

April 1 Questions

- 1) Israel's first civil war. It began when a _____ and his _____ decided to spend the night in the _____ city of Gibeah. The Levite turned aside from Jebus (_____ of the Jebusites; cf. Deut 7:1), only to find that the men of Gibeah were as bad or worse than the " _____ " he wanted to avoid (Judges 19:12). What happened that night teaches us that when we compromise, we begin to _____ (we begin turning into the very thing God hates). It also shows us how _____ a society can degenerate into moral depravity (Judges 20:28—Phinehas was still priest in those days!). Gibeah had become like _____, and years later, _____ would allude to "the days of Gibeah" to expose the moral rot of his own day (cf. Hos 9:9; 10:9). How sobering to realize that when we refuse to _____ ourselves to God, we share a stubborn and rebellious heart with the sexual perverts of Gibeah. The Levite took his concubine home and used her dismembered body to call for retribution. The Benjamites refused to give up the perpetrators, and a bloody civil war began. This teaches us that we set a _____ for our own feet when we _____ those God says to destroy (Deut 7:16; cf. Deut 13:12–16). At the beginning of the war, the other tribes _____ of God at Bethel, but it wasn't because they loved God or were committed to doing His will. They were just going through the religious _____. It wasn't until they lost _____ men that they noticed God never said He would go _____ them or _____ the Benjamites into their hand (compare Judges 20:18, 23, 28). We should take heed, for this can happen to us if we ask God to bless our plans with _____ without first giving God our _____ and allegiance. Summary: The people rightly condemned the wickedness of the men of Gibeah, but *not* because they loved God and respected His law. They took action against Gibeah because _____ thought it was the right thing to do. When we do what is right in our own eyes, the result is a confusing _____ of virtue and vice that shames God and dead-ends in disaster.