

Judges 9 – Meeting the Objectives

Instructions: List the judges studied so far, and indicate at least one major fact about each.

1)

4)

2)

5)

3)

1.) Using details from the text, describe what you think Abimelech's upbringing/life was like in Shechem? What effects do you think these may have had on him?

2.) What is ironic about the appointment of Abimelech as king over Israel?

3.) What was the point of Jotham's story/parable?

- 4.) Why did God send a “spirit of ill will” (NKJV) between these men? What do you think this means (i.e. what was the “spirit”)? If literally an evil spirit/demon, would this be the only time God had done such a thing? Cite other examples/related texts if you can think of any.

- 5.) What event enraged Abimelech enough to take his forces and attack the city of Shechem, ultimately destroying it and all of its inhabitants? Note the details of the text; what “helped” Gaal to make his pronouncement against Abimelech and his regime?

- 6.) Why do you think Abimelech went to Thebez to “take” it (name some possibilities)? What is interesting about the way that he died?

- 7.) What happened once Abimelech was killed? What does this show about the independent resolve/faith of the Israelites during this time period?

- 8.) What lessons and applications can you take from Judges 9 for yourself?