

Sermon Title: **“SIN ABOUNDS ...”**

Judges 19:1-30

- It’s interesting that this next account will again center around someone from the Tribe of Levi
  - The Tribe of Levi were supposed to be the priestly nation, helping to center Israel on following God
- This Levite took for himself a concubine (a 2<sup>nd</sup> wife of sorts)
  - She runs away & goes to her father’s house & was there for 4 months
  - The father was pleased that the Levite came to get her & appeared to be interested in reconciling with her
- For 3 days the Levite stayed at the father’s house (eating & drinking)
  - However, upon the 4<sup>th</sup> day the Levite got up early & started preparing to head back home (father requests they eat before they go back home)
  - With a little pressure, the Levite agrees to stay 1 more night
  - On the 5<sup>th</sup> day, the Levite tried again to leave & the concubine’s father, said the same thing as the day before
  - NOT wanting to be detained any further, the Levite packs up & heads out
- Eventually, he arrives at the doorstep of Jebus (Jerusalem) with his concubine, a servant, & his 2 donkeys
  - At the time of Judges, Jerusalem was a pagan city
  - & the Levite refuses to lodge in a city of foreigners
  - So they go a little further to Gibeah (belongs to the Tribe of Benjamin)
- From afar an old man (from Ephraim) sees this group & invites them to his house (a sign of hospitality)
- Reason this passage is included—to move the reader to a place of horror
  - A proper healthy view of SIN, puts into focus a proper healthy view of GRACE!
- God’s GRACE ...
  1. Justifies us
  2. Gives us Hope
  3. Gives us Unmerited Love from God
  4. Saves us from the Wrath of God
  5. Reconciles us
- Where our SIN abounds, GRACE abounds ALL THE MORE!!!