

Scripture reading: Judges Chapter 10, 11&12

Tola, Jair and Jephthah

Tola led Israel for 23 years as the 7th judge and Jair led Israel for 22 years as the 8th judge. Jephthah was desolated by his family and they cast him away from home. Though Jephthah had the might to oppose them, he held his peace and walked his way. The Ammonites came against the Israelites. The Israelite elders sought the help of Jephthah being unable to oppose them. Despising all the bitterness he could have had on them for making him a cast away, Jephthah goes forth to their rescue. Trying to avoid the battle and the pain and losses that would follow, Jephthah sends a messenger of peace to the Ammonites. They would not oblige. Jephthah goes against them in war and has the victory. He had sent them word saying, "May the Lord the judge, render judgment this day between the children of Israel and the people of Ammon".

Question:

Is it right for Jephthah, the 9th judge of Israel to have said the Lord to be a judge?

Answer:

Jephthah did not prioritize himself neither was he arrogant of his position. He had a clear revelation that it was God who led him and his people and was their protector. He had the conviction that he cannot win over the enemy with his own wisdom and strength but rather the strength of God will bring them the victory. There was no mistake in Jephthah making such a statement. Today, we too have a righteous judge. Do you know who it is? Yes, it is Jesus Christ himself! Though we live in a world full of agony, if we lean upon Him and live a life that pleases him, he will cause us to be victorious over all trials and temptations. Amen.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Matthew 5:9

Prayer:

Our judge and lord Jesus Christ, be with us at all times. The battle belongs to you. We pray for the repentance of our enemies and we desire to be at peace with them. Amen.