



Judges:

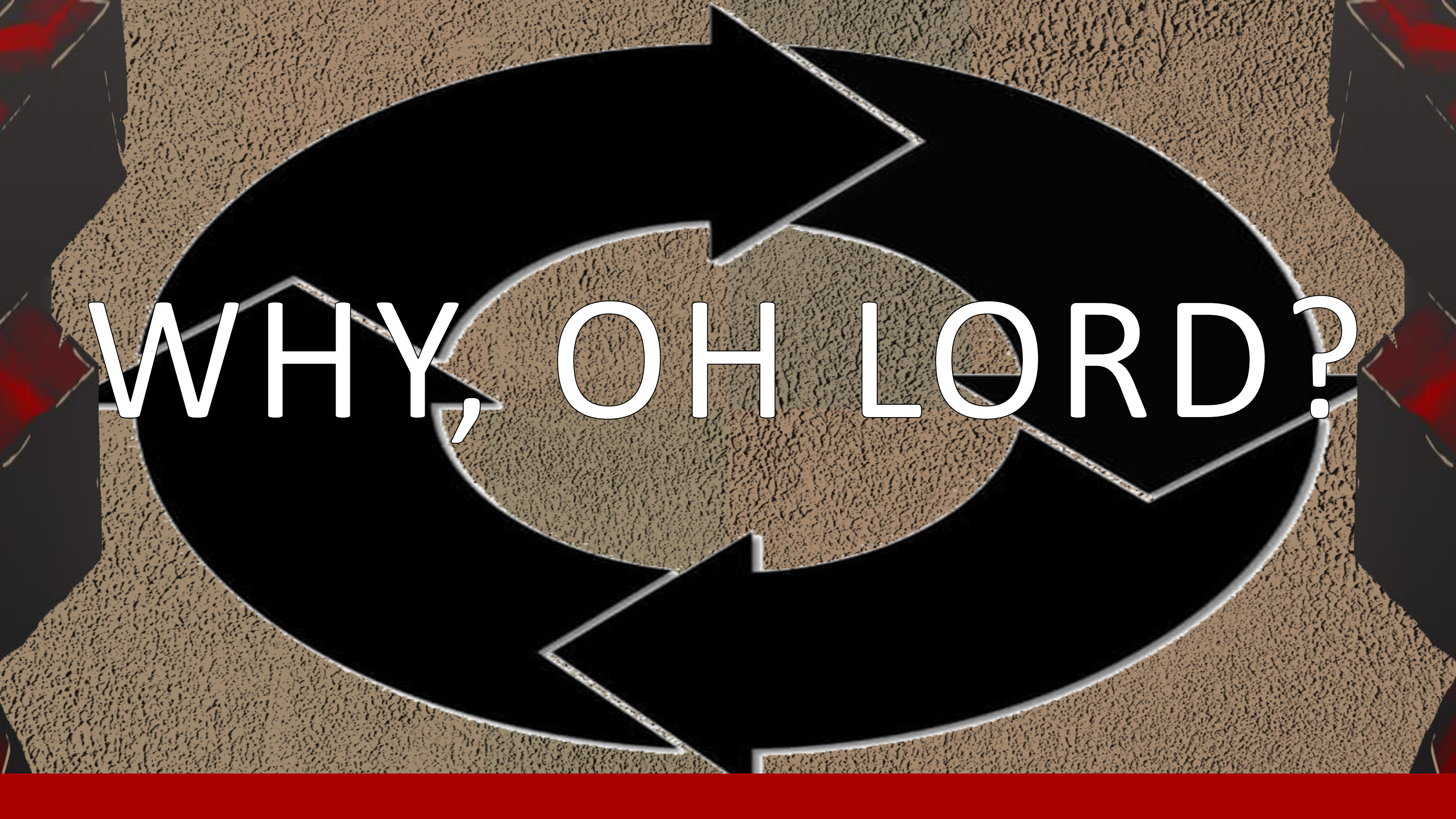
Coulda

Shoulda

But Didn't

Judges 21:1-7





WHY, OH LORD?

ALL of this heartbreak could
have been entirely avoided:

Had sin been taken seriously
in the first place



And when sin occurred
(sin is a part of this life) that
it was Confessed, Repented
Properly Dealt with
before God



Judges 21:1

Before the battle against Benjamin began the other 11 Tribes had sworn an oath (they made a pact, they committed to a promise)



When the battle was over,
NONE of the 11 Tribes were
going to allow their daughters
to marry a Benjaminite



Judges 21:2

As the dust settles from the war against their own brother, the 11 Tribes come to Bethel (where the tabernacle, ark & high priest were located)



Israel just experienced a
victory on the battlefield.
That was normally a time of
GREAT celebration (but there
was **NO ONE** rejoicing)



Israel had so much to mourn:
Over 40,000 lost lives from
the 11 tribes
Over 25,100 lost lives from
the Tribe of Benjamin
and now the realization of the
rippling effects that sin caused



Judges 21:3

With heavy-hearts these
11 Tribes (weeping bitterly
over the whole situation)
ask God, WHY?



Unless God intervened it
would NOT be long before
the 600 men (the ONLY
remaining Benjaminites)
would die off



Judges 21:4

After a night filled with
lamenting & mourning,
Israel arises the next day
& they build an altar



On the surface that sounds like a great idea, however, with the tabernacle already at this location, it **WASN'T!**



The 11 Tribes offer
burnt offerings & peace
offerings to God
BOTH offerings
(done God's way)
were GREAT!



James 4:17

Judges 21:5



Benjamin's choice to support & condone sin was part of the reason, but it was also Israel's reaction to that sin that caused the predicament they're currently facing



The oath which Israel
made actually had a
curse attached to it

Judges 21:18

Judges 21:6-7



With **ONLY** 600 men
remaining from the entire
Tribe of Benjamin
(& **NO** women left),
extinction seemed
cemented



SO WHAT?

