

# THE TRUE KING REIGNS *Part 15*

## The Origins of Dan

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Judges Chapter 18 | Pastor Tony Shen | September 13, 2020

### I. Introduction

A. Historical Context

B. Structure of Judges

### II. Judges 18 (18:1-31)

A. Danites fail in mission (18:1 and 1:34-36)

B. Danite spies visit Micah's Levite (18:2-6)

C. Danite spies reconnoiter Laish and report back (18:7-10)

D. Tribe of Dan steals Micah's idols and Levite (18:11-20)

E. Micah reacts, but too little, too late (18:21-26)

F. Tribe of Dan wipes out Laish and sets up a pagan worship center (18:27-31)

### III. Lessons for Us

We must point to sin – others' sin AND our own.

We must hold fast to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We must learn the word of God and know it well.

We must pass this knowledge on to our children and future generations.

We must pray for God to shower grace on us, our children, and future generations. Only God saves, and God is gracious and powerful to save.

#### *Reflect, Discuss & Apply the Sermon*

1. What did you know of Dan before this sermon? How does knowing the origins of Dan help you understand God better? His law? His holiness? His grace?
2. Micah et al. didn't know God and didn't know God's law – or ignored it, or actively rebelled against it. Where can you stand to grow in knowing God and knowing His word? Where can you grow in obedience?
3. We are not omniscient; none of us knows everything. Sometimes we know what we don't know. What is more dangerous is when we don't know what we don't know. About the Scriptures. About our own sin because sin is deceitful. That's why we need the church and God to help us. Our friends in the church to take out the splinter in our eye. God to search our hearts, Read Psalm 139, especially vv 23-24. If you feel led, lovingly point things out to each other that you may not know about yourselves. Pray for God's grace to show you your sin and a heart to repent of it. Pray for one another for knowledge, repentance, and grace.
4. The Good News is that Christ died for our sins. This is "of first importance" (1 Cor 15:3). Who in your life needs to hear the gospel? Will you commit this week to sharing the gospel with one of those people?