

JUDGES

THEME: Disobey! Disobedience cost Israel her covenant blessings.

OUTLINE:

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|---|--|----------------------------|
| <p>I. Disobedience in Judges (1 - 3)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">A. Incomplete obedience (1-2:5)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">B. Idolatry (2:6-3:4)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">C. Intermarriage with the heathen (3:5-6)</p> | | <p>Disobedience</p> |
| <p>II. History of the Judges (3 - 16)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">A. First oppression (3:7-11)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">B. Second oppression (3:12-31)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">C. Third oppression (4:1-5:31)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">D. Fourth oppression (6:1-8:32)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">E. Fifth oppression (8:33-10:5)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">F. Sixth oppression (10:6-12:15)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">G. Seventh oppression (13-16)</p> | <p>Delivered by Othniel</p> <p>Delivered by Ehud</p> <p>Delivered by Deborah & Barak</p> <p>Delivered by Gideon</p> <p>Delivered by Abimelech [downward trend]</p> <p>Delivered by Jephthah</p> <p>Delivered by Samson</p> | <p>Deliverance</p> |
| <p>III. Apostasy in Judges (17 - 21)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">A. Idolatry (17-18)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">B. Immorality (19)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">C. Anarchy (20-21)</p> | | <p>Disaster</p> |

DATE: 300 years, from 1374-1050 B.C.

KEY CHAPTERS:

- 5 Song of Deborah
 6-8 Gideon's judgeship
 13-16 Samson's judgeship

KEY PASSAGES:

- 11:34-40 Jephthah's vow is fulfilled regarding his daughter.
 17:6(21:25) "In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes."

KEY PEOPLE:

- Ehud - Left-handed warrior who graphically delivered
 Barak - Collaborated with Deborah
 Deborah - Fourth judge of Israel, a prophetess, administrator of justice, "a mother in Israel."
 Gideon - Unique victor over Midianites
 Jephthah - Eighth judge of Israel, of illegitimate birth, appointed leader over Gilead. He defeated Ammonites decisively as well as the Ephramites. His vow caused him to sacrifice his daughter.
 Samson - Twelfth judge of Israel, fought the Philistines, very strong, with strong weaknesses.

| Introduction: Israel's Disobedience | | Historical Cycles: Israel's Deliverance | | Epilogue: Israel's Disaster | |
|--|-----------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------------|--|
| Incomplete Conquest of Israel | Idolatry of Israel | The Pattern of Israel's Experiences | | Idolatry of Israel | Immorality and Warfare in Israel |
| 1:1 - 1:36 | 2:1 - 2:23 | 3:1 | --- 16:31 | 17:1 - 18:31 | 19:1 - 21:25 |

JUDGES (Cont.)

A. Introduction

- Title: “Judges” in Hebrew and LXX
- Date of Events: From the death of Joshua (c. 1390 BC) to the death of Samson (1055 BC)
- The Continuing Impact: “to this day” (1:21; 6:24; 10:4; 15:19)

B. Major Themes

1. The Judges (2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16) n. 2:16-19 [6x]; v. 3:10; 4:3; 10:2, 3; *11:27; 12:7, 8-9, 11, 13-14; 15:20; 16:31
 - a. The Background of the Judges (Ex. 18:13-27; Num. 11:10-17, 24-30; Deut. 1:9-17; 16:18-20; 17:8-13; Josh. 8:33; 23:2; 24:1)
 - b. The List of the Judges
 - 1) Major/Primary Judges: Othniel, Ehud, Deborah, Gideon, Jephthah, Samson
 - 2) Minor/Secondary Judges: Shamgar, Tola, Jair, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon, Abimelech(?)
2. The Incomplete Obedience of Israel (1, 2)
3. The Cycle (2, 3, 4-5, 6-8, 10-12, 13-16)
 - a. Israel’s Sin (2:11-13, 17; 3:7, 12; 4:1; 6:1; 8:33; 10:6; 13:1)
 - b. Israel’s Servitude (2:14-15, 20-23; 3:8, 12-14; 4:2; 6:1-6; 10:7-9; 13:1)
 - c. Israel’s Supplication (2:18; 3:9, 15; 4:3; 6:7; 10:10)
 - d. Israel’s Salvation (2:16; 3:9-10, 15; 4:6-7; 6:14, 10:18; 13:5)
 - e. Israel’s Security (2:18; 3:11, 30; 5:31; 8:28; 12:7; 16:31)
4. The Provocation and Protection of Yahweh (2, 3, 4, 6-8, 10; cf. Ps. 106:43-45; Neh. 9:27-28)
5. The Spirit of Yahweh (3:10; 6:34; 11:29; 13:25; 14:6, 19; 15:14)
6. The Angel of Yahweh (2:1, 4; 5:23; 6:11, 12, 20, 21, 22; 13:3, 6, 9, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21)
7. The Brutality in the Society (3, 4, 5, 9, 12, 14-16, 19-21)
8. The Kingship (8:22-23; 17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25)

C. Christ in Judges

- Warrior-Savior depiction in the judges as a whole
- Failure of each judge (i.e. not the promised seed)
- Individual judges (i.e. Ehud, Jephthah, Gideon)
- Samson particularly, one man for the nation, saving through death
- Sin cycles in God’s people - need highlighted and increasing

D. **Purpose:** The failure of Israel during the period of the Judges demonstrated Israel’s need for a righteous human King.

