

## **In A League of Their Own**

*“And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this?”* (Judges 2:2, KJV).

God’s people are unique (1 Peter 2:9). From the beginning of time, God has divided people into two classes: His and not-His. From God’s viewpoint, there are no races (plural); He created only one race: the human race (Genesis 1:26); all other distinctions are superficial or artificial. Status is meaningless to God; all that exists belongs to Him (Psalm 50:10), so what you think you have is His, too, right down to your very soul (Ezekiel 18:4). You’re either with Him or without Him (Luke 11:23).

This has been God’s perspective from the beginning of time and when *“the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose”* (Genesis 6:2), it created problems. As oil and water don’t mix, the product of this unholy union reeked havoc on humanity, to the point that God destroyed them (Genesis 6:7).

Throughout history, God has enjoined separateness for His people. The children of Israel were told to avoid co-mingling with the Canaanites (Deuteronomy 7:2-4) and, yet, they wanted to *“be like all the nations”* (1 Samuel 8:19b-20a). Solomon confessed the uniqueness of God’s people (1 Kings 8:53) but married beyond his authority, (way beyond) and was lured away (1 Kings 11:4). Today, God’s consistent and continual mandate is: *“be ye separate, saith the Lord”* (2 Corinthians 6:17-18).

Because the children of Israel did not follow God’s advice concerning separateness they never freed themselves completely from the infestation of foreign influence, the self-same plague afflicting the body of Christ today. Churches invite false teachers to speak to their assemblies (2 John 9-11), weak members moan when heretics are marked (Romans 16:17), and cowed leaders refuse to protect the flock, even inviting into their midst the very wolves that savage the Lord’s lambs (Acts 20:29-30). So, God’s mandate for uniqueness fades into a black hole of eternal condemnation.

On Judgment Day, Jesus will make a permanent separation where many of God’s children seem to struggle (Matthew 25:32, 46). If we cannot be separate today, we will be separate in eternity. God’s children must be in a league of their own.