

Judges 11

1. The story of Jephthah runs through this chapter and into 12. It is not until verse 7 of chapter 12 that we see Jephthah identified as *what*?
2. Describe the character of Jephthah:
 - a. What former judge was similarly described by an angel? (6:12)
 - b. What was unusual about Jephthah's birth?
 - c. How did this situation affect Jephthah's (step)brothers?
3. Who made war against Israel?
 - a. Why did they make war against Israel? (see v. 13)
4. From the little that we know from this context, why did the Gileadites seek to make Jephthah their commander? (see 1 & 3 for help)
 - a. What logical reaction did Jephthah have to their request? (7)
 - b. What condition did Jephthah attach before consenting?
5. Considering verses 15-27: What arguments did Jephthah make to refute the claim of the Ammonite king?

6. How did the Ammonites react to Jephthah's well-reasoned and historically accurate arguments?
7. What came upon Jephthah and what did he do?
8. What famous, but hasty vow did Jephthah make to God?
 - a. According to verse 34, what (who) first came out of Jephthah's house?
9. Bible students have traditionally been divided over what exactly happened to Jephthah's daughter. According to Deuteronomy 12:31-32, what do we know about God's view of child sacrifice?
 - a. According to verse 39, what vow did she actually keep?
 - b. According to verses 37 and 38, what did Jephthah's daughter and her friends actually "bemoan?"
 - c. The word "lament" or "commemorate" or "celebrate" in verse 40 is translated "rehearse" in Judges 5:11, and means "to talk with."
 - d. Neither Judges 11 or any other Bible passage teaches that Jephthah's daughter was offered as a burnt offering.
 - e. One translation of Judges 11:31 reads, "*Whosoever shall come forth of the doors of my house to meet me, shall surely be the Lord's, and I will offer up to him a burnt-sacrifice.*"
10. Based upon these facts, what likely happened to Jephthah's daughter?