

In The Days When The Judges Ruled

Lesson 11

Jephthah Judges Israel

Judg. 11

Introduction

It is often lamented how sad it is for one to be known more for a tragic mistake than for any good he did. Such is the record of Israel's 8th "deliverer"...Jephthah.

Even though he couldn't change his pedigree, it was used against him. It was his bravery that eventually endeared his brethren to him after they had previously cast him out. But it is his vow that makes us most remember Jephthah, and from which we should learn.

- 1) Where was Jephthah from? **(v. 1a)** Locate it on a map. Describe him. **(v. 1b)**

- 2) How was Jephthah treated by his family? **(vv. 2-3a)** What happened to him afterwards? **(v. 3b)**

- 3) Who was the next oppressor of Israel? **(v. 4; 10:17-18; 3:13)** Who were they historically?

- 4) What happened to bring about a "change of fortune" for Jephthah? **(vv. 5-6)** Why was he now more "valuable?" **(v. 1a)** How was this another indication of Israel's moral & spiritual state?

- 5) How did Jephthah respond to the Gileadites, and what accord did they reach? **(vv. 7-11)**

