Pastor: Jonathan Rayder Sermon Title: **"WHO IS LIKE GOD?"** Judges 17:1-13

- "Micah" = Who is like YHWH? ... Who is like God?
- 1,100 pieces of silver are stolen from the mom of Micah
 - When Micah was nearby, the mom upset about her money being stolen, curses (hell fire & brimstone) the person who stole it
 - Upon hearing this curse, either conviction comes over Micah or a deep concern over potential calamity (Micah confesses his crime)
- The mother's response is alarming
 - The mother's primary focus was on her money (NOT her son or God)
 - Equally concerning was the mother simply brushing off the sin of her son (NO true repentance)
- Micah returns the 27.5 lbs of silver & his mom (intending well) makes a declaration that displays how ignorant she is regarding God
 - Take the designated portion of the 27.5 lbs of silver & go make an idol so we can worship "God" at home
- The silversmith made 2 idols from 200 pieces of silver (roughly 5lbs)
 - The Graven Image = this would have been a carved from wood image that was just silver coated
 - \circ The Molten Image = this would have been a solid silver image
- What they had actually done was create a religion (man's attempt to get to God)
 - In addition to the shrine, Micah makes an ephod & sets one of his sons apart to be his family's priest
 - What makes it wrong to have your own temple in your own house?
 - \circ $\,$ God is the absolute Authority & commanded it be done a certain way
- Upon meeting & hearing this young guy was a Levite & looking to stay somewhere, Micah views this as a sign from God
 - The young Levite agrees to the terms
- Micah consecrated the Levite. This was inappropriate because Micah was from the Tribe of Ephraim (NOT a Levite)
- Micah was so pleased with himself. He honestly thought he would experience favor from the Lord because of his actions

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