

JUDGES

THE BLESSED AND THE BROKEN

— A LONG WAY THE WRONG WAY —

Judges 20:26 Then all the children of Israel, that is, all the people, went up and came to the house of God and wept. They sat there before the LORD and fasted that day until evening; and they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD. ²⁷ So the children of Israel inquired of the LORD (the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days, ²⁸ and Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, stood before it in those days), saying, “Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of my brother Benjamin, or shall I cease?” And the LORD said, “Go up, for tomorrow I will deliver them into your hand.”

Judges 17:6 In those days there was no king in Israel;
every man did what was right in his own eyes.



—STORY ONE: THE CAUSE—

Judges 17:1 Now there was a man from the mountains of Ephraim, whose name was Micah. ² And he said to his mother, “The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from you, and on which you put a curse, even saying it in my ears—here is the silver with me; I took it.”

—STORY ONE: THE CAUSE—

Judges 17:13 Then Micah said, “Now I know that the LORD will be good to me, since I have a Levite as priest!”

Exodus 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image...

—STORY ONE: THE CAUSE—

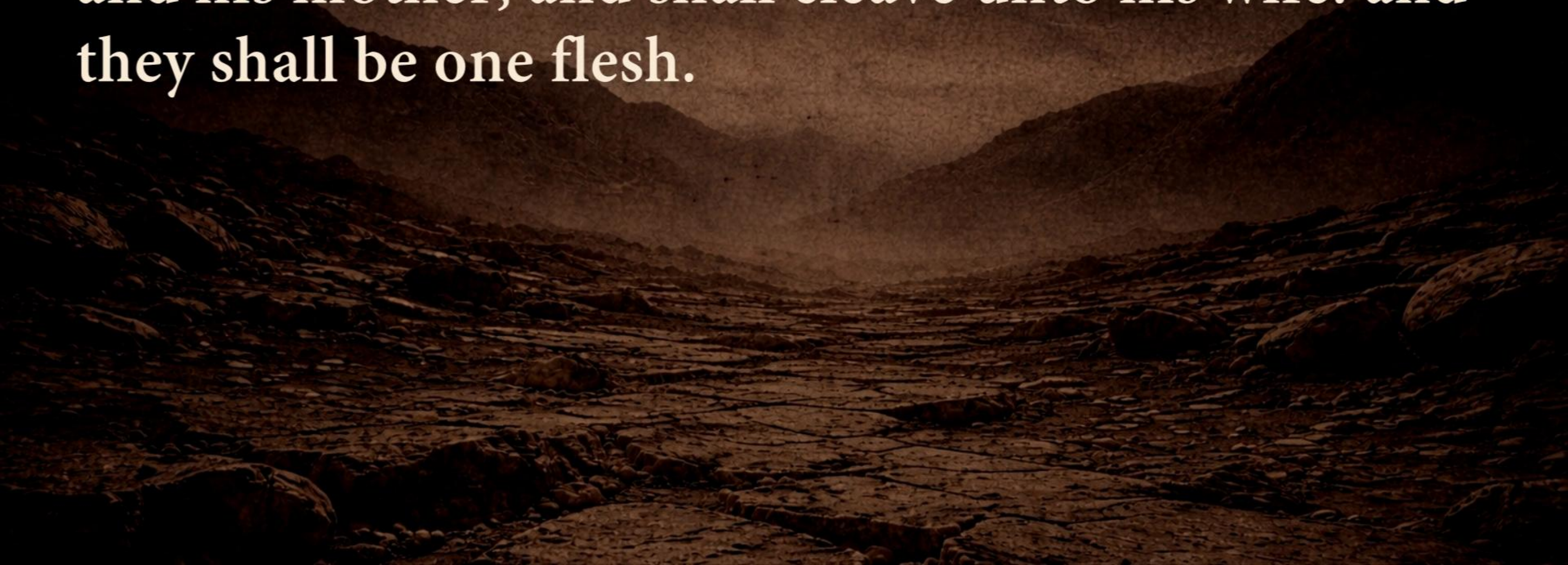
Judges 18:19 And they said to him, “Be quiet, put your hand over your mouth, and come with us; be a father and a priest to us. Is it better for you to be a priest to the household of one man, or that you be a priest to a tribe and a family in Israel?” ²⁰ So the priest’s heart was glad; and he took the ephod, the household idols, and the carved image, and took his place among the people.

—STORY TWO: THE EFFECT—

Judges 19:1 And it came to pass in those days, when there was no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite staying in the remote mountains of Ephraim. He took for himself a concubine from Bethlehem in Judah. ² But his concubine played the harlot against him, and went away from him to her father's house at Bethlehem in Judah, and was there four whole months.

—STORY TWO: THE EFFECT—

Genesis 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.



—STORY TWO: THE EFFECT—

Judges 19:22 As they were enjoying themselves, suddenly certain men of the city, perverted men, surrounded the house and beat on the door.

They spoke to the master of the house, the old man, saying, “Bring out the man who came to your house, that we may know him carnally!”

Ruth 1:1 Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land.

1 Samuel 1:15 But Hannah answered and said, “No, my lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit...”