Tola & Jair Judge Israel
Judg. 10

Introduction

These next 2 judges receive very little attention in the record. One almost gets the impression we go from Abimelech to Jephthath. With respect to Tola & Jair, no mention is made of the following:

- an oppressive nation from which to rescue Israel
- a pitiful cry from Israel to God for deliverance
- God raising up a "judge"

Israel is getting worse & worse. Instead of rescuing her, God finally challenges her to appeal to her idols for deliverance (v. 14). Yet, God will still be faithful and deliver her from oppression (v. 16).

1) Who is mentioned in v. 1? Where was he from? Even though the oppressor is unnamed, how long did he judge Israel? (v. 2)

2) What might the words in v. 1 re: Tola, *"…he arose to save Israel"* following the Abimelech fiasco suggest about how God viewed Abimelech?

3) Who is mentioned in v. 3? Where was he from? Again, the oppressor is unnamed…how long did Jair judge Israel? (v. 4)

4) How is Israel described after Jair's death? (v. 6; 2:19) Was their idolatry increasing or decreasing?

5) What was God's reaction to the latest episode of unfaithfulness? (v. 7) What is different about this round of oppression? (v. 8) What else did the oppressive nations do? (v. 9)

6) What did Israel do in v. 10? What was God's response? (vv. 11-14)

7) What good thing did Israel do in vv. 15-16a?

8) Once again, how is God faithfully depicted? (v. 16b)

9) What is described in vv. 17-18? How do these 2 verses "bridge the gap" to the account of the next judge? Who will be the next deliverer?