

**Against Culture
Rescued – Part 1**
Life Church St. Louis – May 6, 2018
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Ruth 1:1a (ESV) In the days when the judges ruled ...

Judges 21:25 (ESV) In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

1. Understand how _____ shifts

Judges 2:7 (ESV) And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the LORD had done for Israel.

1A. Each generation must _____ God

Judges 2:10 (ESV) And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.

1B. Abandoning God leads to _____

Judges 2:12 (ESV) And they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the LORD to anger.

1C. Forsaking God brings _____

Judges 2:14-15b (ESV) So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them. And he sold them into the hand of their surrounding enemies, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies. ... And they were in terrible distress.

2. God provides anointed _____

Judges 2:16 (ESV) Then the LORD raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them.

2A. Anointed leaders must be _____

Judges 2:17 (ESV) Yet they did not listen to their judges, for they whored after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their fathers had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the LORD, and they did not do so.

2B. The destructive _____ spirals downward

Judges 2:19 (ESV) But whenever the judge died, they turned back and were more corrupt than their fathers, going after other gods, serving them and bowing down to them. They did not drop any of their practices or their stubborn ways.

3. Godless culture is a _____ for believers

Judges 2:21-22 (ESV) I will no longer drive out before them any of the nations that Joshua left when he died, in order to test Israel by them, whether they will take care to walk in the way of the LORD as their fathers did, or not.”

3A. Culture tests our _____

Judges 3:4 (ESV) They were for the testing of Israel, to know whether Israel would obey the commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses.

3B. Culture tests our _____

Judges 3:6 (ESV) And their daughters they took to themselves for wives, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they served their gods.

Action Plan for This Week

- Have a daily quiet time of Bible reading & prayer.
 - Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun
- Invite a friend for our series **Rescued – Book of Ruth** next Sunday.
- How will I obey God’s Word this week? _____

Against Culture Study Guide

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Intro. What does Judges 21:25 tell you about the times of the judges in Israel?

How is current American culture like the days of the judges (Judges 21:25)?

Why do you think that only 35% of Americans now believe in absolute moral truth?

How should a believer respond to an increasingly godless culture (Romans 12:2)?

1A. Why did Joshua's generation serve the Lord (Judges 2:7)?

1B. What happened to the next generation (Judges 2:10)? Why did the culture shift?

1C. Why does abandoning the Lord always lead to idolatry (Judges 2:12)?

1D. How does God always respond to idolatry (Judges 2:14-15)? Why?

1E. In what ways is American culture becoming increasingly idolatrous?

2A. How does the Lord raising up anointed leaders demonstrate His grace (Judges 2:16)?

2B. In what ways is idol worship equivalent to spiritual prostitution (Judges 2:17)?

2C. Why did the death of a judge lead to ever increasing corruption (Judges 2:19)?

2D. In what ways is it encouraging that God always keeps a remnant of true believers in every generation (Romans 11:3-5)?

3A. How does a godless culture test our obedience (Judges 2:21-22, 3:4)?

3B. How does a godless culture test our relationships (Judges 3:6)?

3C. What challenges do you face in living in our decadent culture?