shouted to the people of Dan...“What is the matter with you, that you come with such a company?...You take my gods that I made and the priest, and go away, and *what have I left?* How then do you ask me, ‘What is the matter with you?’” And the people of Dan said to him, “Do not let your voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows fall upon you, and you lose your life with the lives of your household.” Then the people of Dan went their way. And when Micah saw that they were too strong for him, he turned and went back to his home.

4 Haunting WORDS – “**What have I Left?**” – Carried Away his god & Priest

Everything MICAH TRUSTED In had EXPIRY Date – Could be Taken Away

Any faithful Yahweh-worshipper would find Micah’s cry both tragic and ludicrous. A god who can be made is surely a contradiction in terms...the narrator artlessly permits Micah himself to emphasize the insanity of the whole affair.

Dale Ralph Davis

Today many Trust in Health, Family, Job, Wealth, Opportunities, Success

Trust in TRANSIENT Things 1 Day ask Micah’s Question “What have I Left?”

INSANITY of Building your Life House on SAND!

If we know that Jesus is ultimately all we have, we discover that he is eternally all we need.

Tim Keller

That is what PETER Discovered – when Many Left – Jesus words Too Difficult

Peter was among FEW that STUCK IT OUT with this Nazarene from Heaven

Peter: “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

John 6.68,69

4. God who is King

2 Famous American Presidents BORN February – Geo. Washington, A. Lincoln

So the 3rd Monday of FEBRUARY in USA Federal Holiday President’s Day



MASSIVE CELEBRATION this Year 2017 – HUGE CROWDS many Cities

Most Popular Sign this PRESIDENT’S Day was “Not My President”

“Not My President” shouters have some GENUINE FEARS & CONCERNS

Little Detail – If you’re American Citizen – Donald Trump is Pres of USA

Modern People often Let FEELINGS Blind them to OBVIOUS FACTS

Several Times in Judges read v. 1 “In those days there was no king in Israel.”

Historical Note – Period of Judges came before Enthronement of Israel’s Kings

But ALSO Statement about REBELLIOUS Hearts of Israelites

LIVED LIKE THEY were Kings – Their Will be Done – Their Law Standard

Not many FEARED or FOLLOWED the TRUE KING – UNSEEN KING

God was KING in Garden of Eden, Before and After they Ate Forbidden Fruit

God was KING over the FLOOD, ROTTING CORPSES and New Beginning

God was KING over Everyone in EGYPT Over the Slaves AND the PHAROAH

God was KING – Canaanites, Hittites, and Jebusites...

God was KING of MICAH, MOTHER, LEVITES, ALL the Tribe of DAN

God was King LONG BEFORE Saul was ENTHRONED

The elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, “Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.” But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the LORD. And the LORD said to Samuel, “Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but *they have rejected me from being king over them....*”

1 Samuel 8.4-7

Never NOT BEEN a day when Sovereign God our Creator has NOT Been KING

Great Writing of Chapter – Clear Truth comes in LAST VERSE

v. 31 So they set up Micah’s carved image that he made, as long as *the house of God was at Shiloh.*

There was HIGH PRIEST from God that MICAH could have CONSULTED

There was a PLACE where DAN and all Israel could truly WORSHIP God

What did MICAH have Left? What do WE have Left?

All People have a KING the King of Heaven & Earth to Protect & Provide

“These are the statutes and rules that you shall be careful to do in the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess, all the days that you live on the earth. You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. You shall tear down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and burn their Asherim with fire. You shall chop down the carved images of their gods and destroy their name out of that place. You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way. *But you shall seek the place that the LORD your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name and make his habitation there. There you shall go, and there you shall bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present...there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice,*

you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the LORD your God has blessed you. Deuteronomy 12.1-7

There was a PLACE God had APPOINTED for TRUE Worship
God NEVER Leaves Himself without a WITNESS

Micah, Mother, Levite, Danites, most of Israel refused to Worship in SHILOH
REJECTED God's TRUTH and God's TABERNACLE – Meeting Place w/God

In God's EXCEEDING PATIENCE > Offers us One FINAL TABERNACLE

And the Word became flesh and dwelt (*"tabernacled"*) among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
John 1.14

Jesus Christ – Son of God and God the Son – World Invited to Meet God

FINAL WORD from Heaven – FULLNESS of GRACE and TRUTH

PERFECT IMAGE of the INVISIBLE God

Qualified to be our KING – Fully Protects us from Sin, Death, Hell, Satan

PROTECTS because he PULVERIZED Them – King is our VICTORY

Blood covers Sin – Resurrection swallows Death – Angel Bound Satan/Chain

Will throw Every Enemy into Hell > Might be You if don't Repent and Believe

Stop your Shouting, "Not my King!" / Throw Down your Foolish IDOLS

Bow Down in His Tabernacle and Confess > Jesus is My "King of Kings"

Judges 18 ¹In those days there was no king in Israel. And in those days the tribe of the people of Dan was seeking for itself an inheritance to dwell in, for until then no inheritance among the tribes of Israel had fallen to them. ²So the people of Dan sent five able men from the whole number of their tribe, from Zorah and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land and to explore it. And they said to them, “Go and explore the land.” And they came to the hill country of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, and lodged there. ³When they were by the house of Micah, they recognized the voice of the young Levite. And they turned aside and said to him, “Who brought you here? What are you doing in this place? What is your business here?” ⁴And he said to them, “This is how Micah dealt with me: he has hired me, and I have become his priest.” ⁵And they said to him, “Inquire of God, please, that we may know whether the journey on which we are setting out will succeed.” ⁶And the priest said to them, “Go in peace. The journey on which you go is under the eye of the LORD.” ⁷Then the five men departed and came to Laish and saw the people who were there, how they lived in security, after the manner of the Sidonians, quiet and unsuspecting, lacking nothing that is in the earth and possessing wealth, and how they were far from the Sidonians and had no dealings with anyone. ⁸And when they came to their brothers at Zorah and Eshtaol, their brothers said to them, “What do you report?” ⁹They said, “Arise, and let us go up against them, for we have seen the land, and behold, it is very good. And will you do nothing? Do not be slow to go, to enter in and possess the land. ¹⁰As soon as you go, you will come to an unsuspecting people. The land is spacious, for God has given it into your hands, a place where there is no lack of anything that is in the earth.” ¹¹So 600 men of the tribe of Dan, armed with weapons of war, set out from Zorah and Eshtaol, ¹²and went up and encamped at Kiriath-jearim in Judah. On this account that place is called Mahaneh-dan to this day; behold, it is west of Kiriath-jearim. ¹³And they passed on from there to the hill country of Ephraim, and came to the house of Micah. ¹⁴Then the five men who had gone to scout out the country of Laish said to their brothers, “Do you know that in these houses there are an ephod, household gods, a carved image, and a metal image? Now therefore consider what you will do.” ¹⁵And they turned aside there and came to the house of the young Levite, at the home of Micah, and asked him about his welfare. ¹⁶Now the 600 men of the Danites, armed with their weapons of war, stood by the entrance of the gate. ¹⁷And the five men who had gone to scout out the land went up and entered and took the carved image, the ephod, the household gods, and the metal image, while the priest stood by the entrance of the gate with the 600 men armed with weapons of war. ¹⁸And when these went into Micah’s house and took the carved image, the ephod, the household gods, and the metal image, the priest said to them, “What are you doing?” ¹⁹And they said to him, “Keep quiet; put your hand on your mouth and

come with us and be to us a father and a priest. Is it better for you to be priest to the house of one man, or to be priest to a tribe and clan in Israel?"²⁰ And the priest's heart was glad. He took the ephod and the household gods and the carved image and went along with the people.²¹ So they turned and departed, putting the little ones and the livestock and the goods in front of them.²² When they had gone a distance from the home of Micah, the men who were in the houses near Micah's house were called out, and they overtook the people of Dan.²³ And they shouted to the people of Dan, who turned around and said to Micah, "What is the matter with you, that you come with such a company?"²⁴ And he said, "You take my gods that I made and the priest, and go away, and what have I left? How then do you ask me, 'What is the matter with you?'"²⁵ And the people of Dan said to him, "Do not let your voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows fall upon you, and you lose your life with the lives of your household."²⁶ Then the people of Dan went their way. And when Micah saw that they were too strong for him, he turned and went back to his home.²⁷ But the people of Dan took what Micah had made, and the priest who belonged to him, and they came to Laish, to a people quiet and unsuspecting, and struck them with the edge of the sword and burned the city with fire.²⁸ And there was no deliverer because it was far from Sidon, and they had no dealings with anyone. It was in the valley that belongs to Beth-rehob. Then they rebuilt the city and lived in it.²⁹ And they named the city Dan, after the name of Dan their ancestor, who was born to Israel; but the name of the city was Laish at the first.³⁰ And the people of Dan set up the carved image for themselves, and Jonathan the son of Gershom, son of Moses, and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the captivity of the land.³¹ So they set up Micah's carved image that he made, as long as the house of God was at Shiloh.