



How False Gods Can Mislead Unbelievers **Judges 17:1-6; 18:18-19, 27**

“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes. And 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 a priest to the house of one man, or to be a priest to a tribe and clan in Israel” (Judges 17:6 18:19—ESV).

The Bible shows us the sharp difference between the ways of the world and the ways of God’s people. We can see the sharp difference today almost everywhere we turn, but the ways of this world will be over when Jesus Christ comes again.

Look at Micah and his mother. He thought it was perfectly okay to dishonor his mother and steal from her. Without knowing who stole her money, she put a curse on the thief. Micah heard the curse and rather than suffer from her curse, he returned the money. She never raised him to know and obey the LORD, because she blessed her son and then made him an idol. She violated some of the most important Biblical teachings about how to honor and serve the LORD.

Then her son did worse than his mother. Micah set up a shrine and made more false gods. He even set apart his son to be a priest for him. As his priest, his son tried to serve his idols and pray to them to bless Micah. How did that work out?

Then his son did worse than his father. Micah’s son ran-off with some from the tribe of Dan, who stole all of Micah’s idols and all the objects he used for worshiping these false gods. He wanted to use these gods to serve more people than just his father. As their father and priest, he influenced more people and joined these thieves when they murdered a quiet and unsuspecting people.

Right before our own eyes and from reading the Bible, we clearly see the consequences of turning from the true God. From turning their backs to the Lord and refusing to obey His commands, all of which are right and reasonable, people go from bad to worse and do unspeakable things that impact the lives of others. With the Holy Spirit’s help, by word and example, let’s study and obey the Bible’s teachings, pray to our Father in heaven, and pray do all we can to teach our children and others the truth about the true God and what it means to truly follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior according to the Bible’s teachings.