



Small Group Guide: Failure Of A Crown (Week 7)

Key Takeaways

1. **God's Goal Remains Constant:** To fill the earth with image bearers who represent Him faithfully
2. **The Covenant Pattern:** Obedience brings blessing; disobedience brings discipline meant to lead to repentance
3. **God's Character Revealed:** Compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in loyal love but will not leave the guilty unpunished
4. **Human Leadership Fails:** Judges, priests, and kings all failed to keep Israel faithful, pointing to our need for the Perfect King
5. **The Scarlet Thread Continues:** From Zerah to Perez to David—God preserves the line through which the Messiah will come

Discussion Questions

6. **What are we looking for in the Old Testament story?** How does understanding we're tracking "the seed" and looking for the True Image Bearer help you read these books differently?
7. **Review the covenant warnings and promises** (Deuteronomy 28-30). Why did God give Israel such specific warnings about what would happen if they disobeyed?
8. **The study mentioned God's character is revealed in how He responds to adversity.** What does Israel's repeated failure and God's repeated mercy teach us about who God is?
9. **Discuss the pattern we see repeated in Judges:** Israel sins → God disciplines → Israel cries out → God raises up a deliverer → temporary peace → Israel sins again. Why do you think this cycle kept repeating?
10. **The study highlighted how Israel was warned not to make covenants with the inhabitants of the land** (starting with Rahab). Why was this command so

important? What was God protecting them from? How does this relate to 2 Corinthians 6:14?

11. Look at the requirements for Israel's king (Deuteronomy 17:14-20):

Don't multiply horses (military might)

Don't multiply wives (divided heart)

Don't multiply gold/silver (wealth)

Must write a copy of the Law and read it daily

How did Solomon violate every single one? What was the result? What does this teach us about God's commands?

12. **The scarlet thread appears with Zerah, then with Rahab, and disappears from Zerah's line (Achan).** What is the significance of this detail? How does it show God's sovereignty in preserving the line of the Messiah?