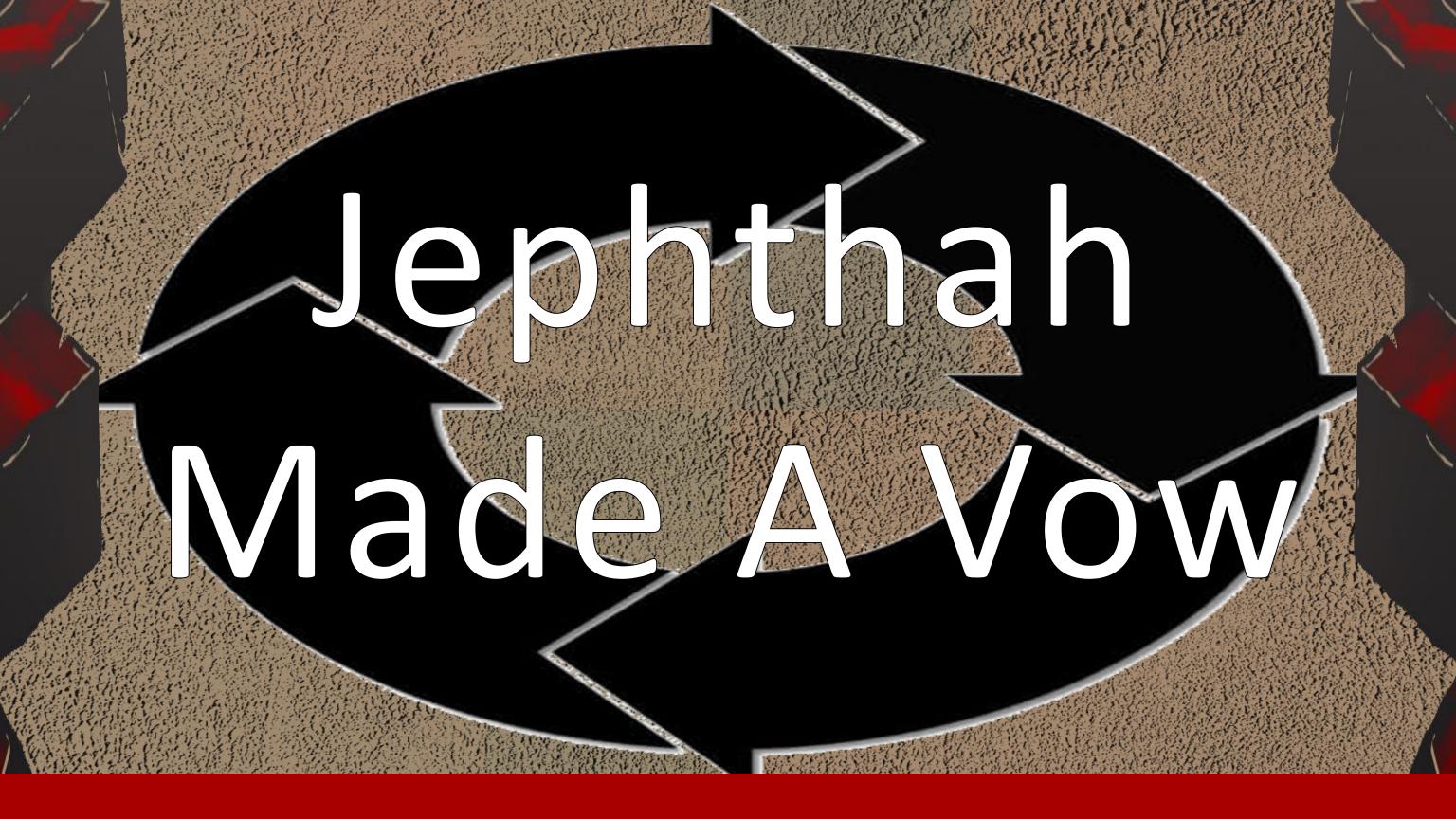


Judges 11:29-40





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)

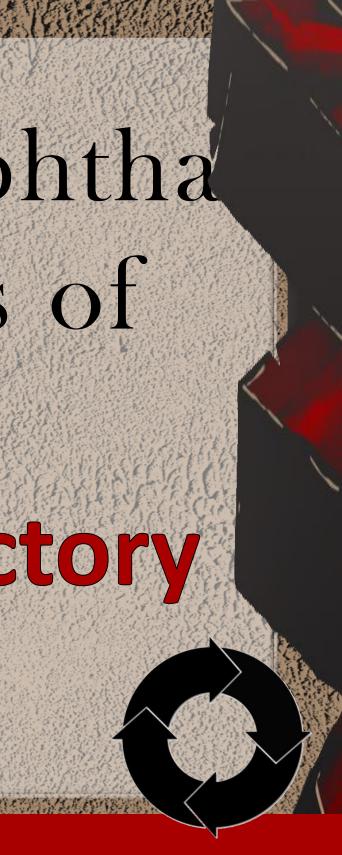
So, Jephthah came from a background steeped in pagan human sacrifice & Jephthah misguidedly thought this offer would please God Leviticus 18:21



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 fights 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 (grandad, 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 or 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



