

Judges 12:1-15

he Wham-Bam

Judges 12:1 The men in Ephraim (the same tribe that came & asked a similar question to Gideon) were gathered together

Ephraim wanted to receive credit & praise (they were jealous)

Like with ALL sin, untreated jealousy is a gateway sin to other sin & more sin (sin DOESN'T stay contained)

Because you HAVEN'T included us in this fight, we will burn your house down (with you in it) Judges 12:2-3

There appears to have been ample opportunity for Ephraim to participate in the battle (Ephraim stood by & did NOTHING)

Gideon displayed self-control ... used a soft answer to turn away wrath ... & his answer stopped Ephraim in their tracks Jephthah gets defensive ... finds fault ... & instigates Ephraim, which further turned up the tension Judges 12:4

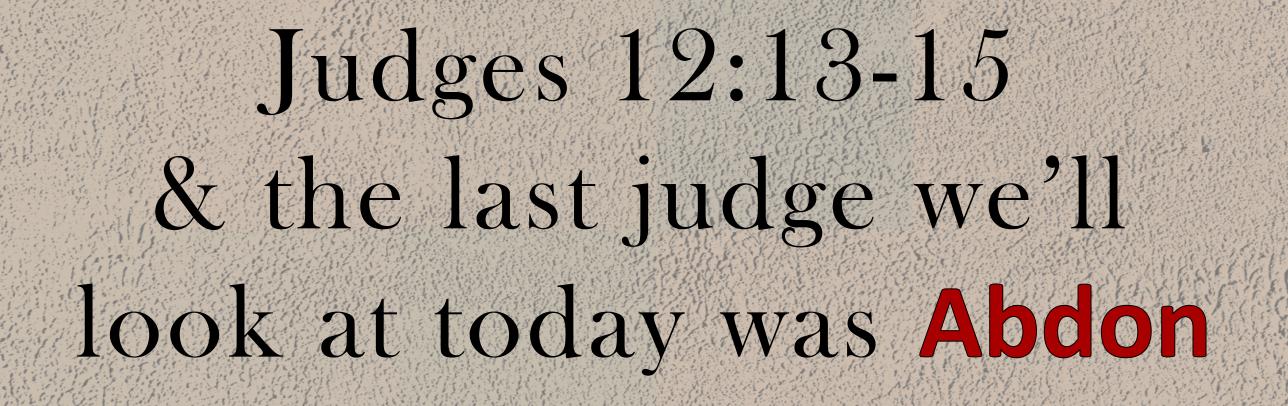
To make matters worse, Jephthah actually **fought** Ephraim

A silly fight coming out from one group who was envious & the other group who was prideful

It seems like there was a war of words before there was a physical war Judges 12:5-6

Sadly, in total there were roughly 42,000 Ephraimites, who died over what was honestly a silly conflict Judges 12:7 Judges 12:8-10

Following Jephthah was the next judge, named Ibzan Judges 12:11-12 Next in line of judges came Elon



The lack of information written about these 3 judges probably indicates that there was NOTHING eventful to write about

SO WHAT? Proverbs 15:1