

## Rebellion, Ruin and Rescue JUDGES

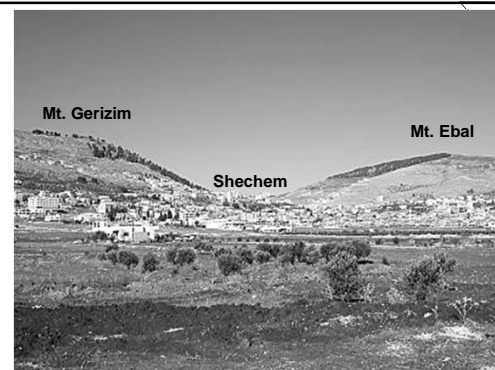
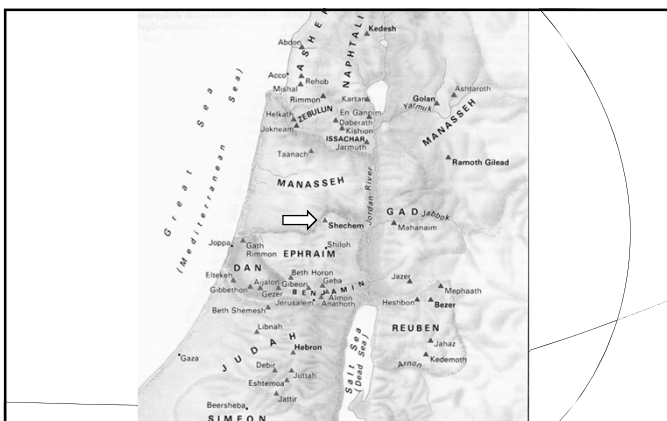
<sup>33</sup> Then it came about, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the sons of Israel again played the harlot with the Baals, and made Baal-berith their god. <sup>34</sup> Thus the sons of Israel did not remember the LORD their God, who had delivered them from the hands of all their enemies on every side; <sup>35</sup> nor did they show kindness to the household of Jerubbaal (*that is*, Gideon) in accord with all the good that he had done to Israel.

(Judges 8:33-35)

## The Gideon Sequel: Abimelech Judges 9:1-57

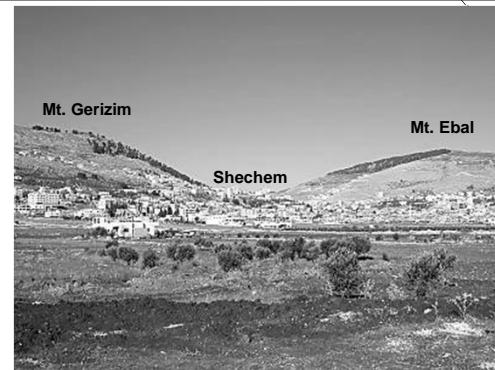
### Abimelech's "Reign"

1. The Treachery of Abimelech and Shechem
  - Judges 9:1-6



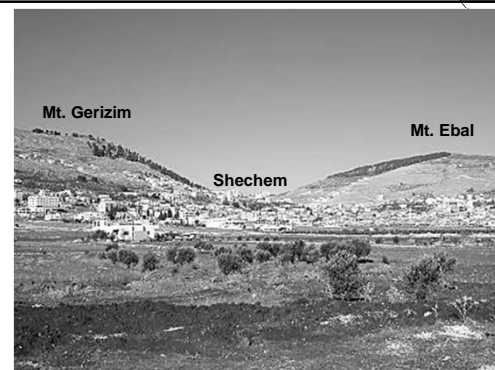
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2. The Curse on Abimelech and Shechem
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1. The Treachery of Abimelech and Shechem
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2. The Curse on Abimelech and Shechem
  - Judges 9:7-21
3. The Judgment on Abimelech and Shechem
  - Judges 9:22-57



<sup>56</sup> Thus God repaid the wickedness of Abimelech, which he had done to his father in killing his seventy brothers.

<sup>57</sup> Also God returned all the wickedness of the men of Shechem on their heads, and the curse of Jotham the son of Jerubbaal came upon them.

<sup>23</sup> Then *God sent an evil spirit* between Abimelech and the men of Shechem; and the men of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech,

<sup>24</sup> so that the violence done to the seventy sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood might be laid on Abimelech their brother, who killed them, and on the men of Shechem, who strengthened his hands to kill his brothers.

## Principles of Divine Judgment

1. God does repay with just retribution those who afflict His people

<sup>6</sup> For after all it is *only* just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, <sup>7</sup> and to *give* relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, <sup>8</sup> dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

(2 Thess. 1:6-8)

## Principles of Divine Judgment

2. God's judgments in this age may appear ordinary and natural

## Principles of Divine Judgment

3. God's judgment includes confirming men in wickedness until the day of judgment

<sup>11</sup> For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, <sup>12</sup> in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness. (2 Thess. 2:11-12)