

## On the Side of God, Part 3

### **Primary Text: Judges 8:29-35, 9:2-6**

“Man’s sinful desire to have, what God has already appointed”

This is a prophetic message for this age and the ages to come.

-Background information:

The Cycle in the Book of Judges:

- a. The Children of Israel turn away from God
- b. They fall into the hands of an oppressor
- c. They call out to God for deliverance
- d. God raises up a judge to deliver them
- e. There is peace and restoration...the cycle continues

**Notes:**

I. Key points after reading Scripture:

- a. Abimilech, being from another tribe, had some sway with the men of Shechem
- b. They kill Gideon’s 70 sons, except for Jotham
- c. The men anoint Abimilech as the king of Israel

**Notes:**

- II. Jotham delivers a prophetic curse on the population: what did he say?
- a. The Olive Tree ~ represents the spiritual life. It was a symbol of God's endowment of the Holy Spirit to consecrate men or men's actions. Says no to their request for a king
  - b. The Fig Tree ~ represents the cotton of its day; it was an essential trade. This is a representation of the economic condition of Israel. Also says no to their request for a king
  - c. The Vine ~ represents the nation of Israel. It is a sign of domestic happiness and peace. Also says no to their request for a king
  - d. Bramble ~ thorns- represents the corruption of a nation; the heart of paganism. The thorns say to the men of Shechem, "come and sit underneath my shade." This represents Abimilech.

**Notes:**

- III. Judges 9:2-6- The demise of Abimilech
- a. Abimilech was killed by a woman
  - b. The curse of Jotham came to pass
  - c. Abimilech is a precursor to the actions of the anti-Christ

**Notes:**