

The Jephthah Reversal

(3 Rescues & a Funeral)

(Judges: The Deadly Spiral #6)

Judges 11:1-13, 28-40



It is a great & awesome & tremendous thing when God Almighty reverses the judgments, beliefs & values of men: It is likewise when we agree with God.

† Who Is Jephthah?

I. Jephthah's Unexpected Call – Rescued from his people's judgment & cruelty

HUMAN REVERSAL: The man completely rejected by the ignorant opinions of his own people turns out to be the man absolutely affirmed by the wise decree of Almighty God!

† Who Is Jephthah's god/God?

II. Jephthah's Unwise Vow – Rescued from his false god

DIVINE REVERSAL: The far-away good-luck-god whom men try superstitiously to move turns out to be the nearby God-of-all who is now graciously on the move!

† Who Keeps Jephthah's Vow?

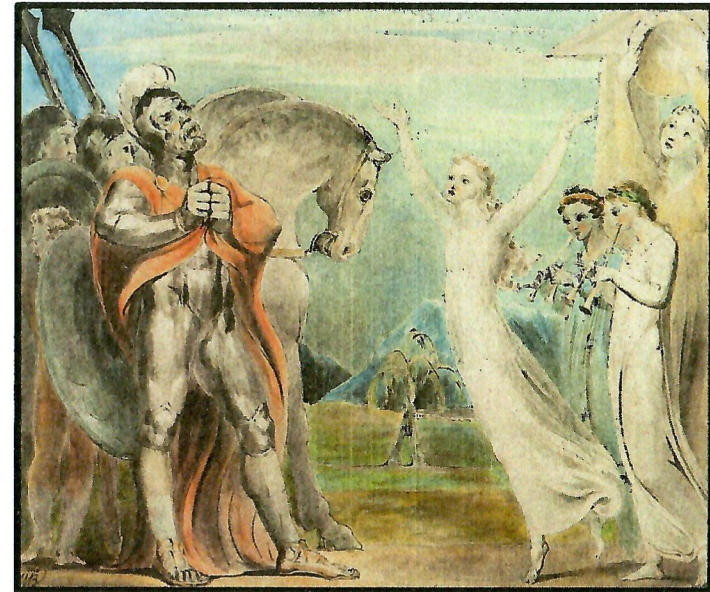
III. Jephthah's Unfathomable Sacrifice – Rescued from his natural deceit

VALUES REVERSAL: The affordable promise too-lightly made in hasty presumption to prove his worth turns out to be the terrible promise proving his foolishness as it begs to be broken and then bringing dignity and weight to all humanity when it is kept.

† Who Pays for Jephthah's Sin & Honor? (Who is Jephthah's Daughter?)

IV. Jephthah's Unrescued Daughter – No deliverer for the story's true hero?

DESTINY REVERSAL: The one who seems most betrayed by man & most forgotten by God turns out to be the model of dignity among men, saving faith before God & true heroism for all.



William Blake – Jephthah's Daughter (1803)

Where was the ram for Jephthah's daughter?

Or for the Levite's concubine?

Where was God's hand to stop the slaughter

Of the children of Palestine?...

- beginning of a poem by Daniel B.
(from an "Ex-Christian" website)

Covenant Presbyterian Church
of
Reno, Nevada

July 12, 2026

Service for The Lord's Day

July 12, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

...And who, for Noah's drunken error, Forever cursed the tribe of Ham?
Who is this god that spreads such terror? And why on earth call him a "lamb"?
- ending of a poem by Daniel B. (from an "Ex-Christian" website)

We Gather as People United by Faith in God the Father

Prelude

Nancy Tedford, organ

Church Family News

***Call to Worship**

Gerry Dunlap

Isaiah 29:13-16; Romans 11:33-36

Leader: And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

People: Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?"

Leader: You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"?

People: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

We Worship Jesus Christ the Son, the Lamb of God

***Songs of Praise**

Samuel Dueñas & CPC Praise Band

"Savior of the World" & "Living Hope"

[CCLI License #246069]

Time of Greeting / Welcoming One Another

Children's Prayer Time

Katie Guerrero

Prayer of Confession, Word of Assurance & Gloria Patri

Time of Offering

"Blessed Be the Name of the Lord" – Gerry & Janet Dunlap

***Doxology (#731) & Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We Hear the Holy Spirit's Unchanging & Redeeming Word

Hymn of Preparation

[bulletin insert]

"You Are Before Me, Lord"

Old Testament Reading

Judges 11:1-13, 28-40 (p.211)

Message:

The Jephthah Reversal

Pastor Jay Hull

(Judges: The Deadly Spiral #6)

We Depart to Live in & for the Honor of the Triune God

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

***Closing Hymn**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

#92

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

*indicates to stand if you are able

Weekly Events

Sundays

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 am Prayer
10:00 am Worship Service
11:15 am Coffee & Fellowship

Wednesday

9:00 am Women's Bible Study
(on summer break)
1:30 pm XLENT-Teens (on summer break)
2:30 pm Kid's Club (on summer break)
7:00 pm Praise Band Practice

Thursdays

1:00 pm All Church Bible Study
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (on summer break)

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Jul 12 Salad Luncheon 11:30 am	Jul 20-24 VBS 5:45 pm to 8:00 pm
Jul 14 Evangelism MTM 5:00 pm	Jul 21 Admin MTM 3:30 pm
Christian Ed MTM 6:00 pm	JUL 28 Session 6:30 pm
Worship MTM 6:00 pm	
Deacons XLD	

News & Reminders

Salad Luncheon Today After Worship

Join in the good food and good fellowship. Didn't bring a salad? Not to worry; there's plenty to go around. See you there.

Mission Month is Coming

Every Sunday in August will have an interesting message, plus the Mission Fair is on August 2nd and potluck on the 9th.

Last Call for Your VBS Donation

If you've taken a green leaf with a description of what to buy for VBS, your purchase is needed asap. Monday, July 13, is the extended deadline.

Kids Club and XLENT Teens

These groups will begin their Fall sessions on Wednesday, August 12. Registration is now open on www.covenant-reno.org. Forms are available in the narthex.

Women's Retreat Sign-up Sheet is in the Narthex

The Women's Retreat is October 23-25 at Lake Tahoe. The sign-up period is June 28 through July 26. A flyer in the narthex contains room, meal, and cost information; ride-share potential; and scholarship information. The sign-up table is in the narthex. Pay online is available on our website www.covenant-reno.org.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Donation Bin

There is a donation bin in the narthex for individual items for shoeboxes. School supplies, hair clips and combs, small stuffed animals, toys, whatever you'd like to contribute. These will be used by Kids Club to help fill their shoeboxes. This is separate from the Christmas Shoebox drive in the fall.

PRAYERS & PRAISES

For the Church

Pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee as they pray and search for a pastor to succeed Pastor Jay, when he retires.

Prayer Requests

Nancy Tedford Healing
Joyce Miers Healing
Ernie Tanner Healing (submitted by Jean Burnett)
Joyce Prosser Healing (submitted by Jim Prosser)
Lesley Weller Life Circumstances (submitted by Carole Faeth)
Janet Corty Healing
Corrine Dickman Healing (submitted by Jean Burnett)
Desi & Jacob Wright Difficult pregnancy (submitted by Jim Hemsley)
Phil Landis Healing
Bill Malcolm Praise for his swift knee surgery recovery (submitted by Jim Prosser)

Bereavement

Friends and family of **Kimberly Souza** ((Sharleen Phillips' sister))

Our New Neighbors

Pray for the new neighbors who have moved in

On Active Military Tour of Duty

Noah Arias, Terran Billharz, Cody Carr, Matthew Cunningham, Westin Hart, Chase Lemon, Levi Sanchez, Gary Hogman, Maille Mathieu, Brian Zordell, Margaret Guthrie, Benjamin Guthrie, Chandler Bryant, Caleb Mize & Jacob Simpkins

Prayer Requests

Name of Person to pray for: _____

Concern or Update _____

Submitted by _____

Date _____

☐ For Church-wide prayer

☐ For Pastor/Staff Prayer

☐ Post on the Realm

Prayer submissions will be listed for 4 weeks; if an extension is desired, please request with an update. Put your request in the offering plate or in the prayer request box located on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.