



Judges Chapter 12

- Review/Intro
 - Our study of Japhthah isn't quite finished. In chapter 11, we saw him defeat the Amorites only to be undone by his rash vow against the Lord
- Trouble with Ephraim
 - Even though Japhthah has succeeded and the Israelites have peace, the tribe of Ephraim is troubled because of their role
 - This happened in Gideon's time as well. Gideon was able to give them a soft answer to turn away their wrath, but unfortunately this was not the case with Japhthah
 - There are two many lessons within this event. One is we can see how pride can cause us to act jealousy as in the case of Ephraim, and the importance of a soft answer to turn away wrath which Jephthah lacked
- A civil war begins
 - We see a major war happening among the people of Israel to further illustrate their spiritual downfall
 - Even their language, which is a common way to find unity among peoples, has changed so that there are dialects among Israel and these dialects are used to name friend and enemy
- The chapter ends with a quick recounting of the minor judges Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon