



Judges:

Coulda  
Shoulda

But Didn't



# Judges 11:29-40







Jephthah  
Made A Vow



# Judges 11:29

God publicly declares Gilead's  
choice & **equips** Jephthah &  
**appoints** him as their judge  
(like those before him)

Judges 11:30-31





Before embarking on the **mission** ahead, Jephthah **stops** & makes a vow (a **promise**) to God. This vow seems to be mingled with **heathen** practices.





Jephthah basically was saying  
to God, if You give me **victory**,  
You can choose Your **sacrifice**  
(& probably assumed  
it would be a **slave**)





So, Jephthah came from a background steeped in **pagan human** sacrifice & Jephthah misguidedly thought this offer would **please God**

Leviticus 18:21





In God's sovereignty,  
God uses human **free will**  
(& that includes God using even  
our individual **sinful choices**)

Judges 11:32-33





With this vow made, Jephtha  
**fight**s against the sons of  
Ammon &  
God gave Israel the **victory**  
Judges 11:34





With the **victory** secured,  
Jephthah travels home &  
when he arrives at his house  
in Mizpah, he is greeted  
by his **daughter**

Judges 11:35





ALL Jephthah's **future aspirations** (granddad, etc.),  
ALL his **hopes** (that he  
placed on her -  
his **ONLY** child)  
were **NOW ALL gone**





Since God DOESN'T  
**condone human** sacrifice,  
the vow was NEVER **obligated**

to be fulfilled

Leviticus 27:1-8

Judges 11:36





Jephthah's daughter either out  
of **duty** of her religious  
practices, or out of **respect**  
& **submission** to her father,  
**agrees** to her father's vow





Judges 11:37

Judges 11:38-40

SO WHAT?

