

# Beginnings Famous & Endings

## **Judges 21:25**

*“In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.”*

It's one of my favorite verses. It makes so much sense. To be leaderless is a very bad thing. These days we have leaders we hate. We might as well not have one. In Canada we have leaders that give us everything we want. Just appoint Santa to the post. What makes a good leader? One who gives us everything or one who tries to guide and protect the masses? From whom? In most cases it's protecting us from ourselves.

They say that several ancient cultures perished because they became free societies. Free to do as they please. When trouble came knocking, nobody answered. They expected someone else to solve it. When we get what we want, an insatiable desire kicks in. It's been that way forever in history. This passage is at the end of a lost period of time. The nation was fragmented. A King seemed like a cool idea. It seemed to be the best way to unite a nation. The problem was yet again, the people got the King they wanted rather than the one they needed.

We have government. It's a good thing. To the Russian people communism might have been a curse. Maybe democracy is a curse? Some people want lawlessness to take back the people. I suspect the criminal element wants that too. We need leaders. We need protection. In North America we are protected by our government. We are also lucky to have water between continents. A really big ocean is a form of protection too. Yet, we whine about our leaders and not the ocean. They whined about their leaders in Judges 21 too.

Why must we have what we want? Germany tried to have the world: failed. Rome's territory became massive and far reaching: failed. The Russian people wanted the Tsar gone. They got communism and death instead: failed. Many North American people want change. In every election these days the slogan is *change*. Is it because we want what we want? Where is the united front? So many people are fragmented.

The Bible sets up two scenarios. The first is a savior. The Jewish culture looked for this Christ or Messiah. The Christian religion says he came in Jesus. There are so many churches and groups with so many different views on a savior. Aren't we thinking and doing what we seem fit?

Then there is the other side. Some wish for a united church to make one religion. The leader could be called the anti-Christ. Some embrace the idea. Yet, he is anti. That means the opposite. That sounds eerily familiar to the first king of Israel. Someone the people wanted a handsome man who looked the part. He played the part to please the people: failed.

Daniel 7:25 **“He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.”**