

# COMPROMISE VS COMMITMENT

Judges 1; 2; 17:6; 21:25 (11-6-11) Piper Bible Church

Believers are here, in this world, to reach people, to bring them to Christ.  
But, we are here to walk with God, serving God, without compromising our walk.

## I. Israel compromises, leaving Canaanites in place

### Ch 1

A. Ch 1 is the chronicle of the tribes taking their possession of the land.

V. 1-3

B. Israel begins to compromise, little by little.

V. 19 – Judah failed to drive out the inhabitants of a valley.

V. 21 – Benjamin doesn't drive out the Jebusites from Jerusalem.

V. 27 – Manasseh...5 cities, V. 29 – Ephraim...Gezer, V. 30 – Zebulun...2 cities,

V. 31-32 – Asher...7 cities, V. 33 – Naphtali...2 cities.

C. Israel becomes complacent & thinks they can just put the enemy to tribute.

V. 28 “And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out.”

The decisions you make when all is going well often determines how things will go when the going gets tough.

## II. Israel compromises, leaving false religion in place

### Ch 2

A. God gives a warning, predicting that false religions will become a thorn in Israel's side.

V. 1-5

God has a good reason for wanting the Canaanites gone – Deut 18:9-14.

B. A new generation of Israelites grows up not knowing God.

V. 6-10

Deut 4:9; Deut 6:4-12

## III. Israel forsakes God, serving other gods

A. Israel begins to serve other gods.

V. 11-13

B. Serving things other than God has its costs of bondage & defeat.

V. 14-15

C. God repeatedly extends His grace.

V. 16-19

D. Israel bears the scars of their bad decisions.

V. 20-23

## IV. As Israel could have done, Believers can live a life of commitment to God

A. Judges shows us the Law of Human Collapse.

17:6; 21:25

Man, without God as their king, will spiral downward to moral decay & bondage to sin.

B. Man needs the authority of God & His word, to be what God intends.

2:10 – This new generation lost their authority.

Rom 7:7-13 – God's Law shows me what sin is, that it might appear sinful to me.

You can walk in this world without being defiled by it.

But, you can't do this on your own.

You need a walk with God & you need to let God's word change you – Rom 12:2.