

An Old Testament Glance

The History Books – Judges

Written	1050 BC	Period*	1350-1050 BC	Author	Samuel?
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*Dates are sometimes hard to know. They can vary depending on scholars & sources of information.

Judges 1-3	Tribes Do Not Drive out Enemy – First Three Judges
Judges 4-8	Judges Deborah & Gideon
Judges 9	Judge Abimelech
Judges 10-12	Judges Tola, Jair, Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon
Judges 13-16	Judge Samson
Judges 17-21	Civil War

God told Israel to do something as they entered the Promised Land in the Book of Joshua. God said He would help them.

1. What was it? (Joshua 3:10; 13:6; 14:12; 17:18; 23:5)

2. Did they obey God? (Joshua 15:63; 17:12-13) _____

3. Why did God give this command? (Joshua 23:12) _____

4. Since the Israelites were not interested in following through on their conquering of the Canaanites by running them out of the territory, what did God announce to them? (Joshua 23:13) _____

5. Look at Joshua 23:13 again. What four words did God use to describe their lives in the future since they did not obey God?

So, here we go into the Book of Judges. Israel did not drive out the enemy.

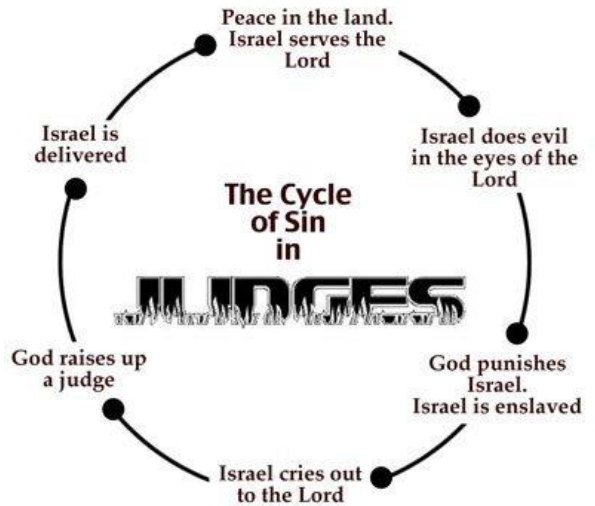
Judah did not (Judges 1:19); Benjamin did not (1:21); Manasseh did not (1:27); Ephraim did not (1:29); Zebulun did not (1:30); Asher did not (1:31); Naphtali did not (1:33).

Here it is again in Judges 2:3 & 2:21: GOD WILL NOT DRIVE THEM OUT ANYMORE.

God expects us to obey and follow His plan. He will not force us to obey. When we disobey, there are consequences as Judges shows us.

6. How long did the people of Israel serve & follow the Lord? (Judges 2:7-10)

7. What did the people of Israel do instead? (2:11-12; 3:5-6)



God appointed & raised up these Judges to do the following:

1. *Protect Israel from their enemies*
2. *Drive out the enemies from the land*
3. *Bring salvation, peace, & rest to the Land.*

The rest of Judges covers this "catch-22", "running around in circles" pathetic life.

8. Write down the names of the Judges of Israel.

Judges 3:7-11	_____	Judges 10:1-2	_____
Judges 3:12-30	_____	Judges 10:3-18	_____
Judges 3:31	_____	Judges 11:1-12:7	_____
Judges 4:1-5:31	_____	Judges 12:8-10	_____
Judges 6:1-8:35	_____	Judges 12:11-12	_____
Judges 9:1-56	_____	Judges 12:13-15	_____
		Judges 13:1-16:31	_____

JUDGES IS A VERY SAD TIME IN JEWISH HISTORY. NOTICE THE FIRST & LAST VERSES (Judges 1:1 & Judges 21:25).

9. Write it down. _____

10. Check out the "Cycle of Sin" circle above. Write down the six parts of the SIN CYCLE.

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| a. _____ in the land | d. Israel _____ to the Lord. |
| b. Israel does _____. | e. God raises a _____. |
| c. God _____ Israel | f. Israel is _____. |

