

Outline of
Judges



Introduction

Writer

Samuel.

Theme

Backsliding — and the amazing grace of God in recovering and restoring.

Purpose

The Book of Judges serves a twofold purpose:

1. Historically it records the history of the nation from the death of Joshua to Samuel, the last of the judges and the first of the prophets. It bridges the gap between Joshua and the rise of the monarchy. There was no leader to take Joshua's place in the way he had taken Moses' place. This was the trial period of the theocracy after they entered the land.
2. Morally it is the time of the deep declension of the people as they turned from the Unseen Leader and descended to the low level of "In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 17:6; also compare Judges 1:1 with 20:18). This should have been an era of glowing progress, but it was a dark day of repeated failure.

Source: Keener, Craig S. (2014). The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament, Second Edition. InterVarsity Press.

HISTORY ——— **PERSONALITIES**
PEOPLES
PATTERNS
PURPOSE

HUMAN FUTILITY (Judges)



DIVINE FULFILMENT (Ruth)



OPPRESSORS

- KING OF JERICHO**
- KING OF MOAB**
- AMMONITES**
- AMALEKITES**
- * **PHILISTINES**
- KING OF HAZOR**
- MIDIANITES + EASTERNS**
- AMALEKITES**
- * **PHILISTINES**
- AMMONITES**
- AMMONITES**
- * **PHILISTINES**

DELIVERERS (Judges)

- OTHNIEL**
- EHUD**
- SHAMGAR**
- * **DEBORAH / BARAK**
- ** **GIDEON**
- TOLA**
- JAIR**
- JEPHTHAH**
- IBZAN**
- ELON**
- ABDON**
- *** **SAMSON**

Human weakness : divine strength

Judges & Ruth Part I



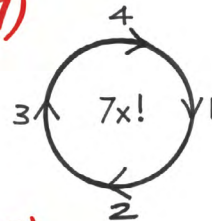
OUTLINE of JUDGES:

A. **INEXCUSABLE COMPROMISE (1.1-3.6)**

1. **ALLOWANCES** (vulnerable valleys)
2. **ALLIANCES** (mixed marriages)

B. **INCORRIGIBLE CONDUCT (3.7-16.31)**

1. **SEDITION** (by the people)
2. **SUBJECTION** (to an enemy)
3. **SUPPLICATION** (to the Lord)
4. **SALVATION** (by a deliverer)



C. **INEVITABLE CORRUPTION (17.1-21.25)**

1. **IDOLATRY** (in the north): **DAN**
2. **IMMORALITY** (in the south): **BENJAMIN**

*No king in those days
Did right in own eyes*



Judges & Ruth Part II



I. Introduction to era of the Judges

Chapters 1, 2

- A. Condition of nation after death of Joshua (revealed in limited victories of tribes of Judah, Simeon, Benjamin, Manasseh, Ephraim, Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali, Dan), 1
- B. God feeds into computer of history Israel's cycle in period of the judges, 2



II. Era of the Judges

Chapters 3–16

- A. 1st Apostasy; conquered by Mesopotamia; delivered through Othniel, the judge, 3:1-11
- B. 2nd Apostasy; conquered by Moabites and Philistines; delivered through Ehud and Shamgar, the judges, 3:12-31
- C. 3rd Apostasy; conquered by Jabin, king of Canaan; delivered through Deborah and Barak, the judges, 4:1–5:31



D. 4th Apostasy; conquered by Midian; delivered through Gideon, the judge, 6:1—8:32



E. 5th Apostasy; civil war; delivered through Abimelech, Tola, Jair, the judges, 8:33—10:5

F. 6th Apostasy; conquered by Philistines and Ammonites; delivered through Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon, the Judges, 10:6—12:15

G. 7th Apostasy; conquered by Philistines; delivered partially through Samson, the Judge, 13—16



III. Results of era of the Judges (confusion)

Chapters 17–21

- A. Religious apostasy (the temple), 17, 18
- B. Moral awfulness (the home), 19
- C. Political anarchy (the state), 20, 21



Quiz on Judges

1. Who had strength because of his long hair?

2. Gideon son of Joash did what to test God to know if He would truly save Israel?

3. In Judges Chapter 7, how many men and Gideon did God use to have victory over the Midianites?

4. How did Gideon know which men to enlist in his army?

5. Which animal did Samson use to destroy the Philistine's cornfields?

6. During the time of Judges in Israel, which woman did God raise up to be a judge?

7. When the angel of the Lord came to Samson's mother announcing her pregnancy, what did he forbid her to drink and eat?

8. Who threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites?

9. In Judges Chapter 4, which General refused to go into battle unless accompanied by Deborah?

10. When the tribes of Judah and Simeon fought the Canaanites, what did they do to Adoni-bezek?

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