

Judges 9

Characters: Narrator, Abimelech, All

Based on/scripture: Judges 9

FK reading level: 5.8

Abimelech Becomes King

NARRATOR: Abimelech was the son of Gideon by a concubine.

ALL: He went to his mother's brothers at Shechem

NARRATOR: and spoke to them and to all his maternal grandfather's clan

ABIMELECH: Please speak in the presence of all the lords of Shechem

ALL: Ask them this:

ABIMELECH: Is it better for you that 70 men, all the sons of Gideon, rule over you

ALL: or that one man rule over you?

ABIMELECH: Remember that I am your own flesh and blood.

ALL: He is our brother.

NARRATOR: They gave him 70 pieces of silver from the temple of Baal

ABIMELECH: I hired worthless and reckless men with this money and they followed him.

NARRATOR: They killed his 70 brothers

ALL: But Jotham, the youngest son, hid and survived.

ABIMELECH: (*proud, arrogant*) Then all the lords of Shechem and Bethmillo me king.

Characters: Narrator, Jotham, All

Based on/scripture: Judges 9

FK reading level: 7.7

NARRATOR: Jotham spoke to them all.

JOTHAM: Have you have acted faithfully and honestly in making Abimelech king?

ALL: Have you done well by Gideon and his family, and rewarded him appropriately for what he did?

JOTHAM: for my father fought for you, risked his life, and delivered you from the hand of Midian

ALL: You killed Gideon's 70 sons to make the son of a slave king.

JOTHAM: If you have acted faithfully and honestly, rejoice in Abimelech and may he also rejoice in you.

ALL: But if not, may fire come from Abimelech and consume the lords of Shechem and Beth-millo

JOTHAM: and may fire come from the lords of Shechem and Beth-millo and consume Abimelech.

NARRATOR: Abimelech ruled over Israel three years.

ALL: Then Gael rebelled against him.

NARRATOR: Abimelech destroyed the peoples of Shechem and Thebez.

ALL: But Abimelech was also destroyed

NARRATOR: when a woman threw the upper portion of a millstone on Abimelech's head and fractured his skull.

ALL: In this way, God turned back on Abimelech the evil that he had done against his father

NARRATOR: God also returned all the evil of the men of Shechem on their heads.

ALL: So the curse of Jotham son of Gideon was fulfilled.