

WORTHLESS: Judges 19 by Brett Baggett on Sunday, May 3rd, 2020

MAIN POINT: If the Church acts just like the world, it is worthless (v.11-12)

- **WORTHLESS FELLOWS.** Lit. “sons of Belial,” i.e., base and perverse men, who desired to commit sodomy against the Levite. The phrase elsewhere is used for idolaters (Dt 13:13), neglecters of the poor (Dt 15:9), drunks (1Sa 1:16), immoral people (1Sa 2:12), and rebels against the civil authority (2Sa 20:1; Pr 19:28). “Belial” can be traced to the false god Baal, and is also a term for yoke (they cast off the yoke of decency), and a term for entangling or injuring. It is used in the NT of Satan (2Co 6:15). - **MacArthur**
- **Hear the words of Jesus in MATTHEW 5:13-16** 13 “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
- **Salt is meant to preserve the good and season the bland;** Christians are meant to do the same! But if Christians have lost their saltiness, what good are they in the world?
- **If salt does not preserve the good or season the bland,** it is as worthless as sand in your food!
- **Light is meant to expose the things hidden by darkness and at times be a beacon of hope for lost souls;** Christians are to be the same! But what if instead of giving light to all the house, you put the lamp under a basket?
- **Do you know what happens if you put a wicker basket over a lamp inside?** A professed believer who does not commit themselves daily to holiness for God’s glory is as useful as a house fire.
- **Q.** Are you worthless? Are you a son of Belial? You can fool me but you cannot fool the LORD God.

EXPOSIT CHAPTER 19.

- **1 CORINTHIANS 10:6, 11-14, 21-22** “Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.” ...“Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. *Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.* ...You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?”

I. If we base our sexual ethic on what is right our own eyes, we are worthless (1-2, 22-25)

- **1 CORINTHIANS 6 13b** ...The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ... **18** Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. **19** Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, **20** for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.
- **Thomas Watson:** “How foolish are those who for a drop of pleasure, drink in an ocean of wrath!”

II. If we choose what we do each day based on what is right in our own eyes, we are worthless (v4-5,9)

- **EPHESIANS 5 15** Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, **16** making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **18** And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery (excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures), but be filled with the Spirit...
- **Thomas Brooks:** “Time is not yours to dispose of as you please; it is a glorious talent, which men must be accountable for--as well as any other talent. Of all talents, time is the hardest to improve well. **Ah, beloved, have not you need to improve your time--who have much work to do, in so short a time:**
your souls to save, a God to honor, a Christ to exalt, a hell to escape, a race to run, a crown to win, temptations to withstand, corruptions to conquer, afflictions to bear, mercies to improve, and your generation to serve!”
Your time is short, your task is great, your Master is urgent, and your reward is sure.

III. If husbands refuse to lead, love, provide for, and protect their wives and instead do what is right in their own eyes, they are worthless (v.25-28)

- **EPHESIANS 5:22-25 22** Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. **23** For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. **24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.... **25** Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,
- **1 Timothy 5:8** “But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

IV. If we are outraged at the evil done by others yet unmoved by our own, we are worthless (v.29-30)

CONCLUSION: Jesus is the opposite of the Levite!