

Abimelech's Tyranny Over Israel

(Judges 9:1-57)

- I. The _____ of Abimelech and Shechem (vv. 1-6)
- A. He secured the support of _____
 - B. He used them to secure the support of _____

 - C. He hired _____ fellows to
_____ his brothers
 - D. He was _____ by the people of Shechem
- II. The _____ on Abimelech and Shechem (vv. 7-21)
- A. Jotham's _____ (7-15)
 - B. Jotham's _____ (16-20)
 - C. Jotham's _____ (21)
- III. The _____ on Abimelech and Shechem (vv. 22-57)
- A. Theological _____ (23-24)
 - B. "Fire" from _____ (25-29)
 - 1. _____ (25)
 - 2. _____ of Gaal (26-29)
 - C. "Fire" from _____ (30-49)
 - 1. Against _____ (30-41)
 - 2. Against the _____ (42-45)
 - 3. Against the _____ (46-49)
 - D. "Fire" from _____ (50-55)
 - E. Theological _____ (56-57)

Lessons:

1. Just as Israel became more and more like the Canaanites, the church has a tendency to become more and more like the world.
2. When selecting leaders within the church, we must be careful and selective, keeping in mind the Biblical qualifications, such as those in 1 Timothy Ch. 3 and Titus Ch. 1.
3. Evil intentions do not bode well for alliances. (*cf* Rev 17:16-17)
4. Sooner or later, God will have justice upon those who shed the blood of others or otherwise violate His law.
5. The gospel, or good news, is that Jesus has come to save us from our sin.
6. God is the protector of His people. (1 Cor 3:16-17)