

Study Notes and Questions for Judges 9

A motto on the wall of a German school read:

When wealth is lost, nothing is lost;

When health is lost, something is lost;

When character is lost, all is lost!

The people of Shechem serve as an illustration of this motto. By failing to stand up for what was right, they soon found their lives ruled by evil. Once character was gone, they lost their freedom. All of the choices presented to them were merely different paths through a terrible maze that eventually led to their final destruction.

- Read Galatians 6:7 and explain how the spiritual law that is outlined in that verse affected Abimelech.
- What is the first suggestion in this chapter that God is going to bring judgment on Abimelech and the people of Shechem?
- Read James 3:16 and explain how that verse applies to the life of Abimelech
- The story ends by stating, "Thus God returned the evil of Abimelech" (v. 56 ESV). What does this passage teach you about God's justice and integrity?

Prayer Points:

- Pray that God would strengthen you to always stand for what is right and good and never to be overtaken by evil
- Pray that your spiritual leaders and elected officials would be people of character and integrity