

## **Introduction**

## **Exposition**

### **1. Abimelech's Rise to Power (9:1-6)**

**Abimelech (My Father is King) plotted against his seventy half-brothers (9:1-2)**

**His Mother's Brothers & the Shechemites funded him with pagan temple-funds (9:3-4a)**

**Abimelech formed a gang, killing 69 of his 70 half-brothers [all except Jotham] (9:4b-6)**

### **2. Jotham's Parable (9:7-21)**

**Jotham stood atop Mt. Gerizim and shouted a parable to Shechem (9:7-15)**

**The olive tree (9:7-9)**

**The fig tree (9:10-11)**

**The vine (9:12-13)**

**The bramble (9:14-15)**

**Jotham applied the bramble-king as a curse against Shechem (9:16-20)**

**Jotham fled (9:21)**

**After Abimelech reigned three years, the Shechemites revolted (9:22-25)**

**Shechem celebrated Gaal's rival gang with a drinking bout in a temple (9:26-29)**

**Shechem's "mayor" warned Abimelech about Gaal (9:30-33)**

**Abimelech set an ambush for Gaal, driving him from Shechem (9:34-41)**

**Abimelech retaliated against Shechem (9:42-45)**

**Abimelech attacked the temple of Baal-Berith where Shechemites took refuge (9:46-49)**

**When he attacked those taking refuge in the Thebez tower, a woman killed him (9:50-55)**

**God fulfilled Jotham's curse against Abimelech (9:56-57)**

**Conclusion**