

## Chapter 12

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- 12:1 And the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and went northward, and said unto Jephthah,  
*Wherefore passedst thou over to fight against the children of Ammon, and didst not call us to go with thee? we will burn thine house upon thee with fire.*  
**question:** *Could this signal the start of territorial squabbles? If so, these things can cause a serious rift between brother and brother. Some direction from the LORD is very much needed, at this point.*
- 12:2 And Jephthah said unto them,  
I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammon; and when I called you, ye delivered me not out of their hands.
- 12:3 And when I saw that ye delivered me not, I put my life in my hands, and passed over against the children of Ammon, and the LORD delivered them into my hand: wherefore then are ye come up unto me this day, to fight against me?
- 12:4 Then Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead, and fought with Ephraim:  
and the men of Gilead smote Ephraim, because they said, Ye Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites, and among the Manassites.
- 12:5 And the Gileadites took the passages of Jordan before the Ephraimites:  
and it was so that when those Ephraimites which were escaped said,  
Let me go over;  
that the men of Gilead said unto him, Art thou an Ephraimite?  
If he said, Nay;
- 12:6 Then said they unto him, Say now Shibboleth:  
and he said Sibboleth: for he could not frame to pronounce it right.  
Then they took him, and slew him at the passages of Jordan:  
and there fell at that time of the Ephraimites forty and two thousand.
- 12:7 And Jephthah judged Israel six years.  
Then died Jephthah the Gileadite, and was buried in one of the cities of Gilead.
- Ibzan of Bethlehem**
- 12:8 And after him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel.
- 12:9 And he had thirty sons,  
and thirty daughters, whom he sent abroad, and took in thirty daughters from abroad for his sons.  
And he judged Israel seven years.
- 12:10 Then died Ibzan, and was buried at Bethlehem.
- Elon, a Zebulonite**
- 12:11 And after him Elon, a Zebulonite, judged Israel;  
and he judged Israel ten years.
- 12:12 And Elon the Zebulonite died, and was buried in Aijalon in the country of Zebulun.
- Abdon the son of Hillel**
- 12:13 And after him Abdon the son of Hillel, a Pirathonite, judged Israel.
- 12:14 And he had forty sons and thirty nephews, that rode on threescore and ten ass colts:  
and he judged Israel eight years.
- 12:15 And Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died, and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the mount of the Amalekites.