

Abimelech's Conspiracy and Downfall (9:1 – 9:57)

Grasping for Power

Judges 9:1-6

What did Abimelech do in an effort to grasp for power in Israel?

Did Abimelech's plan to gain power in Israel work?

What lessons can be learned from this passage about choosing a leader?

The Thornbush King

Judges 9:7-21

What is Jotham trying to communicate to the people with his story in 9:7-15?

Why is it so ridiculous to consider the thornbush as the king of the trees?

What were Jotham's warnings to the people in Judges 9:16-20?

The Fire of the Thornbush

Judges 9:22-29

How could Abimelech's reign be characterized? (Judges 9:22-25)

In verses 27-29, what is ironic about Gaal's rise to power?

What are some evidences that Abimelech's reign fulfill the characterization portrayed of him in Jotham's parable?

Is God Absent?

Judges 9:23-24, 56-57

What were God's purposes in the events of Judges 9:22-55?

What can we learn from this situation concerning God's present judgment?
