

Finding Taproots, 2011 Edition

The story of the Benjamites and King Saul

*Judges 2:1-3 you have not obeyed My voice; they shall be thorns in your side, and their gods shall be a snare to you."*

This led to the consequences, as described in Judges 19-20.

"Am I not a Benjamite, from the smallest tribe of Israel, and is not my clan the least of all the clans of the tribe of Benjamin? 1 Sam 9:21

*"I have sinned...I was afraid of the people and so I gave in to them."*

- Saul's heart set on pleasing people and a good image

*"I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel"* 1 Sam 15:30

- wanted honor

Saul was dealing with inherited roots from the Tribe of Benjamin 1 Sam 15:24

The taproots: stubbornness (witchcraft) rebellion, idolatry

1 Sam 15:22-23; Judges 20:12

The downward Cycle of Idolatry in this story can teach us how to trace FRUIT ISSUES (or prevailing bondages) to the ROOT Source, after they have adapted themselves.

- It began with Idolatry in the heart,
- which always breeds bloodshed,
- which always breed superstition,
- which always breeds secret societies,
- which feeds on fornication,
- which leads to unforgiveness.
- People become full of guilt and they try to cover up their unforgiveness with (work, religion, alcohol, drugs).
- They get legalistic which leads to occult activity,
- Which leads to lust—
- not just sexual lust but lust for power and recognition, authority and control.
- This comes into the Church and becomes a pride and control issue—
- Now you have a Jezebel scenario brewing and it takes on many forms...
- Such as a "I'll get involved in your project as long as we are heading it up" kind of thinking. (no humility in needing to be in control)
- Chronic problems will continue to plague a family or city until either the iniquity has played out or until the curse is broken thru the power of the cross. Alistair Petrie

Saul went on to exhibit the effects of the inherited roots in his life:

- Jealousy 1 Sam 18:9
- Attempted murder 1 Sam 18:10;19:9
- Self-pity and manipulation 1 Sam 22:7
- Unbelief
- Murder 1 Sam 22:18
- Fear and Terror at the sight of the Philistine army 1 Sam 28:5
- Occult activity 1 Sam 28:7
- Suicide 1 Sam 31:4