

Syncretism's Egregious Consequences

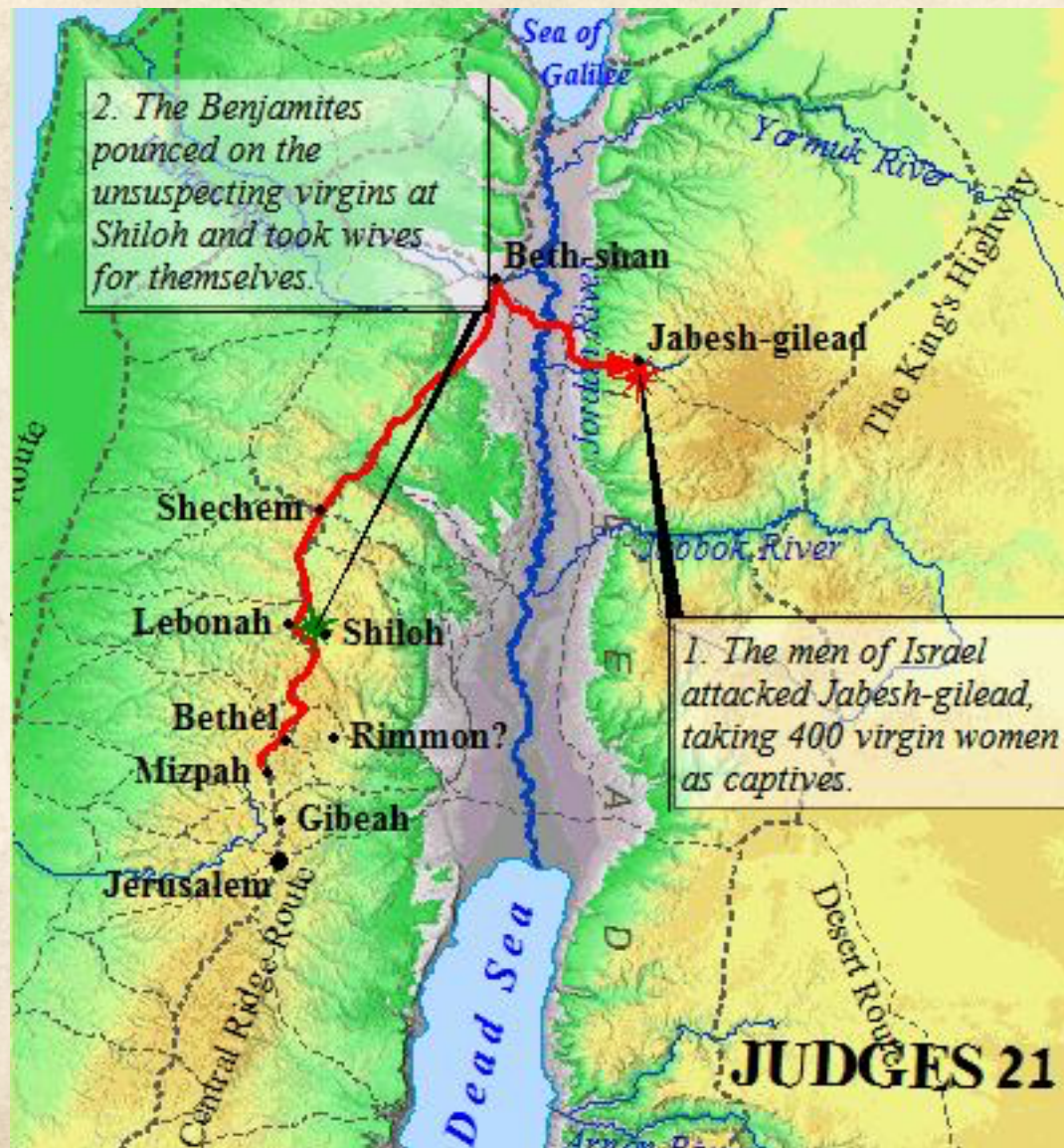
Joshua, Judges, Ruth

Jay Personius

Aug 12, 2018

Syncretism

- Defined:
 - “the combining of different religions, cultures, or ideas”
- Demonstrated:
 - Mixing Canaanite practices
 - Micah – hired a Levitical priest, made his own idols
 - Gideon – made his own ephod – a stumbling block to Israel
 - Jephthah – sticks to his vow, but at great expense
 - Samson – a Nazarite in name only (mostly)
 - Israel – added “doing right in their own eyes”



One Bad Deed Deserves Another ?

- Oath #1
 - Our daughters will not marry their sons
- Egregious action #1
 - Killing Benjamites like they were Canaanites
 - Including women and children
- Oath #2
 - Kill all who didn't join the fight
- Egregious action #2
 - Killing all adults from Jabesh-gilead (our brothers) like they were Canaanites
 - So we can take their virgin daughters

And Another ?

- Egregious action #3
 - Kidnaping women as a means to avoid breaking a vow

Application Exercise

- Be careful of making vows. Ensure you can meet them in a godly way without compromise.
- Be diligent to avoid any form of syncretism in your own spiritual life. Don't presume upon God's word or his ways and seek out godly counsel when having to address new challenges you haven't come across before.