

Judges: Between Conquest and Kingdom

1:1-3:6, Prolog

1:1-2:5, **Social** Disintegration

2:6-3:6, **Spiritual** Departure

3:7-16:31, The Judges

3:7-11, Othniel *good marriage*

3:12-32, Ehud and Shamgar
messages, fords

4:1-5:31, Deborah and Barak
woman breaks skull of villain

6:1-8:32, Gideon

8:33-10:5, Abimelech, Tola, Jair
woman breaks skull of villain

10:6-12:15, Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon
messages, fords

13:1-16:31, Samson *bad marriages*

17:1-21:25, Epilog and Diagnosis

17:1-18:31, **Spiritual** Weakness—Micah's Idol

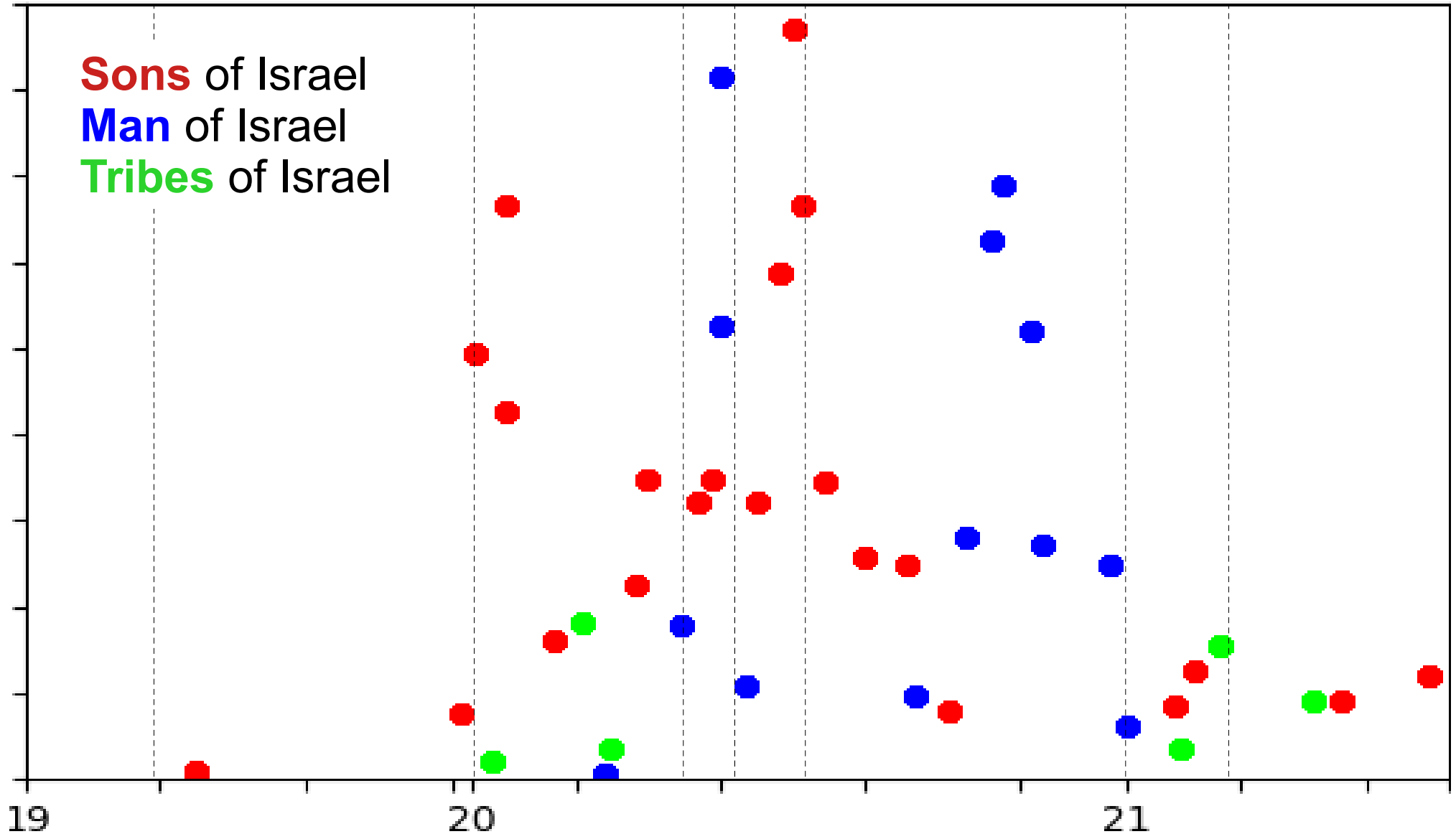
19:1-21:25, **Social** Strife—Civil War

The Structure of Judges

Judg. 20:11 So all **the men of Israel** (literally “man,” אִישׁ, H0376) were gathered against the city, knit together as one man. 12 And **the tribes of Israel** (שבט, H7626) sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, What wickedness is this that is done among you? 13 Now therefore deliver us the men, the children of Belial, which are in Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israel. But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren **the children of Israel** (בן, H1121):

Designations of Israel

19, The Levite & his Concubine		20, The War with Benjamin				21, Wives for Benjamin	
A Family Quarrel	Rape of the Concubine	Tribal Council	1st Btl	2nd Battle	Third Battle	Tribal Council	Rape of Jabesh Gilead & Shiloh



More than just “Children of Israel”

“**Tribes of Israel**”--corporate responsibility

1Cor. 5:3 For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, **as though I were present**, concerning him that hath so done this deed, 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **when ye are gathered together**, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

“**Man of Israel**”--courage, strength

1Co 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, **quit you like men, be strong.**
2Ti 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a **good soldier** of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a **soldier.**

I Corinthians 16:13

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

- In what does Paul write the Corinthians to stand fast?

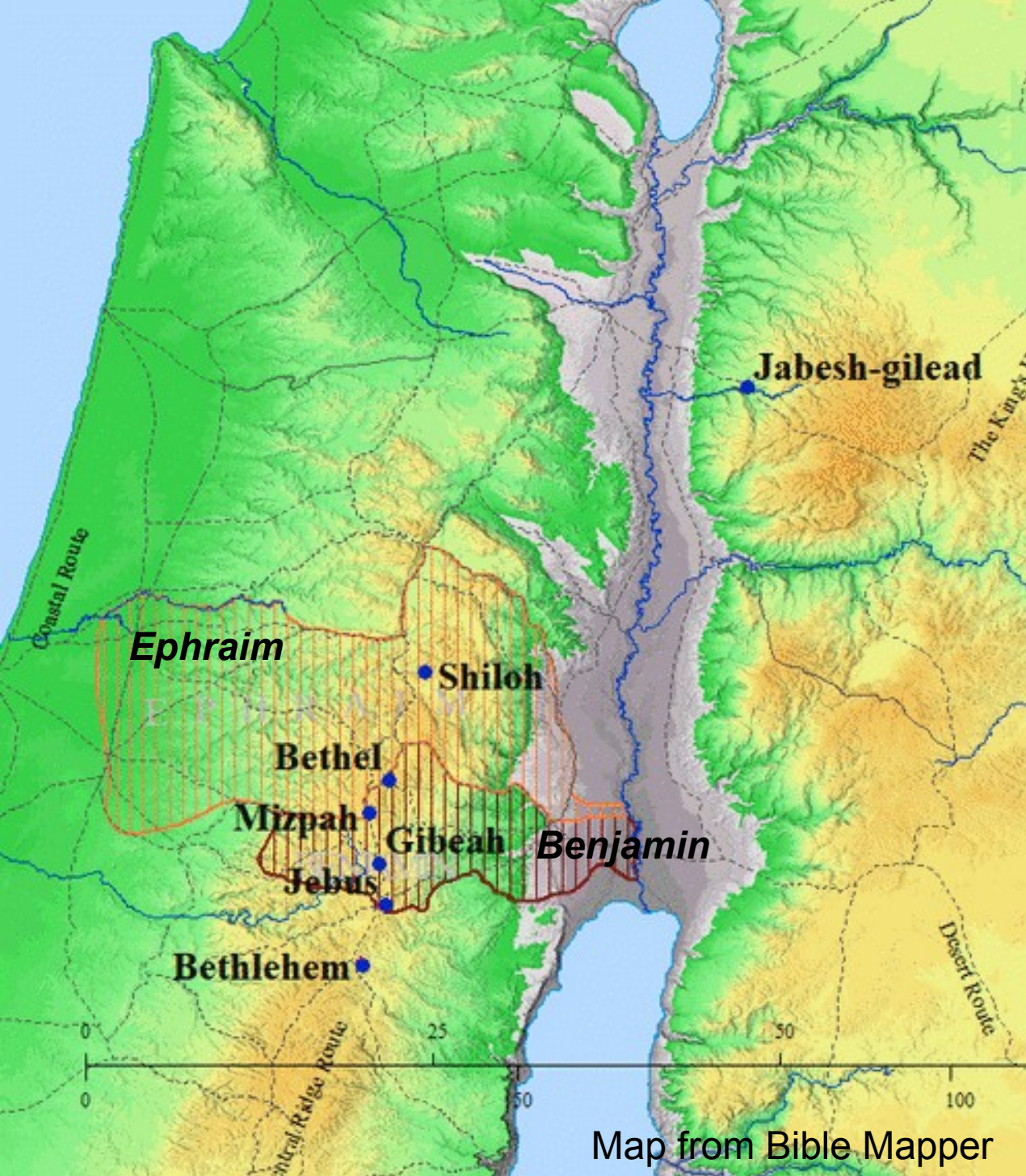


Paul also tells them to act like men, or to "be men of courage," and to be strong. He has made clear that their faith in Christ will face opposition from the culture around them. They must be resolved to remain in their faith with strength and courage.

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Bilson Peters

The Geography of Judges 19-21



A Week in Bethlehem

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Weds	Thursday	Friday	Saturday Sabbath
Travel	Travel First Day	Second Day	3rd Day v.4	4th Day v.5	5th Day v.8 Travel	Travel
Mt. Ephraim	Bethlehem	Bethlehem	Bethlehem	Bethlehem	Bethlehem, Gibeah	Gibeah, Mt Ephraim

19:5, 8 Comfort thine heart

Gen. 18:5 And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and **comfort ye your hearts**; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

19:6, 9 Let thine heart be merry

Rth 3:7 And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and **his heart was merry**, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of corn: and she came softly, and uncovered his feet, and laid her down.

1Ki 21:7 And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and **let thine heart be merry**: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

Beware of gluttony.

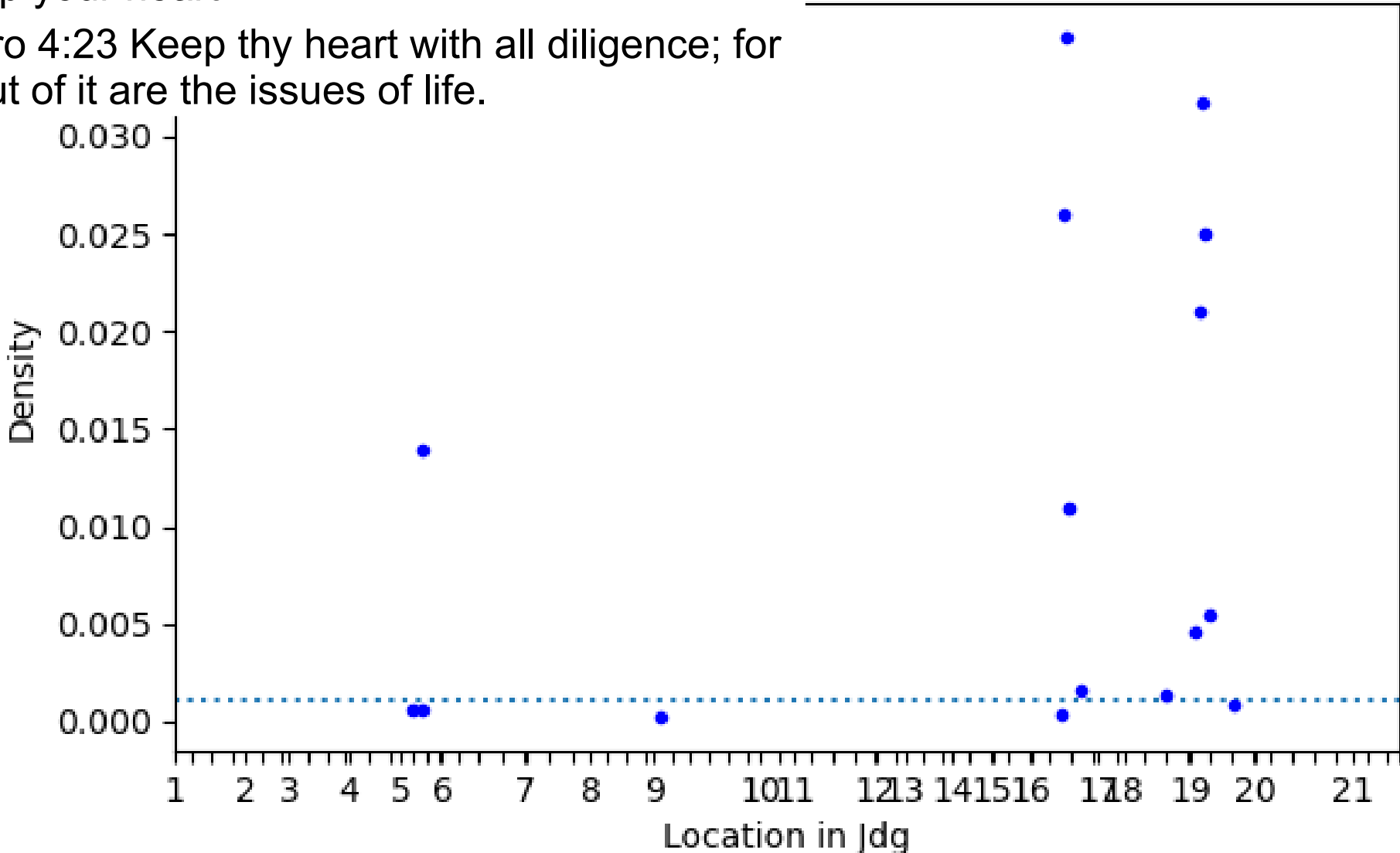
Eccl. 10:17 Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!

Keep your heart

Pro 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Lessons from Bethlehem

Heart H3820, H3824 in Judges



A Tenacious Father-In-Law

Gen 29:26 And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. 27 Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years.

Gen 30:25 And it came to pass, when Rachel had born Joseph, that Jacob said unto Laban, Send me away, that I may go unto mine own place, and to my country. 26 Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served thee, and let me go: for thou knowest my service which I have done thee. 27 And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.

Jdg 17:13 Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest.