

# Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land

and

## The Judges of Israel

*Josh 1:6-7*

*"Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.*

*"Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.*

*(NKJ)*

*Grades 6 - 8*

By

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Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 1

**LESSON TEXT: Deut. 34; Josh. 1:1 - 9**

In this quarter we will study about God's fulfillment of the land promise that he made to Abraham in Genesis 12:7. Already we have studied about one of God's promises being fulfilled. In Genesis 12:2, God promised Abraham that He would make of him a great nation of people. God did just that! This great nation of people was led by the man God chose to lead them - by Moses!

The book of Exodus tells us about God leading His nation Israel to the land that He promised them. However, Israel was a nation who did not always obey God. Because of Israel's sin, they were not allowed to go into the land for a period of 40 years (Num. 13; 14). For 40 years, Israel wandered in the wilderness of Sinai until all the men of that generation died.

Joshua and Caleb were the only men of that generation who were allowed to go into the promised land because they were the only spies sent into the land who wanted Israel to go in and take it for their own.

As the 40 years came to a close, so did the life of Moses. Moses was not allowed to enter into the land either, because of his sin at Kadesh (Num. 20). However, God did take Moses up on Mount Nebo and let him see all the land that He was going to give His people. Moses could see the land of Gilead unto Dan, Ephraim, Manasseh, all the land of Judah, the plains of Jericho, to Zoar (Deut. 34).

After Moses saw the land, God buried him in a valley in the land of Moab. When he died he was 120 years old. His eyes were not dim and he still had his physical strength. But Moses did not blame God for not letting him go into the land. Moses was an example to Israel, and to us, in that regard. (Num. 12:3)

Before his death, Moses warned Israel that they should remain faithful. Faithfulness to God is what would cause God to help them fight their battles and conquer their enemies as they took the land that God promised to them. (Deut. 29). Faithfulness would cause Israel to receive great blessings. But, being

unfaithful would cause Israel to lose the land, and would bring curses upon themselves and the land.

God chose a man to take Moses' place after Moses died. He chose Joshua (Num. 27:18). God told Moses to lay his hands upon Joshua so that he would receive the spirit of wisdom to lead God's people (Deut.34:9; Num.27:18).

Joshua was no stranger to Israel. Joshua was over the Lord's army when they fought Amalek (Ex. 17:9). He was with Moses when Moses went up into Mount Sinai to receive the Law, and as Moses came down from the mountain. He was with Moses at the tent of the congregation when the pillar of cloud descended upon it (Ex. 33:11), and as he spoke out to Moses about Eldad and Medad prophesying (Num.11:28). The event we probably remember him best by is the one when he and Caleb were two of the twelve spies who wanted to go in and possess the land of Canaan (Num. 14). Because of his and Caleb's faith, his life and Caleb's life were spared as Israel wandered in the wilderness (Num. 26:65).

After Moses' death, God spoke to Joshua and said, "Moses, My servant, is dead. Get up and go over the Jordan with all these people, unto the land that I have given you. Everywhere your feet walk will be yours, just as I promised Moses."

God gave Joshua the borders of this land that would be theirs in Joshua 1:4:

*From the Negeb in the South, to  
Lebanon in the North. From the  
great river Euphrates in the East,  
to the Great Sea on the West.*

If Israel followed God's law, God promised that He would be with them and would not forsake them (Josh. 1:5)

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. What three promises did God make to Abraham? Gen. 12:2,3,7 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What promise to Abraham had been fulfilled by Joshua's day? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What did Moses tell Israel God would do if they obeyed Him? Deut. 28:1,2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What did Moses say would happen to Israel if they did not obey Him? Deut. 28:15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What would happen to the land if they did not obey God? Deut. 29:23 - 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What were the borders of the land that God gave Israel? Josh. 1:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. What was God's promise to Joshua? Josh. 1:5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. What words of encouragement did God give to Joshua 3 times? Josh. 1:6, 7, 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. What conditions did God give Joshua? Josh. 1:7 - 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Joshua 1:8 says that "the law shall not depart out of your mouth." What does this mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. God told Joshua to mediate on the law day and night. What does meditate mean, and are we to do the same thing today? (II Tim.2:15; Acts 17:11; John 5:39; I Tim. 4:12-15) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The land of Canaan was the promised land of Israel. Where is our "promised land"? (Phil. 3:20; 1 John 2:25; I Peter 1:11) \_\_\_\_\_
4. If God kept His promises to Israel, will He keep His promises to us today? Titus 1:2 \_\_\_\_\_  
How do we know this? \_\_\_\_\_
5. God told Joshua , "do all according to the Law,...do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left,...". What did God mean by this? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### MAP WORK

*find on your map and circle:*

**Mediterranean Sea**

**Negeb**

**Lebanon (Lebanon Range and Anti-Lebanon Range)**

**Mount Nebo**

**Jordan River**

**Dan**

Is the River **Euphrates** on your map?

Why?

### Memory Work

**Josh 1:8**

**"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

**(NKJ)**

Our memory verse is the advise that God gave to Joshua as he began to lead God's people. Do you think it would be good advise for us as well? \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
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LESSON 2

*In this lesson Israel is poised ready to go into the land of Canaan and possess it. However, first they must do four things:*

- [1] Cross the Jordan River.*
- [2] Camp at Gilgal.*
- [3] Circumcise all of the male Israelites.*
- [4] Keep the Passover.*

*Keep these four things in mind as we study.*

**LESSON TEXT: Joshua 1: 10 - 2; 3; 4; 5: 1 - 12; Numbers 32: 1-5, 16 - 32**

With Joshua as God's new leader of Israel, preparations were made to go in and possess the promised land. The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and one-half tribe of Manasseh wanted their homes to be on the east side of the Jordan River. They had promised Moses to go with the other tribes to the west side of the Jordan and help them conquer the land. They had promised that they would leave their homes and families on the east side and not return until the land had been conquered and all the children of Israel had received their inheritance from God.

Joshua talked to these tribes and reminded them of their promise. They said that they were willing to keep it.

Before taking the land, Joshua sent two spies into the city of Jericho. A harlot named Rahab hid the two spies from the king's soldiers in Jericho. She asked that in return for saving their lives that they would save her and her family when they came in to take the land. Rahab and others in the city had heard of the wondrous things the God of Israel had done and she had faith in this God.

The spies returned to Joshua when they left Jericho and told him that the Lord had delivered the land into their hands, and that all the people were afraid of them.

Joshua prepared Israel to go take the land. The people moved from a place called Shittim closer to the Jordan River. Joshua told the officers of Israel to prepare to cross the Jordan River.

The officers told Israel to follow the priests and Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant, but to keep a space of 2,000 cubits ( or about ½ mile)

between themselves and the ark.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month, the Jordan River was at flood stage, yet God was going to do a miracle through Joshua to show Israel that He was with Joshua. When the priests came to the Jordan River, they were to stand still in the water. Then the waters of the river rose up and stood in a great heap a great distance away, to a city called Adam. The waters going toward the Dead Sea were cut off, and the people passed through the river on dry ground.

When all of Israel had crossed the Jordan, Joshua told twelve men, one from each tribe, to carry twelve stones from the place where the priests stood, and carry them with them to the place they would camp – to Gilgal. The stones were to be a memorial of when Israel crossed the Jordan. God told them that when their children saw the stones and asked what they were, they were to tell how God carried them over the Jordan on dry land.

The kings of the land on the west side of the Jordan heard about how God had dried up the waters and let Israel pass over the river. This made them very afraid of Israel.

While Israel camped at Gilgal, the Lord commanded Joshua to circumcise all the men who had been born in the wilderness while they wandered. They were to do this to take away the reproach of Egypt from off them.

As Israel camped at Gilgal, they kept their first Passover feast in the new land on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month. The next day, the people ate food that had grown in the promised land, so the Lord caused the

manna that they had been eating to stop on the next day.  
How wonderful! Israel's wandering was over! They were now in the land that God had promised them through Abraham long before. But, the work was just beginning. They have to conquer the land and destroy their enemies. God promised that He would be with them as they did this!

DEFINE:

Gilgal \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### USE YOUR BIBLE

(All the questions are answered from the book of Joshua unless noted otherwise.)

1. What did Joshua tell the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh to remember? Josh. 1:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What did Rahab realize about the God of Israel? 2: 11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What events made the people of the land afraid of Israel and their God? 2:10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What was Rahab to tie to the window of her house to show Israel that her house was to be spared? 2:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Would anyone outside her house be spared? 2:19 \_\_\_\_\_
6. What did God want Israel to know about Joshua? 3:7 \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who would drive out the inhabitants of the land? 3:10 \_\_\_\_\_
8. How did the inhabitants of the land feel about Israel? 2:24 \_\_\_\_\_
9. What was unusual about the Jordan River this time of year? 3:15 \_\_\_\_\_
10. How many Israelites passed over the Jordan on dry ground? 3:17 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What did the twelve stones represent? 4:7, 21-28 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What did the priest bearing the ark do until everything was finished? 4:10 \_\_\_\_\_
13. What did God do for Joshua that day? 4:14 \_\_\_\_\_
14. When did the waters of the Jordan return to flowing naturally? 4:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Why did God divide the Jordan? 4:24 \_\_\_\_\_

16. Why was Israel uncircumcised? 5:5, 7 \_\_\_\_\_

## Thought Questions

1. What can we learn from Rahab's faith? Heb. 11:31; James 2: 24,25; Josh. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Israel made a commitment to follow who when they crossed the Jordan? \_\_\_\_\_  
When we are baptized, what kind of commitment are we making? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why were the things in the Old Testament written? I Cor. 10: 6, 11 \_\_\_\_\_ Are the things in the  
Old Testament for our benefit today? \_\_\_\_\_  
How? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why was it important that Israel be circumcised? Gen. 17: 9 - 14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ What would happen to any man who was not circumcised in Israel?

5. Could Israel continue to be God's people if they were not circumcised? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do God's people need to be circumcised today? I Cor. 7: 19 ; Col. 3: 10, 11 \_\_\_\_\_

## Map Work

Find and circle on your map:

**Jordan River**  
**Abel-Shittim**  
**Jericho**  
**Gilgal**

### MEMORY WORK

**Josh 1:8**

**"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

### Do You Know This?...

*Not only was Rahab a woman who helped spare the Israelite spies, but she was also in the lineage of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Matt. 1:5 we learn that she married a man named Salmon. She and Salmon had a son named Boaz. Boaz married Ruth – the same Ruth that one of our Old Testament books is named after. Boaz and Ruth had a son named Obed, who was the grandfather of David (Ruth 4:22). The Lord told David that he would establish his throne forever (II Sam. 7:16). He did! It was through the lineage of David that our Lord Jesus Christ was born (Matt. 1: 5 - 16)*

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LESSON 3

*Overview of the book of Joshua*

**INVASION AND CONQUEST OF THE PROMISED LAND**

Joshua 5 - 8	<b>CENTRAL CAMPAIGN</b>
Joshua 9 - 10	<b>SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN</b>
Joshua 11	<b>NORTHERN CAMPAIGN</b>
Joshua 12	<b>Kings of the campaigns are conquered.</b>
Joshua 13 - 19	<b>Division of the land</b>
Joshua 20 - 21	<b>Cities for the Levites and cities of Refuge.</b>
Joshua 22	<b>Trans-Jordanic tribes go home.</b>
Joshua 23 - 24	<b>Speeches of Joshua - Renewal of the Covenant.</b>

**CENTRAL CAMPAIGN**

*Israel takes the city of Jericho and Ai*

**LESSON TEXT: Joshua 5: 13 -; 6; 7: 1 - 26**

What a happy time for Israel! They crossed the Jordan River and camped at Gilgal awaiting the time that they would take the promised land for their own. Jericho was the first city to be conquered in the new land. But before Jericho was conquered Joshua was to see a manifestation of Jehovah God.

One day as Joshua was looking over Jericho, he saw a man standing before him with his sword drawn. Joshua learned that this man was the commander of the Lord's army. Upon learning this, Joshua fell upon his face and worshiped him. The commander of the Lord's army told Joshua to take his sandals off of his feet because the place he was standing on was holy. The commander of the Lord's army said, "I've given Jericho into your hand." Then he gave Joshua all the details that he and Israel were to follow before this would happen.

Joshua called for the priests and told them what to do. For seven days they followed the Lord's instructions. The Lord told them, through Joshua, that everything in the city was to be destroyed, except Rahab

and those with her in her house. The soldiers could not take any of the spoils of the city out of Jericho for themselves. The silver, gold, bronze, and iron were to be taken and put into the Lord's treasury.

All of the people in Jericho were to be killed, except Rahab's house. All of the animals were to be killed. At the time Jericho was destroyed, Joshua told Israel that a curse would be upon anyone who tried to rebuild Jericho.

After the battle of Jericho, the Lord's anger was kindled against Israel because of a man named Achan. Achan had taken some items from Jericho, in violation to God's law. But Joshua did not know what Achan had done.

Joshua was now ready to take the city of Ai. He sent some men into Ai to spy out the city. The spies returned to Joshua and said, "All of the fighting men of Israel are not needed to fight against Ai. Ai is few in number."

So Joshua sent 3,000 men to take the city of Ai. However, the 3,000 men fled from Ai because Ai killed



36 of their men. This defeat put fear into the hearts of Israel. Even Joshua became upset. He tore his clothes and fell to the earth and began to question God.

God told Joshua to get up! He said, "Israel has sinned. They have taken the accursed thing. Because of this, I am not going to be with you anymore until you destroy the one who is accursed among you."

The next morning, Joshua began to look for the one who was accursed. He brought each tribe before him until the tribe of Judah was chosen. Then he brought each family before him until he came to the family of the Zarhites. Each man of the Zarhite family was brought before Joshua until he came to the man Achan.

Joshua told Achan to confess about what he had done. Achan told Joshua what he had taken and Joshua sent men to find the items. Because of Achan's sin, all of Achan's family, and all of his animals were stoned and burned.

Then the Lord turned from his anger and told Joshua to take all of the men of war and take the city of Ai. Joshua's army ambushed Ai and all the men of Ai were killed.

The Lord gave Israel permission to take the spoils of war from this battle. Then the city was burned and the king of Ai was hanged.

## MAP WORK

JERICHO

AI

BETHEL

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Joshua worshiped the "man" who appeared to him at Jericho. Would an angel have accepted worship from Joshua? Rev. 22: 8 - 9 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What verse in Joshua 5: 13 - 15; 6: 1 - 2 tells us that the "man" was the Lord ( or Jehovah)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who was to circle the city of Jericho once a day for 6 days? Josh. 6: 3 - 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How many times were they to circle Jericho on the 7<sup>th</sup> day? Josh. 6: 4, 15 \_\_\_\_\_
5. What sounds were the people to make with their mouths for 6 days? Josh. 6:10 \_\_\_\_\_
6. What did the 7 priests carry before the ark of the covenant? Josh. 6:6 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did Joshua tell the people to do on the 7<sup>th</sup> day? Josh. 6:16 \_\_\_\_\_
8. What happened to the walls of Jericho on the 6<sup>th</sup> day? Josh 6:14 \_\_\_\_\_
9. What happened to the walls of Jericho on the 7<sup>th</sup> day? Josh. 6: 20 \_\_\_\_\_
10. What did Joshua tell the two men who had spied out Jericho? 6:22 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What did Rahab do after Jericho was destroyed? 6:25 \_\_\_\_\_
12. Did Joshua inquire of the Lord before he tried to take Ai? 7: 1 - 5 \_\_\_\_\_
13. Why did the Israelites become afraid? 7:5 \_\_\_\_\_

14. Who was upset about Ai along with Joshua? 7:6 \_\_\_\_\_
15. What question did Joshua ask God? 7:7 \_\_\_\_\_
16. What did God say that Israel had done? 7: 11 \_\_\_\_\_
17. What did Israel have to do before God would be with them? 7:12 \_\_\_\_\_
18. When you read Achan's confession ( 7: 20 - 21), did you see any indication that he repented of his deed? \_\_\_\_\_
19. When Israel took Ai with God's help, how did they trick Ai? 8: 5 - 7 \_\_\_\_\_
20. Why did Joshua command that the king of Ai be taken down from the tree at sundown? 8:29; Deut. 21: 22 -23 \_\_\_\_\_

### *THOUGHT QUESTIONS*

1. Was God's battle plan for Jericho based on physical force, strategy, or faith? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did God keep His promise to Israel about the spoils of war? Josh. 6:18; 7: 11 - 12 \_\_\_\_\_
3. If He kept His promises to Israel, do you think He will keep His promises to us? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who did Achan's sin affect? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do our sins affect others? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Could Achan hide his sin from God? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Can we hide our sins from God? Ps. 90:8; Rom. 2:16; II Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14: 10 - 12 \_\_\_\_\_

### **MEMORY WORK**

**Josh 21:43**

**So the LORD gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers,  
and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. (NKJ)**

*How much of the promised land does this verse say Israel received? \_\_\_\_\_*

*If the Lord gave all the land to Israel in Joshua's day,  
is there anymore land that should be received by them today?*

\_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
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LESSON 4

**LESSON TEXT: Joshua 8; 9**

**The Battle of Ai**

After Achan was punished, the Lord told Israel to take the city of Ai because the city belonged to them, and He would deliver it into their hands.

Joshua chose 30,000 mighty men to fight this battle. He commanded that they lie in wait, ready to fight. Joshua said that their strategy at first would be to run from the men of Ai and lure them out of the city. The men of Ai would think that Israel was running from them as they had done before. Then they would wait to ambush the city.

The next morning, 5,000 of Joshua's men waited on the west side of Ai. The rest of the army was to the north of Ai. The battle did not last long. Israel defeated the city of Ai, then burned it. They killed the men of Ai and noone escaped. 12,000 men and women of Ai were killed that day.

God allowed Israel to take the spoils of war from this battle.

**Blessings and Curses for Israel**

All of Israel traveled to the hill country of Shechem. Half of the tribes were in front of Mount Ebal and the other half were in front of Mount Gerazim. Joshua built an altar to God at Mount Ebal. Israel offered burnt offerings to the Lord and sacrificed peace offerings there. Joshua wrote a copy of the Law of Moses on stones there. Then Joshua read all of the Law to all of the people. He read the blessings and the curses in the Law.

Israel has now laid stake to the land God had promised them. Keeping the land will require that they continue to obey God.

(End of the Central Campaign)

**SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN**  
**Gibeon deceives Israel**

All of the kings on the west side of the Jordan River gathered together to prepare to fight Joshua and Israel. In the meantime, the people of Gibeon made plans to go to Israel. Gibeon had heard about what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, so they planned to deceive Joshua. They took old sacks, old wine bottles, wore old shoes on their feet, wore old clothes, and carried dry, moldy bread with them. When they met Joshua, he asked who they were. They made the claim that they had come from a far country, and they wanted to make an agreement with Israel. They said that they had heard about the Lord and what the Lord had done to other nations. They said, "We are your servants; make a treaty with us."

Joshua made a treaty with Gibeon to let them live. The princes of Israel swore unto that treaty. But, three days later the Israelites learned that Gibeon was their close neighbor.

Since Israel had made a treaty with them, they were allowed to live, but they became Israel's servants.

**MAP WORK**

Find and circle on your map.

Mount Ebal  
Mount Gerazim  
Ai  
Shechem  
Gibeon

# USE YOUR BIBLE

(All answers are in the book of Joshua unless noted otherwise.)

1. What did God say Israel could take from the battle with Ai? Joshua 8: 2, 27 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Who would deliver Ai into Israel's hand? 8:7 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What were they to do to the city after they had taken it? 8: 8,19 \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was between Israel to the north and Ai? 8:11 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Did the king of Ai know about the Israelites waiting to ambush them? 8:14 \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many men were left in Ai when they pursued Israel? 8:17 \_\_\_\_\_
7. Did the men of Ai have anywhere to flee when they saw their city on fire? 8:20 \_\_\_\_\_
8. What did Joshua do to Ai's king? 8:29 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Who commanded that an altar be set up at Mount Ebal? 8: 30 -31; Deut. 27: 2 - 8; Deut. 11:29 \_\_\_\_\_
10. What did Joshua write on the stones? 8:32 \_\_\_\_\_
11. At what 2 mountains did Israel gather to hear the law? 8:33; Deut. 11:29; 27: 12-13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Were blessings or curses read from Mount Gerazim? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Were blessings or curses read from Mount Ebal? \_\_\_\_\_
14. How much of the Law did Joshua read? 8:35 \_\_\_\_\_
15. What would happen to the people if they did not confirm and do all of the law? Deut. 27: 26 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. What did God want Israel to do to the cities in the land that He gave to them? Deut. 20: 13, 16, 17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. Had Israel killed all the inhabitants of Jericho and Ai? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Why did Gibeon pretend to be from a far country? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. When Gibeon told Joshua what they had heard about Israel, did they mention the cities of Jericho and Ai being destroyed? 9: 9-10 \_\_\_\_\_
20. Did Joshua and the princes of Israel ask counsel from God about Gibeon? 9:14; Ex. 23: 31 - 32 \_\_\_\_\_
21. What agreement did Joshua and the princes of Israel make with Gibeon? 9:15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
22. What did Israel find out about Gibeon? 9:16 \_\_\_\_\_
23. Was Israel happy with the decision that Joshua and the princes had made? 9:18 \_\_\_\_\_
24. Why did Israel let the people of Gibeon live after they found out about their lies? 9:19-20; Lev. 19:12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
25. What happened to Gibeon? 9:21,23,27 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
26. Why had Gibeon told their lies? 9:24 \_\_\_\_\_

## THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Israel had just won 2 battles against Jericho and Ai with God's help. Joshua had read the Law to the people at Mount Gerazim and Mount Ebal. What was Israel's biggest mistake in dealing with Gibeon? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Do we need to seek counsel from God when we make our decisions? \_\_\_\_\_ How do we do this?

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3. Gibeon looked for ways to deceive Israel. They accomplished this, and convinced Israel to do things that God had commanded they not do. Are there people today who will try to do the same thing that Gibeon did? \_\_\_\_\_

How do we keep people like this from affecting us? \_\_\_\_\_

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### Memory Work

Josh 21:43

So the LORD gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it.

(NKJ)

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
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LESSON 5

**LESSON TEXT: Joshua 10; 11**

**SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN**

Adonizedec, king of Jerusalem, heard about how Joshua had taken and destroyed the city of Ai, just as he had done to Jericho. He also heard about Gibeon and how they had made peace with Israel. Hearing about Gibeon made Jerusalem afraid, so the king of Jerusalem called for the kings of the Amorites in Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon to come and help him attack Gibeon.

The kings came together and made war against Gibeon. This caused the men of Gibeon to send word to Joshua to come help them and save them.

Joshua came to their rescue and the Lord helped them in this battle. As Joshua pursued the Amorites he prayed that the sun and moon stand still. God answered Joshua's prayer.

The Amorite kings saw that they were not winning the battle, so they hid themselves in a cave. Joshua prevented them from coming out of the cave by having great stones rolled in front of the entrance of the cave.

Joshua won the battle and had the kings who were hiding in the cave brought out to him to be killed. He then took his army and destroyed another city in the south – the city of Makkedah. He also destroyed the cities of Libnah, Lachish, Gezer, Eglon, Hebron, and Debir. From Kadeshbarnea to Gibeon all of the enemies of Israel were defeated. Then Joshua returned with his army to Gilgal.

**NORTHERN CAMPAIGN**

Jabin, king of Hazor, heard about Joshua and how he had defeated the cities in the south. He sent word to the kings of Madon, Shimron, and Achshaph, to the kings in the hill country, to those south of the Sea of Galilee, and to Dor. He also sent word to the Canaanites in the east and west, to the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Jebusites, and Hivites. Jabin wanted them to come fight Israel. They all came with

their horses and chariots. They met at Merom to fight against Israel.

The Lord told Joshua not to be afraid of these nations. Joshua and Israel went to war and the Lord delivered their enemies into their hands. Israel killed them until no one remained. Then Joshua came to the city of Hazor. He destroyed it also.

Joshua did everything that God had commanded. He was at war a long time with the kings, but finally took the whole land that God had promised to them.

**MAP WORK**

( Find and circle on map.)

Gibeon  
Hebron  
Jarmuth  
Beth Horon  
Lachish  
Eglon  
Libnah  
Gezer  
Kadeshbarnea  
Gilgal  
Hazor  
Merom  
Dor

## Use Your Bible

1. Why did Adonizedek fear Israel? Joshua 10:1 - 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. When did Joshua take his men to Gibeon? 10:9 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did the Lord do to deliver his army at Beth Horon? 10:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The sun and moon stood still until when? 10:13 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Did anyone say anything about Israel after this battle? 10:21 \_\_\_\_\_
6. How did Joshua kill the kings? 10:26 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Who fought for Israel? 10:42 \_\_\_\_\_
8. How do the scriptures describe the northern armies that came out to fight Israel? 11:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What did the Lord tell Joshua to do to the enemy's horses at Merom? 11:6 \_\_\_\_\_
10. How many cities in the north did Joshua burn? 11:13 \_\_\_\_\_
11. Why did God not want all of the cities burned? Deut. 6:10 - 12; Josh. 24:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. How much of the land did Joshua take that the Lord had given to them? 11:23 \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMORY WORK

#### Josh 24:14

**"Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!**

**(NKJ)**

### Think About It

Read the following verses and answer the questions: Josh. 10: 8, 10,11,14,19,25,30, 32,42; Josh.11:6, 8, 12,15,20,23

Was Israel delivered from their enemies by their own might? \_\_\_\_\_

Was Israel obedient to the Lord during these battles? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think Israel would have won these battles if they had tried to win with their own might and not been dependent upon God? \_\_\_\_\_

Did Israel need to be afraid with God fighting for them? \_\_\_\_\_

Do we need God as much as Israel did? I Tim. 4:10; II Cor. 3:4-5 \_\_\_\_\_

Who are we fighting against? I Pet. 5:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Will God deliver us? II Tim. 4:18; II Pet. 2:9 \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 6

**LESSON TEXT: Joshua 11:23-; 12 - 19; Deut. 7: 22; Num. 32**

God fulfilled the land promise that He had made to His people. Many of the people of the land had not been driven out when God gave the land to the tribes for their inheritance, but God expected them to drive out the inhabitants in order to keep the land He had given to them. They would do this little by little so that the wild animals would not increase and be a danger to them. As they drove out the inhabitants they were to move into the cities and occupy them.

Joshua was getting to be an old man and the Lord told him, "There is still much of the land that needs to be possessed." Then the Lord told Joshua about all the land that still needed to be possessed.

The tribes of Reuben, Gad and one-half of Manasseh had already received their land on the east side of the Jordan River. They saw that the land on the east side was a good place to raise cattle and they had asked Moses for it before they crossed over the Jordan and possessed the land. Moses had said they could have this land so long as they went with the rest of Israel to the west side and help them possess the land.

The land of Reuben, Gad and one-half of Manasseh was from the Arnon River in the south unto Mount Hermon in the north. (*We cannot know exact borders of the tribes, for although God gives us much information about the borders, there is not enough information to determine exactly. Some landmarks and cities that existed then do not exist today, making the process of determining this very hard.*)

The tribe of Levi was not given any land possession like the other tribes received. However they did receive cities scattered throughout the land. (*We will discuss this more in another lesson.*)

The first tribe to receive their land on the west side of the Jordan was the tribe of Judah. The sons of Judah, along with Caleb, went to Joshua. Caleb said to Joshua, "You remember what the Lord said to Moses about me at Kadesh-barnea. He sent me to spy out the land and I brought word back to Him that which was in my heart. I followed God fully, and Moses said that the land I walked upon would be mine and my children's

inheritance because I followed the Lord. The Lord kept me alive and I am as strong today as I was the day Moses sent me. Now give me the hill country that the Lord spoke about on that day and if the Lord is with me I will drive out the Anakims."

Joshua blessed Caleb and gave him the city of Hebron. Judah's land was between the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. It reached from the edge of Edom's territory in the south to the Dead Sea's northern tip.

The next tribes to receive their land were the tribes from the sons of Joseph: Ephraim and Manasseh. Ephraim received Beth-horon (northwest of Jerusalem), and surrounding territory. The other half tribe of Manasseh took the rest of their land on the west side of Jordan. The city of Shechem was to the south of Manasseh's territory, and Megiddo was to the north.

The tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh went to Joshua and began to complain. They said, "Why have you given us only one portion of land to inherit? There are a great number of us and the Lord has blessed us until now."

Joshua told them, "If you are so numerous, and if the hill country of Ephraim is too small for you, go up into the forest and clear the land of the Perizzites and the giants."

The people of Ephraim and Manasseh replied, "The hill country is not enough for us, but the Canaanites who live there have chariots of iron."

Joshua replied, "There are many of you, and you are powerful. You will not have only one portion of land, but the hill country will be yours too. Clear it of the trees, and as far as you clear the land it will be yours. You will drive out the Canaanites, because even though they have chariots of iron, you are strong and can drive them out."

Seven tribes still had not received their land. The whole assembly of Israel gathered at Shiloh and Jacob asked them, "How long is it going to be before you begin to possess the land that the Lord has given you? Appoint three men from each tribe to go out and



survey the land, then return to me. Then you are to divide the land.”

After the men surveyed the land, Joshua divided the land between the rest of the tribes. The tribe of Benjamin was the first lot cast for the land. His land was between Ephraim and Judah. The cities of Jerusalem and Jericho were in Benjamin’s land.

Since Judah had received such a large portion of land, the tribe of Simeon received their inheritance of land within Judah’s land.

The tribe of Zebulun’s land was in the northeastern region of the valley of Jezreel, and part of southern Galilee.

Issachar occupied the southeastern region of the valley of Jezreel and the rest of southern Galilee.

Asher’s land was in the north and on the coastal plain of the Great Sea. Mount Carmel, Tyre, and Sidon were in their territory.

Naphtali also received their land in the north. Some of the cities in Naphtali’s land were Kedesh and Hazor.

Dan’s territory was between Ephraim’s and Judah’s land. Zorah and Joppa were some of the cities in Dan.

When all of the land had been divided between the tribes, Joshua asked for his inheritance. He asked for the Timnathserah in the hill country of Ephraim. Joshua built the city there and lived there.

### MEMORY WORK

**Josh 24:14**

**"Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!**

**(NKJ)**

### Define

**Anakim:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Use Your Bible

1. Who distributed the land to the tribes of Israel? Josh. 14: 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How old was Caleb when the Lord sent him from Kadeshbarnea to spy out the land of Canaan? 14: 7 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did God let Caleb live and receive an inheritance in the land? 14:9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. How old was Caleb when he received his land? 14:10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Did Caleb conquer his land as God commanded Israel? 14: 14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Who became the son-in-law of Caleb for defeating Kirjathsepher? 15: 16- 17 \_\_\_\_\_

7. Did Judah drive out all the inhabitants of their land? 15: 63 \_\_\_\_\_

8. Did Ephraim drive out all the inhabitants of their land? 16: 10 \_\_\_\_\_

9. Did Manasseh drive out all the inhabitants of their land? 17: 12-13 \_\_\_\_\_

10. Who were Ephraim and Manasseh afraid of? 17: 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Did Joshua listen to their excuses? 17: 17-18 \_\_\_\_\_

12. What did Israel do when they assembled at Shiloh? 18: 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. What were the three men from each of the remaining tribes to do as they went throughout the land? 18: 4, 6,8,

9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. How did Joshua divide the land? 18: 8, 10 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

15. Was the Lord involved in this? 18: 8, 10 \_\_\_\_\_

16. Who else was involved in dividing the inheritance between the tribes? 19: 51 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17. Where were the lots cast for the land? 19: 51 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MAP WORK

**EAST SIDE: Reuben, Gad, and ½ Manasseh**

**WEST SIDE: Judah, Ephraim, other ½ Manasseh, Benjamin, Simeon, Zebulun,  
Issachar, Naphtali, Dan**

## Think About It

1. Did God fulfill His promise to give His chosen people the land of Canaan? \_\_\_\_\_

2. If Israel allowed the wicked nations in the land to stay, what would eventually happen to Israel? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 7

**LESSON TEXT: Joshua 20 - 23; Numbers 35: 6 - 34; Deuteronomy 19: 1 - 14; 4: 41 - 43**

### Levi's Inheritance

The Lord told Joshua to speak to Israel and appoint certain cities to be cities of refuge. These cities would be a refuge for anyone who had killed another. The murderer could flee to one of these cities and be safe until a trial could be held for him.

Three cities of refuge had been chosen before Moses died. They were on the east side of the Jordan River and were the cities of Bezer, Ramoth-gilead, and Golan (Deut. 4: 41 - 43).

The cities on the west side of the Jordan River were Kadesh, Shechem, and Hebron.

These six cities of refuge were to be considered part of the tribe of Levi's inheritance ( Num. 35:6). Levi was also given forty-two more cities scattered throughout the land of Canaan. The Levites would live in these 48 cities. Each city's suburbs were measured to a certain size. The Levites could use the city's suburbs for their livestock (Num. 35:3).

The tribe of Levi had three clans: Kohath, Gershon, and Merari. Kohath received 13 cities in the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin. They received 10 cities in the tribes of Ephraim, Dan, and Manasseh.

Gershon received 13 cities in the tribes of Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.

Merari received 12 cities in the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Zebulun.

### The Tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh go home.

Joshua called together the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh. He said to them, " You have kept all the commands that Moses and the Lord gave you, and you have obeyed me. You didn't leave your brethren when they needed you, but did your responsibility as God commanded you. Now, you can go home to your tents and possessions that Moses the servant of God gave you on the other side of the Jordan

River. Then Joshua blessed them and sent them home. The tribes returned to the other side of the Jordan. But when they came to the borders on the other side, they built a great altar.

The tribes on the west side of the Jordan heard about the altar, and they were so upset about it that they gathered at Shiloh. They wanted to go to war against Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh. They sent Phinhas to them, along with ten princes of Israel, one representing each tribe. They said to Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh, "Why have you turned from following the Lord and done this sin by building an altar that rebel against God? Today you rebel against the Lord, and tomorrow He will be angry with the whole congregation of Israel. Do not rebel against the Lord by building an altar."

The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh replied, " God knows if we have built this altar in rebellion or not. We did not build the altar to offer sacrifice on, but to be a witness between us and you, and to future generations."

Phinehas and the leaders of Israel were pleased with this explanation. Phinehas told Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh, "We know the Lord is among us this day because you did not sin against the Lord."

Then Phinehas and the princes of Israel returned back home to the tribes on the other side of the Jordan and told them what Reuben, Gad and Manasseh's intentions were. This satisfied Israel and they did not go to battle against them.

### Joshua gives instructions to Israel.

Israel was at rest from fighting their enemies. Joshua was getting old, so he called Israel and it's leaders together to give them some last instructions before his death.

Joshua told them that God would be with them as they finished driving out the other nations of the land.

He said, " Be courageous and do all of God's law. Don't serve the other nation's gods, or make marriages with people from other nations. If you do, the Lord will not drive out the nations, and you will perish off the land that God has given you."

"I am going to die, and you know that every good thing the Lord promised has come to pass. Just remember that if you don't obey, He will bring all evil things upon you and you will perish off the good land that He has given you."

## MEMORY WORK

Josh 24:14-15

14"Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!

15"And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

(NKJ)

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Why did the Lord give Israel the cities of refuge? Num. 35:33 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How long could a murderer stay in the city of refuge? Num. 35: 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What would happen to a person who had killed intentionally? Num. 35:17 - 18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What would happen to a person who had killed another accidentally? Num. 35: 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. If a person who had killed another left the city of refuge, what could happen to him? Num. 35:27 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Why didn't the Lord give the tribe of Levi a land inheritance like the other tribes were given? Josh. 13:14; Num. 18:19,20; Deut. 18: 1 - 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What things did Joshua tell the tribes of Reuben, Gad and half-tribe of Manasseh to do? Josh. 22: 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What did the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh return to the other side of Jordan with? Josh. 22:8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. When Reuben, Gad and Manasseh built the altar, who did Israel remind them about? Josh. 22: 17, 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Why had they built the altar? Josh. 22: 24, 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
11. Was Israel right in being concerned about this altar? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
12. What was the altar called? Josh. 22: 34 \_\_\_\_\_
13. What had Israel seen God do for them? Josh. 23: 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
14. Who would drive out the nations from other lands? Josh. 23: 5, 9 \_\_\_\_\_
15. Read Josh. 23:6 and explain the phrase: "... that ye turn not aside therefrom to the right hand or to the left."  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
16. What was to be Israel's attitude toward other gods? Josh. 23: 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
17. What does "take good heed" in Josh. 23:11 mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
18. What did God say that other nations could be to Israel? Josh. 23: 13 \_\_\_\_\_
19. What did Joshua mean when he said, "I am going the way of all the earth...", Josh. 23: 14 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Thought Questions

1. What attributes of God do we see when we study about the cities of refuge? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. God wanted Israel to remain separate from the nations around them. Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Does God want us to remain separate from the world around us? II Cor. 6: 14-17; 15: 33 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### MAP WORK

Find the following cites and tell what tribes they are in:

Bezer \_\_\_\_\_, Ramoth-gilead \_\_\_\_\_, Golan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kedesh \_\_\_\_\_, Shechem \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 8

**LESSON TEXT: Joshua 24; Judges 1; 2: 1-2**

### Joshua's Farewell Speech

Joshua was God's man – in other words, Joshua wanted what God wanted. He showed this by the choices he made in his life. We first saw this attribute of Joshua when he was Moses' assistant. We also saw this when he and Caleb made the right choices after they had spied out the promised land. Because of Joshua's right choices God chose him to lead Israel.

Joshua had great faith. He remembered and kept his faith when Israel practiced the sin of idolatry. He kept his faith during the forty years that God made Israel wander in the wilderness. And he kept his faith as God helped him conquer the nations in the promised land.

As Joshua's time to die drew near, he called the assembly of Israel together and he charged them to be faithful to God (Josh. 24: 14 -15). He told them to choose whom they would serve. Israel's faithfulness would be a matter of choice. Joshua had remained faithful to God because of his choices to remain faithful.

In Joshua's farewell speech he reminded Israel of how God had taken care of them from the time they had left the land of Egypt until that day ( Josh. 24: 1 - 14). Part of remaining faithful to God would be their remembrance of all these things.

Joshua told Israel to fear the Lord ( Josh. 24:14). Fear of God was another thing Israel would need to keep them faithful to God. They had already seen God's reaction to them when they disobeyed Him. Fear of God would keep them from falling away and would keep God from destroying them (Josh. 24: 20).

Joshua told Israel to serve God in sincerity and truth (Josh. 24:14). And honest heart would help Israel remain faithful to God. God wanted them to be truthful about their commitment to Him.

Finally, another thing that would keep them

faithful to God was to continue to be a separate people. Joshua had already warned them that making marriages with the nations around them would cause them to turn from God. He warned them not to serve strange gods (Josh. 24: 15, 20). Israel had to live separately from the evil ways around them if they wanted to please God.

After Joshua's farewell speech, Israel said, "We will serve the Lord our God and obey His voice."

That day, Joshua renewed God's covenant with Israel. After this, Joshua died and was buried in the land of his inheritance. Israel served God all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders in Israel who outlived Joshua.

### Israel after Joshua's death.

After Joshua's death, Israel was concerned with who would fight against the Canaanites first, so they asked the Lord about it.

The Lord told the tribe of Judah to go fight first because He had delivered the land into their hands. The tribe of Judah asked the tribe of Simeon to help them, and they fought against the Canaanites and the Perizzites in their territories. They pursued Adonibezek, the king of Bezek, and brought him to Jerusalem to die. They also took the city of Hebron and drove out the giants there. They destroyed Zepheth (or Hormah). They took Gaza, Askelon, and Ekron, but did not drive their inhabitants out because they had chariots of iron.

The tribe of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites in Jerusalem (Judg. 1:21). The tribe of Manasseh did not drive out the people of Bethshean and the surrounding cities. The tribes of Ephraim, Zebulun, Asher, and Naphtali did not drive out the people in their land. And the tribe of Dan was forced into the mountains by the Amorite people in their land.

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Where did Joshua gather Israel together for his farewell speech? Josh. 24:1 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did Joshua tell them about the land God had given them? Josh. 24:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Israel need to put away from themselves to serve God? Josh. 24:14 \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did Joshua say Israel was witness to themselves about? Josh. 24:22 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where did Israel renew their covenant with God? Josh. 24: 25 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Where did Joshua write the words of this covenant? Josh. 24:26 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did Joshua set up under an oak to be a witness that Israel had renewed their covenant with God? Josh. 24: 26-27 \_\_\_\_\_
8. How old was Joshua when he died? Josh. 24: 29 \_\_\_\_\_
9. In what city was Joshua buried? Josh. 24: 30 \_\_\_\_\_
10. How long did Israel serve God? Josh. 24: 31 \_\_\_\_\_
11. Did Israel want to obey God immediately after Joshua died? Judg. 1:1 \_\_\_\_\_ How do you know this? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What did the tribes of Judah and Simeon do to Adonibezek? Judg. 1:6 - 7 \_\_\_\_\_
13. How many men were killed in Bezek? Judg. 1:4 \_\_\_\_\_
14. What did Judah do to Jerusalem? Judg. 1:8 \_\_\_\_\_
15. Judah did not drive out the inhabitants of Gaza, Askelon, and Ekron because they had chariots of iron. Did they not drive them out because God did not have the power, or because of their lack of faith? Judg. 1:19; Josh. 23: 8 - 11 \_\_\_\_\_
16. Did the house of Joseph (or Ephraim and ½ of Manasseh) have success at Bethel? Judg. 1:22 \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Why do you think the tribes of Benjamin, Manasseh, Ephraim, Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan did not drive out their inhabitants? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Thought Questions

1. Israel's faithfulness was a matter of choice. Is our faithfulness a matter of choice? Matt. 6:24; Rom. 6:16  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Does God want us to remember what He has done for us? II Tim. 2:8; Jude 17; Lk. 22:19; I Cor. 11:24 - 25  
\_\_\_\_\_ How does remembering this help us to remain faithful? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. The fear of God was to keep Israel faithful. How can the fear of God keep us faithful? Matt. 10:28 ; Phil. 2:12; I Pet. 1:17-19 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Does God want our commitment to Him? I Pet. 1:22; Rom. 6:12-13; Rom. 2:8-9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Israel had to be separate from the nations around them to please God. How can we be separate from the world around us? Rom. 12:1-2; II Cor. 6:17; II Tim. 2:22 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. How can we serve God in sincerity and truth? I Pet. 1:22-23; I Pet. 2:2, 17; Matt. 22:37 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### MEMORY WORK

Josh 24:14-15

**14"Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!**

**15"And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."**

(NKJ)

### MAP WORK

Shechem

Gaza

Hebron

Bethel

Ekron

Jerusalem

Gezer

### The Bones Of Joseph

In Genesis 50 : 25, Joseph told the children of Israel that he wanted to have his bones carried out of Egypt and buried in the land God promised. When Moses left Egypt, he took the bones of Joseph with him (Ex. 13:19). The book of Hebrews records Joseph as one of the faithful and mentions his commandment concerning his bones (Heb. 11:22).

Finally, during the days of Joshua, the bones of Joseph found their final resting place in Shechem, in the land his father Jacob had bought, and the land his children inherited (Josh. 24:32).



Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 9

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 2; 3: 1 - 6**

**The angel of the Lord visits**

Israel had not driven out the inhabitants of the land of Canaan, so an angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to Bochem and said, "I brought you out of Egypt to this land that I promised to your fathers. I said I would not break my covenant with you, and that you were not to make covenants with the people of the land. I told you to break down their altars, but you have not obeyed Me. Because of this, I will not drive out your enemies."

When Israel heard the angel's words they began to weep loudly. They called that place Bochim and they sacrificed to the Lord there. Then Joshua dismissed the people to go take possession of their land.

**The Lord's use of Judges in Israel**

Israel served the Lord as long as Joshua was alive, and as long as the elders who had seen Jehovah's great works lived. But after Joshua and the elders of Israel died another generation of Israel came after them who did not know the Lord or His mighty works. Israel began to do evil and served other gods. This made the Lord angry and He was against them.

During this period of time, whenever Israel would see that the Lord was against them they would become very distressed. The Lord would see Israel's distress and raise up judges to deliver them from their enemies. However, Israel wouldn't listen to their judges and would disobey the Lord again.

The Lord used Judges to make sure justice was done and to assure that blessings promised to the faithful would be given. When one of Israel's judges died, Israel would become even more sinful and they would do what they wanted instead of what the Lord wanted!

The Lord would become angry because of their disobedience and He told Israel that He would not drive out the nations who were left in Canaan. He used those wicked nations to test Israel's faithfulness, but they failed the Lord's test over and over.

Over and over, Israel followed the same pattern of behavior. They would be at peace with God for a time then they would begin to sin. God would punish them and they would repent because of the affliction they were under. God would hear His people in distress and deliver them. Unfortunately, Israel did not learn from their mistakes and would repeat the same pattern.

***Israel's Pattern of Behavior:***

***PEACE  
SIN  
PUNISHMENT  
REPENTANCE  
DELIVERANCE***

*As we study the Judges look for this pattern to be repeated by Israel.*

**MEMORY WORK**

**Quote Josh. 24: 14 -15 from memory.**

**Define:**

**Bochim - \_\_\_\_\_**  
\_\_\_\_\_

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. What commands did God give Israel concerning other nations? Judges 2:2 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Who broke Israel's covenant – Israel or God? Judges 2: 1 -2 \_\_\_\_\_

3. What did the angel of the Lord say that the other nations and their gods would be to Israel? Judges 2: 3 \_\_\_\_\_

How? Deut. 7:25 \_\_\_\_\_

4. For what reasons did God want Israel to destroy their enemies? Deut. 7: 4, 6 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Had Israel taught their children about the Lord and what He had done for them? Judges 2: 10 \_\_\_\_\_

6. What gods did Israel begin to worship? Judges 2: 13 \_\_\_\_\_

7. What did God do to Israel because of their sin? Judges 2:14 \_\_\_\_\_

8. When Israel saw that the Lord was against them, how did they feel? Judges 2: 15 \_\_\_\_\_

9. How did God deliver Israel from their enemies? Judges 2:16 \_\_\_\_\_

10. Did Israel listen to their judges? Judges 2:17 \_\_\_\_\_

11. What did Israel turn from? Judges 2:17 \_\_\_\_\_

12. What would Israel do when one of their judges died? Judges 2:19 \_\_\_\_\_

13. What nations did the Lord leave in Canaan to test Israel? Judges 3:3 \_\_\_\_\_

14. How close did Israel become to these nations? Judges 3: 6 \_\_\_\_\_

## Thought Questions

1. Judges 2:10 tells us that there arose a generation in Israel who did not know the Lord. Why did they not know the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Can the same thing happen to us that happened to Israel? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What things should we do to keep from having a generation who does not know the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What one thing do you think was lacking in the Israelites that kept causing them to turn from God? \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 10

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 3: 7 - 31; 4 ; 5**

**Israel's first four judges**

*(It is thought that the period of the judges may have had some overlapping – some judges may have served during the same time period as others, especially during the latter end of the period. It is impossible to know exactly.)*

The Israelites began to do evil before God and they served the false god Baalim. This angered the Lord, so He allowed them to be sold into the hand of the king of Mesopotamia. Israel served this king for eight years, and they began to cry out to the Lord to deliver them.

The Lord heard their cry and He raised up a deliverer from the tribe of Judah named Othniel. The spirit of the Lord was on Othniel as he judged Israel, and as he went to war against the king of Mesopotamia. Othniel was victorious over the king, and during the time that he was judge Israel had rest.

After Othniel died the Israelites began to do evil again. Because of their disobedience, God allowed the king of Moab to become strong and overtake Israel. The king of Moab gathered two other nations to himself and they defeated Israel.

Israel served the king of Moab for 18 years, and they began to cry out to the Lord. Again the Lord heard their cry and he raised up a deliverer named Ehud. Ehud was from the tribe of Benjamin. Israel sent Ehud to the king of Moab with a gift.

Before Ehud arrived with the gift, he hid a two-edged sword under his garment on his right thigh. When he arrived with the gift he gave it to the king of Moab and sent away all the men who had helped him carry it. Then, turning from the idols at Gilgal, he told the king, "I have a secret message for you, O King."

The king commanded, "Silence.," and all of his attendants left him alone. Ehud came before the king and killed him with the sword he had hidden. Then Ehud left and shut the doors of the room and locked them.

The king's servants waited for the king to come out. But when he did not come out they finally opened

the door and found the king dead.

Meanwhile, Ehud escaped to Seirah. He sounded a trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim and the people of Israel followed him. He was their leader and he told Israel to follow him because the Lord would give their enemies into their hand.

Israel took control of the fords of the Jordan River. They killed about 10,000 Moabites and Moab became subject to Israel. Israel had rest in the land for 80 years.

After the judge Ehud, Shamgar became judge of Israel. He saved Israel from the Philistines.

After Ehud died, Israel began to do evil again. The Lord allowed Israel to be sold into the hand of the king of Canaan. The commander of Canaan's army was Sisera, and he had 900 chariots of iron. The king of Canaan oppressed Israel cruelly for 20 years and Israel began to cry out to the Lord for help.

During this period of time, Israel had a woman judge named Deborah. Deborah would sit under a palm tree and Israel would come to her for judgment.

One day Deborah called for Barak and said to him, "The Lord God commands you to gather 10,000 men at Mount Tabor. You are to draw out Sisera and have him meet you with his chariots and troops. The Lord will give him into your hands."

Barak told Deborah that he would not go unless she went with him. Deborah said, "I'll go, but if I go you will not get the glory because the Lord will deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman."

Deborah went with Barak and his 10,000 men. She said, "Arise! This is the day that the Lord has given Sisera into your hands. Hasn't the Lord gone out ahead of you?"

Barak's army went to Mount Tabor and the Lord confused Sisera and all his chariots with the edge of the sword. Sisera left his chariot and fled on foot. Barak pursued Sisera's army and killed them all. Meanwhile, Sisera came to the tent of Heber the Kenite. Heber's

wife, Jael came out to meet Sisera and asked him to come inside her tent.

Sisera came inside the tent and Jael fed him. He went to sleep and then Jael killed him.

As Barak and his army came by, Jael met them and said, "Come and I will show you the man you are looking for."

Inside the tent lay Sisera, dead. God subdued the king of Canaan and Israel finally destroyed him. Under Deborah, Israel had rest for 40 years.

## MEMORY WORK

Memorize the first four judges

OTHNIEL

EHUD

SHAMGAR

DEBORAH

## USE YOUR BIBLE

(All verses are in the book of Judges unless otherwise noted.)

1. What was God's law concerning false gods, groves and altars? Ex. 34:13 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Whom did Israel forget? Judges 3:3 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What was the king of Mesopotamia's name? 3:8 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who was the father-in-law of Othniel? Josh. 15:16 - 17 \_\_\_\_\_
5. How long did the land have rest while Othniel was judge? 3:11 \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the king of Moab's name? 3:12 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What other two nations did the king of Moab gather to himself to fight Israel? 3:13 \_\_\_\_\_
8. What personal fact do we know about Ehud? 3:15 \_\_\_\_\_
9. What personal fact do we know about Eglon? 3:17 \_\_\_\_\_
10. What happened to Ehud's sword as he thrust it into Eglon's body? 3:22 \_\_\_\_\_
11. Who did Ehud give the glory to? 3:28 \_\_\_\_\_
12. What kind of soldiers were the Moabite men? 3:29 \_\_\_\_\_
13. How did Shamgar deliver Israel from the Philistines? 3:31 \_\_\_\_\_
14. What was unusual about the roads during the days of Shamgar? 5:6 \_\_\_\_\_
15. What river was Barak to lure Sisera to? 4:7 \_\_\_\_\_
16. Why did Sisera flee to the tent of Heber the Kenite? 4:17 \_\_\_\_\_
17. What did Jael tell Sisera to put him at ease? 4:18 \_\_\_\_\_
18. What did Sisera want to drink? 4:19 \_\_\_\_\_ What did Jael give him? \_\_\_\_\_
19. How did Jael kill Sisera? 4:21 \_\_\_\_\_
20. Did the people in Reuben, Dan, and Asher fight in this battle? 5: 15 - 17 \_\_\_\_\_
21. What two tribes fought with Barak? 4:10; 5:18 \_\_\_\_\_
22. What happened at the River Kishon that day? 5:21 \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 11

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 6: 1 - 31**

**Gideon becomes judge of Israel.**

The children of Israel began to do evil before the Lord again. This time the Lord delivered them into the hands of the nation of Midian for 7 years. During this period of time, Israel moved into the mountain dens, caves, and strongholds to escape the oppression of the Midianites.

Whenever the Israelites would plant their grain the Midianites, the Amalekites, and others from the east would descend upon their crops like grasshoppers and destroy them. They did not spare any living thing for Israel-- killing even the sheep, oxen, and donkeys.

Midian brought Israel very low and Israel began to cry out to the Lord. The Lord heard their cries and sent them a prophet. The prophet reminded Israel of what God had done for them. He also told Israel that the Lord said they were not to worship the gods of the Amorites. He also said, "You have not obeyed Me."

One day a man named Gideon was threshing wheat by a winepress. He was doing this to hide his grain from the Midianites. As Gideon was doing this an angel appeared before him and said to him, "The Lord is with you, you mighty warrior."

Gideon began to question the angel. He wanted to know why the Lord had given them into the hands of Midian.

The Lord told Gideon that he would save Israel from Midian. However, Gideon had a hard time believing that the Lord wanted him. He asked the Lord for a sign to prove that He had talked to Gideon. He told the angel not to leave until he had brought an offering to the Lord.

Gideon brought back his offering and the angel of God told him to lay it on the rock. Then the angel touched it with the staff in his hand and fire came out of the rock and consumed the offering. Then the angel departed.

When Gideon realized that he had been talking to an angel of the Lord, he said, "Alas, O Lord God! I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face!"

Then the Lord spoke to Gideon and told him not to be afraid. He said, "You will not die."

Gideon built an altar to the Lord. That night, the Lord told Gideon, "Take your father's young bull and a second bull. Pull down the altar of Baal that belongs to your father and cut down it's grove."

"Build an altar to the Lord on this strong place and offer the second bull upon it, using the wood from the grove that you cut down."

Gideon did this at night. The next morning, the men of the city saw what had happened and asked, "Who did this?" They found out that Gideon had done it, and they wanted to kill him.

Gideon's father said to the men of the city, "Are you going to fight for Baal or save him? Whoever fights for Baal will be put to death by morning. If Baal really is a god, let him fight for himself because of his broken altar."

On that day, Gideon was called Jerubbaal - saying, "Let Baal plead against him."

**MEMORY WORK**

**Memorize the first five judges**

**OTHNIEL**

**EHUD**

**SHAMGAR**

**DEBORAH**

**GIDEON**

## Questions

1. What did the prophet remind Israel about? Judg. 6: 8-9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Where was the angel of the Lord sitting? 6: 11 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What questions did Gideon ask the angel? 6: 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Who sent Gideon? 6: 14 \_\_\_\_\_
5. What excuse did Gideon give the Lord? 6:15 \_\_\_\_\_
6. How would Gideon have courage to save Israel? 6: 16 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What offering did Gideon bring? 6:19 \_\_\_\_\_
8. What did the angel tell Gideon to put on the rock? 6:20 \_\_\_\_\_
9. What did Gideon call the altar that he built for the Lord? 6:24 \_\_\_\_\_
10. When did the Lord tell Gideon to tear down his father's altar to Baal? 6:25 \_\_\_\_\_
11. Why did Gideon tear down Baal's altar and build the altar to the Lord at night? 6:27 \_\_\_\_\_
12. Why did the men of the town want to kill Gideon? 6:30 \_\_\_\_\_

## Thought Questions

1. When Gideon told the angel his excuses, "...my family is poor in Manasseh..." and "...I am the youngest in my father's house...", did the Lord listen to them? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Will the Lord listen to excuses that we give not to serve Him? \_\_\_\_\_
3. If a "poor, young man" like Gideon can do what the Lord wanted, can we? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How can young people serve God today? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Define

**Jerubbaal:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 12

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 6; 36 - 40; 7 ; 8**

**Gideon and Israel Battle Midian.**

Gideon wanted a sign that God would save Israel by his hand. The Lord let Gideon know that he was chosen by Him. When Gideon knew that he was chosen by God, he and others rose up early the next morning and camped beside the well of Harod.

The Lord said to Gideon, "There are too many people with you for Me to give Midian into your hand. Tell the people, 'Whoever is afraid, return home.'"

Gideon did and 22,000 people left. 10,000 men remained. Then the Lord said to Gideon, "There are still too many people. Take them to the water and I will test them there."

Gideon took them to the water and the Lord said, "All who lap water with his tongue like a dog, set aside. Separate them from all who kneel down to drink."

Three-hundred men lapped water, all the rest knelt down to drink. The Lord said to Gideon, "With the 300 men, I will save you and give Midian into your hand. Let the other men go home."

That night, Gideon and his servant went close to the Midianites camp to listen to what they had to say. They heard one man tell another about his dream. The other man said that the dream meant that God would give Midian into Gideon's hand.

Gideon returned to camp and told Israel, "Get up, for the Lord had given Midian into your hand."

Gideon divided the 300 men into three companies and gave trumpets and empty jars with torches inside the jars to each man. He said to the 300 men, "Watch men and do what I do. When I blow the trumpet, blow your trumpets and shout, 'For the Lord and for Gideon!'"

Gideon and his men came to the outskirts of the Midianites camp. They blew the trumpets and smashed the jars. With the torch in their left hand and the trumpet in their right they cried, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!"

The 300 Israelite men each stood in his place around the camp of Midian. All of the Midianites began to cry out and run away. Israel blew the trumpets and the Lord set every man's sword in Midian against his

companion.

Gideon and his 300 men crossed the Jordan River exhausted, but pursuing the Midianites. At Succoth, Gideon said to the men there, "Please give my men bread because they are exhausted."

The officials of Succoth said, "Are there men already captured by you? And you want us to give you bread?"

Gideon told them that the Lord had given them into his hand. He told the men from Succoth, "I'll flail your flesh with thorns and briers of the wilderness."

Gideon went to Penuel and made the same request, but they answered in the same manner as the men of Succoth. He told the men of Penuel, "When I return safely I will tear down this tower."

Gideon went on to capture the kings of Midian and he threw the army of Midian into a panic. Then he captured a young man from Succoth and had him write down the names of the officials there. He went to Succoth and taught the 77 officials a lesson. He brought the kings of Midian with him and said, "Here are the kings concerning who you taunted me about." Then he took the men of Succoth and punished them with briers and thorns.

In Penuel, Gideon tore down the tower and killed the men of the town.

Then Gideon killed the two kings of Midian. When Israel saw what Gideon had done they said, "Rule over us, you and your son and grandson, for saving us from Midian."

Gideon said, "I'll not rule over you. The Lord will rule over you."

Then Gideon requested all the gold earrings from the spoils of battle. He made an ephod out of the earrings and put it in the city of Ophrah. However, this ephod became a snare to Gideon and his family because Israel whored after it.

Midian was subdued and Israel had rest from them for 40 years during the days of Gideon.

## Use Your Bible

1. Where were the Midianites and Amalekites camped? Judg. 6:33 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What came upon Gideon? 6:34 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What sign did Gideon want from God? 6:37 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Was very much dew on the fleece? 6:38 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What was the second sign Gideon wanted from God? 6:39 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What tribes did Gideon call the men from? 6:35 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Why did God tell Gideon that he had too many men? 7:2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Who would test the men at the water? 7:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Who sent Gideon to the Midianites camp? 7:9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What was Gideon to do if he was afraid to go down the camp alone? 7:10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Why did God want Gideon to listen to the men in Midian's camp? 7:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. How many Midianites, Amalekites and eastern people were there in camp? 7:12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. What was the dream Gideon overheard? 7:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. What did Gideon do when he heard the interpretation of the dream? 7:15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. What did Gideon want the men of the tribe of Ephraim to do? 7:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. What were the names of the two Midianites princes Ephraim killed? 7:25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. How did Ephraim criticize Gideon? 8:1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. What did Gideon remind them of to appease them? 8:3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



19. What were the names of the two kings of Midian? 8:5 \_\_\_\_\_

20. How many men were with the two kings? 8:10 \_\_\_\_\_

21. How many men had been killed? 8:10 \_\_\_\_\_

22. What did Gideon say about the men Zebah and Zalmunna had killed? 8:19 \_\_\_\_\_

23. Who did Gideon ask to kill the two kings? 8:20 \_\_\_\_\_ Did he? \_\_\_\_\_

24. What did Zebah and Zalmunna tell Gideon? 8:21 \_\_\_\_\_

### Thought Questions

1. What kind of faith did Gideon and his 300 men have? Matt. 17 :20; 21:21 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is our faith to cause us to do? Gal. 3:26 - 27 ; I Cor. 2:5 ; Rom. 1:17 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Did Gideon realize who the real ruler of Israel was? 8:23 \_\_\_\_\_ Did Israel? \_\_\_\_\_

4. When Gideon made the ephod he thought he was making something good, but it became a snare to him and Israel. Can good things in our life become a snare to us? \_\_\_\_\_ How? \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMORY WORK

**Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar, Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech, Tola, Jair, Jephthah**

### Map Work

**Find and circle on your map:**

**Valley of Jezreel**

**Succoth**

**Penuel**

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 13

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 9; 10: 1 - 5**

**Abimelech, a Self-appointed Leader.**

**Note:** *In Judges 6:32, Gideon was called Jerubbaal because he had thrown down Baal's altar. Gideon had a son named Abimelech by his concubine in the city of Shechem (8:31). Although Abimelech became a leader of Israel, and is many times listed along with the judges of Israel, he was not a judge. God did not appoint him as the judges were appointed. Abimelech was a self-appointed leader who was determined to be king by using whatever means he could to do so.*

Abimelech, the son of Jerubbaal, went to his mother's relatives and said to them, "Speak this to all the men of Shechem, 'Is it better for 70 sons of Jerubbaal to rule over you, or for one to rule over you?' Remember that I am your bone and flesh."

Abimelech's relatives told this to all the men of Shechem, and they decided to follow Abimelech. They said, "He is our brother."

Then Abimelech went to his father's house at Ophrah and killed all 70 of his brothers, except one who was the youngest.

The men of Shechem made Abimelech king, then they went to see Abimelech's youngest brother and told him about what they had done. When Abimelech's youngest brother heard that his brother was king, he stood on top of Mount Gerizim and told a story to the men of Shechem. The story illustrated that the best of men would not lead them, so they had chosen the worst of men to lead them. He told them that if they had made Abimelech king in an underhanded way, he hoped that they and Abimelech would be destroyed.

After telling this story, Abimelech's brother fled to Beer in fear of him.

Abimelech had ruled for three years when God sent an evil spirit between him and the men of Shechem, because of what they had done. The men of Shechem began to plot against Abimelech, and a man named Gaal and his brethren began to undermine his rule.

Gaal said, "Why should we serve Abimelech?"

Isn't he the son of Jerubbaal? If these people were under my rule, I would remove Abimelech. I would tell him, 'Increase your army and come out.'"

One of Abimelech's officers, named Zebul, heard what Gaal said and became angry. He sent messengers to Abimelech and told him what Gaal was doing. He said, "You and your people wait in the field at night. In the morning, come out against Gaal and the city."

Abimelech did what his officer said. The next morning Gaal went out and stood at the gate of the city. He saw Abimelech and the people with him, so he said to Abimelech's officer, "Look, there are people coming down from the mountain."

Zebul said, "You're only seeing shadows."

But Gaal insisted, "See, there are people coming."

Zebul said, "Where is your big talk now, you who said, 'Who is Abimelech that we should serve him?' Aren't these the people that you despise? Go fight them!"

Gaal went out and fought Abimelech. Abimelech chased Gaal. He took the city and killed the people in it. Then Abimelech took the city of Thebez. Men and women shut themselves in a strong tower in Thebez and Abimelech came near the tower to burn it.

When a woman in the tower saw Abimelech near, she threw a millstone out onto his head and broke his skull. Abimelech called one of his armorbearers to himself hastily and told him to take his sword and kill him. The young man killed him, and when the men of Israel saw that he was dead they went home.

**Tola becomes judge.**

After Abimelech died, Tola rose up to defend Israel. He judged Israel for 23 years before his death.

**Jair becomes judge.**

After Tola, another judge arose who judged Israel.

Tola judged Israel for 22 years. He had 30 sons who rode 30 donkeys and they controlled 30 cities in the land of Gilead.

## MEMORY WORK

**Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar, Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech, Tola, Jair, Jephthah  
Ibzan, Elon, Abdon, Samson, Eli, Samuel**

### USE YOUR BIBLE

1. What did men of Shechem give Abimelech? Judg. 9: 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What kind of men did Abimelech hire? 9:4 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What was the name of Abimelech's youngest brother who was not killed? 9:5 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Where did the men of Shechem make Abimelech king? 9: 6 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Give a short summary of Jotham's story of the trees. 9:7 - 15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What events did Jotham remind Shechem of? 9:17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What did Jotham accuse the men of Shechem of? 9:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What curse did Jotham give the men of Shechem and Abimelech? 9:20 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Why did the Lord send an evil spirit upon Abimelech and the men of Shechem? 9:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What did the men of Shechem do to oppose Abimelech? 9:25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What did Gaal and his men do with the men from Shechem? 9:27 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Who was Zebul? 9:28, 30 \_\_\_\_\_
13. Who drove Gaal and his brethren out of Shechem? 9:41 \_\_\_\_\_
14. What did Abimelech do to the city after he had destroyed it? 9:45 \_\_\_\_\_
15. What did Abimelech do to the men of the tower of Shechem? 9: 46 - 49 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
16. Why did Abimelech want his armorbearer to kill him? 9:54 \_\_\_\_\_
17. Why did God punish Abimelech? 9:56 \_\_\_\_\_
18. Where was Tola from? 10: 1 \_\_\_\_\_
19. Where was Jair from? 10:3 \_\_\_\_\_

### THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. What do you see in Abimelech's character that would not please God? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Were the men of Shechem true friends of Abimelech? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. How are people like the men of Shechem today? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
4. What character traits do you see in Jotham? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
5. What character traits do you see in Gaal? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Why do you think Abimelech scattered salt over the city of Shechem? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### MAP WORK

**Shechem**

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 14

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 10: 5 - 18; 11; 12**

**Israel turns from God**

After Jair died the children of Israel began to do evil and serve false gods. They forsook God and did not serve Him, so He became angry against Israel. God allowed Israel to be sold into the hands of the Philistines and the Ammonites.

Under their oppression, Israel became distressed and began to cry out unto the Lord saying, "We have sinned because we've forsaken our God and served Balaam."

The Lord said to Israel, "Haven't I delivered you from other nations in the past? They oppressed you and you cried out to Me and I delivered you. Yet you have forsaken Me and served other gods, so I will not deliver you anymore. Cry to the gods you have chosen to serve and let them deliver you."

Israel, however, seemed contrite and said unto the Lord, "We've sinned. Do whatever seems good to You. Only, please deliver us we pray."

Israel put away their idol gods and began to serve the Lord. And the Lord became impatient over the misery of Israel.

**Jephthah becomes judge of Israel**

The Ammonites were called to arms and camped in Gilead. Israel gathered together and camped in Mizpah. The leaders of Israel in Gilead began to ask, "What man will fight these Ammonites? He will become head over all the inhabitants of Gilead."

There was a man who was the son of Gilead, named Jephthah. He was a mighty warrior and was the son of a harlot.

Gilead's other sons grew up and drove Jephthah out of the house. Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob. Worthless men gathered together with Jephthah.

Some time passed and the Ammonites made war against Israel. When this happened, the men of Gilead brought Jephthah back from Tob and said to

him, "Be our leader and fight Ammon. We turn to you now to be the head over the people of Gilead."

Jephthah said, "If you bring me home to fight Ammon, and the Lord gives them over to me, I'll be your head."

Jephthah went with them and the people made him leader over them. He sent messengers to the King of Ammon and asked him, "What do you have against me that you fight against me in my land?"

The King of Ammon answered, "Because Israel took my land when they came up from Egypt. Now restore it peacefully."

Jephthah sent another message, "I say that Israel didn't take away the land of Moab or Ammon. When we came up from Egypt, the King of Edom and King of Moab would not consent for us to come through the land. Israel went around Edom and Moab and did not enter their territory. Sihon would not let us pass through his territory and the Lord gave Sihon and his people over to Israel. So Israel possessed their land."

"All that the Lord drives out before us, those we will possess. I have not sinned against you, and you are wrong to make war against me. The Lord, the Judge, will decide between Israel and Ammon this day"

The King of Ammon would not listen to what Jephthah had to say. Jephthah passed through Gilead and Manasseh to Mizpah, then over to Ammon. He made a vow to God saying, "If You will give Ammon into my hands, than the first one out the door of my house to meet me when I return will be the Lord's and I will offer it up for a burnt offering."

Jephthah defeated Ammon. When he came home to his house in Mizpah, his daughter came out to meet him dancing with timbrels.

When Jephthah saw her he said, "Oh my daughter! You have made me miserable and trouble me because I have given my word to the Lord and cannot go back on it."

His daughter said, "If you have given your word to the Lord than you must do what you have promised, because God has avenged you of your enemies."

Jephthah did as he had vowed and she remained a virgin.

**Ephraim wants to fight Jephthah.**

The men of Ephraim called out their forces and went to Jephthah. They said to him, "Why did you go fight the Ammonites and not call us to go with you? Now we are going to bum your house down on you."

Jephthah replied, "I and my people were in a great struggle with Ammon. When I called you, you did not save me from their hands. I saw that you were not going to help, so I took my life into my own hands and crossed over to fight the Ammonites. The Lord gave me the victory. Now why have you come up today to fight me?"

Then Jephthah called together the men of Gilead and fought Ephraim. Gilead captured the fords of the Jordan River leading into Ephraim's territory. 42,000 men of Ephraim were killed.

Jephthah judged Israel for 6 years, and when he died he was buried at Gilead.

**THOUGHT QUESTIONS**

Were human sacrifices approved by God? Lev. 18:21; 20: 1 - 5; Deut. 12:31; Deut. 18: 9 - 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
Was Jephthah condemned in Heb. 11: 32 - 34 \_\_\_\_\_

*In II Kings 16: 3 and II Kings 21: 6, human sacrifice was a terrible offense to God and this sin hastened the destruction of the kingdom of Judah.*

*A burnt offering could only be male, so if Jephthah offered his daughter as a burnt sacrifice this would have violated God's law ( Lev. 1).*

*When we have a question about something we do not understand in the scriptures, we are to look at other examples to see if they shed truth on what happened or was done. There are examples in the scriptures of people who were totally dedicated to God: Samson ( Judg.13:4-5),John the Baptist(Lk.1:15), women who did service at the door of the tent of meeting ( I Sam. 2:22), and Anna, who never left the temple, but worshiped there night and day (Lk. 2:37).*

*The daughters of Israel remembered the great occasion of Jephthah's daughter every year. Since a vow was a free-will offering to God, Jephthah's vow*

*was probably one of dedicating totally whoever came through the door of his house. A "Burnt offering" was something totally dedicated to God.*

*Jephthah's offering of his only daughter ( and only child) would have been a great dedication for him because she was to remain a virgin and he would have no lineage in Israel.*

*In light of the scriptures, I think we can say that Jephthah's daughter was offered - not as an animal would have been, because that would have violated God's law, - but as one totally dedicated to the service of God..*

What kind of judge do you think Jephthah was? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe Jephthah's daughter? \_\_\_\_\_

Did she question her father's vow to God? \_\_\_\_\_  
Should we question our parents when they want us to do what is good and right? \_\_\_\_\_  
Should we question God's commands? \_\_\_\_\_

**MAP WORK**

**AMMON**

**HESHBON**

**MOAB**

**GILEAD**

**EDOM**

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Who did Israel begin to serve? Judges 10:6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How long were the Israelites oppressed by their enemies? 10:8 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What tribes were oppressed by Ammon? 10: 8 - 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What nations had God delivered Israel from? 10:11- 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why did Jephthah's brothers drive him out of the house? 11:2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What questions did Jephthah ask when the elders of Gilead wanted him to come home and fight? 11:7 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What kind of assurance did the elders of Gilead give Jephthah? 11:10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Who did Jephthah speak his words before? 11:11 \_\_\_\_\_
9. What question did Jephthah ask the king of Ammon? 11:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Who did Jephthah depend on to judge this situation? 11:27 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What came upon Jephthah? 11:29 \_\_\_\_\_
12. Who delivered the people of Ammon into Jephthah's hand? 11:32 \_\_\_\_\_
13. How many cities did Jephthah defeat? 11:33 \_\_\_\_\_
14. How many children did Jephthah have? 11:34 \_\_\_\_\_
15. What did Jephthah's daughter want to do before he kept his vow to God? 11: 37 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. What became a custom in Israel after this? 11:39 - 40 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. Why did the men of Gilead defeat Ephraim? 12:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. What question would the Gileadites ask the fugitives from Ephraim when they wanted to cross the fords of the river? \_\_\_\_\_
19. If the fugitive said "no", what would the men from Gilead ask them to say? \_\_\_\_\_
20. If the fugitive could not answer the men from Gilead correctly, what did they do to them? \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMORY WORK

**Be able to say all the Judges of Israel.**

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 15

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 12: 8 - 15; 13; 14**

**Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon**

After Jephthah was the judge of Israel, Ibzan of Bethlehem became judge. He judged Israel for 7 years.

After Ibzan, Elon from the tribe of Zebulun became judge. He judged Israel for 10 years.

After Elon, Abdon became judge of Israel and judged them for 8 years.

**A new Judge is born.**

The children of Israel began to do evil before God, so He delivered them into the hands of the Philistines. During this period of time a man in the tribe of Dan, named Manoah, and his wife could not have any children.

One day an angel appeared to Manoah's wife and said, "You have not had any children, but you are going to conceive and have a son. Therefore, see to it that you do not drink any wine or strong drink, or eat anything that is unclean. No razor is to come upon his head and he will deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."

Manoah's wife came to him and told him what had happened and what the angel had said to her. Then Manoah prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord, please let the man of God that you sent come to us again and teach us what to do with the child who is to be born."

God heard Manoah's prayer and the angel came again. This time, as the woman was sitting in a field alone the angel came to her. She got up quickly and went to tell her husband. Her husband arose and followed his wife. When he saw the angel he said, "Are you the man who spoke to this woman?"

The angel said, "I am."

Manoah asked the angel how they were to raise the child and the angel told him what he needed to know. Then Manoah said to the angel, "Please stay

and let us prepare a young goat for you."

The angel said that he would not eat their food, but if they prepared a burnt offering they should offer it to the Lord. Manoah said, "What is your name, so that when your words come true we can honor you?"

The angel replied, "Why do you ask my name, seeing it is wonderful?"

Manoah took the young goat and offered it to the Lord on a rock, to the One who works wonders. The flame went up toward heaven and the angel went up in the flame from the offering.

When Manoah and his wife saw this, Manoah said to his wife, "We'll surely die because we have seen God."

Manoah's wife said, "If the Lord wanted to kill us, He wouldn't have accepted our burnt offering, or shown us these things, or announced these things to us."

Manoah's wife had a son and called his name Samson. Samson grew and the Lord blessed him.

**Samson marries.**

One day, Samson went to Timnah and while he was there he saw a daughter of the Philistines. He went to his parents after this and said to them, "I saw one of the Philistine daughters at Timnah. Get her for me as my wife."

Samson's parents said to him, "Can't you find a woman among your relatives or our own people? Must you have a wife from uncircumcised Philistines?"

But Samson said, "Get her because she is the right one for me."

Now, Samson's parents did not know that it was from the Lord, and that Samson was seeking an opportunity against the Philistines because they ruled over Israel.

Samson went down with his mother and father



to Timnah and along the way a young lion came out to him. Samson had nothing in his hand, but he tore the lion into pieces as one would tear a young goat. He did not tell his parents about doing this.

Samson talked to the woman and she pleased him well. After some days, Samson went back to marry the woman and on the way there he saw the carcass of the lion that he had killed. In the carcass were bees and honey, so he scraped out the honey with his hand and ate it as he went on his way.

Samson's father went down to see the woman and Samson made a wedding feast there. The people there brought Samson 30 companions. Samson told these 30 men a riddle. He said, "If you can figure out the riddle I will give you 30 linen garments and 30 changes of clothes. But if you cannot figure out the riddle you will give me 30 linen garments and 30 changes of clothes.

The men said, "We want to hear the riddle."

Samson's riddle was:

*Out of the eater came something to eat.*

*Out of the strong came something sweet.*

The men could not solve the riddle, so they said to Samson's wife, "Entice your husband to tell us the answer to the riddle, or we will burn you and your father's house. Have you called us to take what we have?"

Samson's wife wept over him and said, "You hate men and do not love me. You told a riddle to my people and have not told me what it is."

Samson said, "I have not even told my parents this, and I should tell you?"

Samson's wife cried for 7 days and on the 7<sup>th</sup> day he told her because she pressed him to. Then she went to her people and told them the answer.

The men of the city came to Samson and said, "What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?"

Samson said, "If you had not plowed with my heifer, you would not have found out my riddle."

Then Samson went to Ashkelon and struck down 30 men there. He took their garments and gave them to the ones he had told the riddle to.

Samson went back to his father's house and his wife was given to his companion who had attended him at his wedding.

## MEMORY WORK

1 Sam 2:2

**"No one is holy like the LORD, for there is none besides You, nor is there any rock like our God.**

(NKJ)

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Tell some personal facts about Ibzan. Judg. 12:9

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2. Tell some personal facts about Abdon. 12: 13,14

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3. How long did the Philistines rule over Israel? 13:1 \_\_\_\_\_

4. What would Manoah's child be set apart to be? 13:5 \_\_\_\_\_

5. What things did Manoah's wife not find out about the angel? 13:6 \_\_\_\_\_

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6. How long would Samson be a Nazarite? 13:7 \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Did Manoah know who the angel was? 13:16 \_\_\_\_\_

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8. How did Manoah and his wife react when they saw the angel go up in the flame? 13: 20 \_\_\_\_\_

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9. How did Manoah figure out that he had seen an angel? 13:21 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Who began to stir Samson at Dan? 13:25 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What was the lion's behavior toward Samson? 14:5 \_\_\_\_\_
12. How was Samson able to tear the lion apart? 14: 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Who did Samson give some of his honey to? 14:9 \_\_\_\_\_
14. Did Samson tell his parents where he got the honey? 14:9 \_\_\_\_\_
15. How many days did the 30 men try to figure out the riddle before they went to Samson's wife? 14:14  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. How was Samson able to strike down the 30 men at Ashkelon? 14:19 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Thought Questions

1. Who chose Samson to be judge? 13:5 \_\_\_\_\_
2. When Manoah learned that they were to have a child, who did he turn to in prayer for guidance?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. When we are faced with difficulties that we do not understand, who should we turn to? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Samson chose a woman to be his wife, who normally should not have been chosen in Israel. How can this be explained? Judg. 14:4 ; Deut. 29: 29 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Do the men that God use always make the best decisions regarding His laws? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What do you think Samson meant when he said, "If you had not plowed with my heifer, you would not have solved my riddle!" (NKJ)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 16

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 15; 16**

**Samson takes vengeance upon the Philistines.**

After the wheat harvest, Samson decided to visit his wife and bring her a young goat. But when he arrived, his father-in-law would not allow him to go into his wife.

His father-in-law said, "We thought that you hated her, so I gave her to your companion. Her sister is more attractive, take her."

Samson said, "This time I will be blameless regarding the Philistines if I harm them."

He went out and caught 300 foxes. Then he tied them together by pairs and put a torch between each pair. Setting the torches on fire, he let the foxes go into the grain fields of the Philistines and burned them up.

The Philistines wanted to know who had done this, and they were told that Samson had done it because his wife had been given to his companion.

The Philistines reacted by burning his wife and her father with fire.

When Samson saw this, he said, "Because you have done this I will take revenge upon you, then I will stop."

He attacked and killed many of them.

Then the Philistines made camp in the tribe of Judah. The men of Judah came to them and wanted to know why they were against them.

They said, "We have come to arrest Samson and do to him what he has done to us."

The men of Judah went to Samson and said, "Don't you know that the Philistines are rulers over us? What have you done to us? We are going to bind you and take you to the Philistines."

Samson said, "Swear that you will not kill me."

They said, "We will not, but we will bind you and give you into their hands."

However, when the Philistines came out against him, he broke off the cords that bound him and picked up the fresh jawbone of a donkey. He killed

1,000 men with it, and then cast it away.

As he was very thirsty, he called upon the Lord and said, "You have delivered me. Must I die of thirst and fall into the uncircumcised hands?"

Then God opened up a hollow place in Lehi and water came out for him to drink.

**Samson surrounded.**

One day Samson went to the city of Gaza and saw a harlot there. He went in to spend the night with her.

Soon the word spread throughout Gaza that Samson was in their city, so they surrounded the place and lay in wait all night at the gate of the city. That night no move was made to take Samson because they had decided to kill him the next morning.

Samson lay until midnight and then he got up. He went to the gate of the city with two posts and pulled them up, bar and all. He lifted them to his shoulder and carried them to the top of the hill that faced Hebron.

**Samson, Delilah, and the Philistines**

Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. Knowing that Samson loved her, the rulers of the Philistines came to her and said, "Entice him and find out where he gets his great strength, and by what means we can overpower him so that we can tie him up and subdue him."

So Delilah began to question Samson. She said, "Please tell me where your great strength lies, and how you can be tied up and subdued."

Samson replied, "If anyone ties me with seven fresh bowstrings that are not dried, then I will become weak and like any other man."

So the rulers of the Philistines brought Delilah

seven fresh bowstrings that had not been dried and she tied him up with them. Then she called out, "The Philistines are upon you Samson!"

Samson easily broke the bowstrings upon him and his source of strength was still not known.

Then Delilah tried two other times to find out the source of his strength. Each time he could not be bound and the source of his strength was not known.

Delilah, realizing that Samson was not telling her the truth, said to him, "How can you say that you love me when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me three times and have not told me the secret of your great strength."

Delilah began to nag at Samson every day, so that he became tired to death of it. Finally he told her all that was in his heart and the secret of his strength. Seeing that this time he was telling her the truth, Delilah sent word to the rulers of the Philistines saying, "Come once more because he has told me all that is in his heart."

The rulers of the Philistines came. Delilah lulled Samson to sleep on her lap and called for a man to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and his strength left him. Then she called out, "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!"

Samson woke up and thought he would go out as he had the other times. The Philistines seized him and put his eyes out and took him to Gaza. They put him into prison.

While Samson was in prison, his hair began to grow out again.

One day the rulers of the Philistines gathered together to offer sacrifice to their idol god, Dagon. While they were merry and in high spirits they said, "Call for Samson to entertain us!"

They brought Samson from prison and stood him among the pillars of the building. Samson said to the lad who held his hand, "Let me feel the pillars that support the temple so that I can lean upon them."

The temple of Dagon was full of men and women that day and about 3,000 were on the roof watching Samson. Then Samson began to call out to the Lord and said, "O Lord God, remember me I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes."

Then Samson took hold of the two pillars that supported the building, one with his right hand and

one with his left. He said, "Let me die with the Philistines." And pushing with all his might, the house fell and everyone there was killed.

Samson's brothers came to get his body and they buried it in the burying place of his father, Manoah. He judged Israel for 20 years.

## MEMORY WORK

1 Sam 2:2

**"No one is holy like the LORD, for there is none besides You, nor is there any rock like our God.**

(NKJ)

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. How do the scriptures describe the way Samson attacked the Philistines? Judg. 15: 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How did the men of Judah bind Samson? 15: 13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Who came upon Samson at Lehi? 15:14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What happened to the cords they had bound him with? 15:14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Who was Samson referring to when he said, "hands of the uncircumcised"? 15:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What did the Philistines say they would give Delilah for finding out Samson's secret? 16:5 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Where were to Philistines waiting while Samson was tied with 7 fresh bowstrings? 15:9 \_\_\_\_\_
8. What did Samson tell Delilah to tie him with the second time? 16:11 \_\_\_\_\_
9. How did Samson break them off his arms? 16:12 \_\_\_\_\_
10. What did Samson tell Delilah to do the third time? 16:13 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What did Samson say was the source of his strength? 16:17 \_\_\_\_\_
12. What did the Philistines bring Delilah when she found out Samson's secret? 16:18 \_\_\_\_\_
13. What did Samson not know when his locks of hair were cut off? 16:20 \_\_\_\_\_
14. What did Samson do in prison? 16:21 \_\_\_\_\_
15. What did the Philistines say about their god? 16: 23 - 24 \_\_\_\_\_
16. How many Philistines did Samson kill in the temple? 16:30 \_\_\_\_\_

### THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Who did Samson realize his strength came from? Judg. 16:17; 16:28 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Heb. 11: 32 lists Samson as a hero of faith. Samson did not always do what God wanted him to do. In what ways was Samson a man of faith? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Were any of the women Samson loved the right kind of women? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How was Samson's wife from Timnah and Delilah alike? \_\_\_\_\_
5. If Samson had married a woman of Israel, might his life had been different? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was Delilah's motive for doing what she did? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What methods did Delilah use to get her way? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What does the Lord think of a woman who is contentious? Prov. 27:15; Prov. 19:13 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Did Samson's wife's and Delilah's persistence bring them happiness? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What was Samson's downfall? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Samson lost his physical and spiritual sight. When did he regain his spiritual sight? \_\_\_\_\_
12. How can the wrong kind of woman destroy a man? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Do women have very much influence over men? \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 17

**LESSON TEXT: I Samuel 1; 2; 3**

**Hannah's prayer.**

In the hill country of Ephraim lived a man named Elkanah. Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Penninah. Penninah had children, but Hannah did not.

Every year Elkanah would go worship the Lord at Shiloh. When the time came to sacrifice he would give portions to his wives, but to Hannah he gave double because she could not have children.

The same thing happened year after year. Penninah would provoke Hannah because she could not have any children, and Hannah would become upset to the point that she would weep about it and could not eat.

When this would happen, Elkanah would come to her and say, "Hannah, why are you crying? Am I not better to you than 10 sons?"

On one of these occasions Hannah went to the tabernacle to pray. She was very distressed and made a promise to the Lord that if He would give her a son she would give him to the Lord all the days of his life.

Eli, the priest, was watching Hannah as she prayed. She moved her lips but no sound came out, so Eli thought that she was drunk. Eli decided to rebuke her. He said, "How long will you keep getting drunk? Get rid of your wine."

Hannah told Eli that she was not drunk, but was pouring out her soul to the Lord.

Eli told Hannah to go and that the Lord would grant her request.

The next morning Elkanah and his family worshiped the Lord and went home. Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel.

The next year Elkanah went to make his yearly sacrifice to the Lord at Shiloh, but Hannah would not go. She said that she would take her son there when he was weaned and present him to the Lord to

live there.

Hannah stayed at home until she had weaned him. When it was time, Hannah took him to the Tabernacle at Shiloh. She told Eli, "I am the woman who stood beside you and prayed to the Lord. I prayed for this child and the Lord granted my prayer. Now I am giving him to the Lord and he will be dedicated to the Lord for as long as he lives."

Then Hannah prayed a prayer of rejoicing to the Lord. When Elkanah went home, Samuel stayed to minister to the Lord under Eli the priest. Each year Samuel's mother would bring a little robe for him to wear. And Samuel grew in stature and in favor with God and man.

**Eli's wicked sons.**

Eli had two wicked sons who had no regard for the Lord and His commands. When people would come to the Tabernacle to sacrifice, Eli's sons would treat the sacrifices with contempt.

Eli was very old and he heard how his sons were behaving. They even slept with the women who served at the door of the Tabernacle.

Eli talked to his sons and told them what wicked deeds he had heard about them. But his sons would not listen to him and the Lord wanted to put his sons to death.

A man of God came to Eli and rebuked him for allowing his sons to continue to serve in the Lord's house. He said, "You honor your sons more than Me. The time is coming when I will cut short your strength and there will not be an old man in your family. All your descendants will die in the prime of life. And your two sons will die on the same day. Then I will raise up a faithful priest who will do my will."

### Samuel is called by God.

The child Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. Eli's eyesight was becoming dim and he could not see well. Eli laid down in his usual place.

The lamp of God had not gone out, and as Samuel was lying down the Lord called him. Samuel answered, "Here I am."

Then Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli replied, "I did not call you. Go and lie back down."

Again the Lord called and said, "Samuel."

Samuel got up and went to Eli again. He said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Eli answered, "I did not call, my son. Go and lie down again."

The Lord called to Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli again. He said, "Here I am for you called me."

Eli perceived that the Lord must be calling Samuel, so he said, "Go lie down. If He calls you say, 'Speak Lord, for Your servant is listening.'"

Samuel went back to his bed and laid down. The Lord said, "Samuel, Samuel."

Samuel said, "Speak Lord, for Your servant is listening."

The Lord said, "I am going to carry out against Eli everything I said about his family. I told him I would judge his family because of the sin he knew about. I have sworn that the sin of Eli's house will never be atoned by sacrifice or offering."

Samuel lay in his bed until morning and then he got up to open the doors of the house of the Lord. He was afraid to tell Eli his vision, but Eli said to him, "Samuel, my son."

Samuel said, "Here I am."

Eli said, "What did the Lord say to you? Do not hide what He said. Tell me or may God deal with you severely if you hide it from me."

Samuel told Eli everything the Lord said, and Eli replied, "It is the Lord. Let Him do what seems good."

Samuel grew and all of Israel recognized that he was a prophet of the Lord.

## MEMORY WORK

1 Sam 2:2-3

**2"None one is holy like the LORD, for there is none besides You, nor is there any rock like our God.**

**3"Talk no more so very proudly; let no arrogance come from your mouth, for the LORD is the God of knowledge; and by Him actions are weighed.**

(NKJ)

## USE YOUR BIBLE

(All the answers are in 1 Samuel.)

1. What were the names of Eli's two sons? 1:3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Where was the Tabernacle of the Lord? 1:9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What things did Hannah promise to do if the Lord would give her a son? 1:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Why was Hannah praying to the Lord? 1:16 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why did Hannah name her son Samuel? 1:20 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How long was Samuel to live and serve before the Lord? 1:22, 28 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did Hannah take with her when she took Samuel to present him to the Lord? 1:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. When did they take Samuel to Eli? 1:25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. How many children did Hannah have? 2:5, 21 \_\_\_\_\_
10. Who did Hannah give glory to? 1:27; 2:1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Describe Eli's sons. 2:12, 17, 22; 3:13 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
12. What did Eli's sons make a practice of doing? 2:13 - 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
13. Who did Samuel descend from? I Chron. 6:1, 22-23 \_\_\_\_\_
14. Who did Samuel minister before? 2:18 \_\_\_\_\_
15. What did Samuel's mother make for him to wear every year? 2:19 \_\_\_\_\_
16. What did Samuel wear as he ministered before the Lord? 2:18 \_\_\_\_\_
17. Did Eli rebuke his sons? 2:23 - 25 \_\_\_\_\_
18. Did his sons listen to him? 2: 25 \_\_\_\_\_
19. How did Samuel grow? 2:26 \_\_\_\_\_
20. What sins did the man of God say Eli had done? 2:29 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
21. What would Eli's family have to resort to because of his sin? 2:36 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
22. How would Israel react to what the Lord was going to do in Israel? 3:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
23. What had Eli failed to do with his sons? 3:13 \_\_\_\_\_
24. What did Israel recognize about Samuel? 3:20 \_\_\_\_\_
25. How did the Lord reveal himself to Samuel? 3:21 \_\_\_\_\_

### Thought Questions

1. In what ways can Hannah be an example to us? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What was God's law for those who committed adultery or fornication? Deut. 22: 22 - 24 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What should have been done to Eli's sons? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the worst thing about the sin of fornication? Prov. 6:32 \_\_\_\_\_
5. What was one of the reasons Eli's sons were as sinful as they were? I Sam. 3:13 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Should parents today restrain and discipline their children? Prov. 22:15; Prov. 23: 13 - 14; Prov. 29:15  
 Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
7. Explain Prov. 13:24: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
8. Did Eli really love his sons as he should have? \_\_\_\_\_



Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 18

**LESSON TEXT: I Samuel 4; 5; 6; 7; 8**

**The Ark of God is taken and returned.**

Samuel was established as a prophet of God and his words were given to all of Israel. During this period of time, Israel went to battle against the Philistines. However, Israel was defeated in this battle. When the troops came back to camp, the elders of Israel asked, "Why has the Lord defeated us today? Let's bring the ark of the covenant here so that it will be among us and save us from our enemies."

So, Israel brought the ark of the covenant. Eli's sons came with the ark. When the ark came into the camp, Israel gave a mighty shout. They shouted so loud that the Philistines heard them and asked, "What does this shouting mean?"

When the Philistines learned that the ark of the Lord had come into their camp, they were afraid and said, "A god has come into the camp. Woe to us! Nothing has happened like this before! Woe to us! Who can deliver us from the power of these mighty gods? Take courage and be men or you'll become slaves to the Hebrews like they have been to you."

The Philistines fought Israel again and defeated them. Israel fled home. Many were killed and the ark of the Lord was captured by the Philistines. Eli's sons were killed in battle.

That same day, a man from the tribe of Benjamin ran from the battle to Shiloh. Eli the priest was sitting by the road waiting and watching when he heard an outcry from the city. The man from Benjamin came to Eli and said, "I have come from the battle."

Eli asked, "How did it go, my son?"

The man replied, "There has been a great defeat of Israel. Your two sons are dead and the ark of the Lord has been captured."

When Eli heard the man mention the ark of the Lord, he fell backward, broke his neck and died.

Eli's daughter-in-law was about to give birth

this same time. When she heard the news of Israel, the ark of God, and of Eli, she went into labor and gave birth to a son. Before she died she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God as been captured."

The Philistines took the ark of God to Ashdod and into the house of Dagon, their idolatrous god. They put the ark beside Dagon.

The next morning, the god Dagon had fallen face downward before the ark of God. Some of the Philistine men put Dagon back in place again.

The next morning, Dagon was face downward again and this time his head and hands were lying cut off on the threshold of his temple.

While the Philistine people in Ashdod had the ark of God, God afflicted them with tumors. When they saw what was happening, they did not want the ark of God in their midst anymore, so they decided to send it to Gath. However, the Lord sent tumors on the people of Gath also.

The people of Gath sent the ark to Ekron, but the people of Ekron did not want it either. They ordered it sent away before they could be killed. They were in a panic because death filled their city. The ark was there for 7 months and finally it was decided that they must send it back to Israel. They called for their idolatrous priests and soothsayers and asked them how they should send the ark back to Israel.

The Philistines sent the ark of God back to Israel on a cart pulled by two milk cows. They sent it in the direction of Beth-shemesh.

When the people of Beth-shemesh saw the ark of God returning, they rejoiced. The Levites took the ark of God off the cart and the people offered burnt offerings and sacrifices to the Lord that day. However, some of the men of Beth-shemesh looked upon the ark of God, so the Lord struck down many men that day.

This caused the men of Beth-shemesh to

become afraid and they did not want the ark of God in their midst. They sent word to the people of Kiriathjearim to come and get the ark. They did, and they put it at the house of Abinadab.

### Samuel and the stone of help.

Samuel said to Israel, "If you will turn to the Lord with all your heart, He will deliver you from the Philistines."

So Israel put away the Baals and Ashteroth and served the Lord only. Samuel told Israel to gather at Mizpah and he would pray for them there. The Philistines learned that Israel was gathering at Mizpah, so they gathered to come up against them.

This made Israel afraid, so they asked Samuel to continue crying out to the Lord for them, so that He would save them from the Philistines.

Samuel did. He also offered burnt offerings to God, and the Lord answered him.

As the Philistines came near to attack Israel, the Lord thundered with a mighty sound and threw the Philistine army into confusion. Seeing their confusion, Israel rushed out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines to Beth-car. The Philistines didn't enter Israel's territory again and the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines while Samuel was their judge.

Samuel set up a stone between Mizpah and Shen and called the stone, "Ebenezer", because the Lord helped them.

### Israel wants a king.

Samuel became an old man, and he made his two sons to be judges over Israel. But Samuel's sons did not walk in his ways. They wanted earthly gain and they took bribes and perverted judgments.

The elders of Israel were concerned about Samuel's sons, and they came to him saying, "You are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Appoint for us a king to judge us, like all the nations around us."

This request displeased Samuel, so he prayed to the Lord about it. The Lord said, "Obey the people. They haven't rejected you, they have rejected me from being their king. Obey them, but warn them of the things that a king will do."

So Samuel warned Israel of all the ways that a

king would reign over them. He told them that the day would come when they would cry out to the Lord because of their king, but the Lord would not hear them.

Even after all the warnings from Samuel, Israel was determined to have a king. So the Lord told Samuel, "Obey their voice and give them a king."

## MEMORY WORK

1 Sam 2:2-3

2"No one is holy like the LORD, for there is none besides You, nor is there any rock like our God.

3"Talk no more so very proudly; let no arrogance come from your mouth, for the LORD is the God of knowledge; and by Him actions are weighed.

(NKJ)

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. How many Israelites did the Philistines kill? I Sam. 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What event in Israelite history did the Philistines remember that made them afraid? 4:8 \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many Israelites did the Philistines kill in the second battle? 4:10 \_\_\_\_\_
4. As Eli sat by the road waiting, what did he fear for? 4:13 \_\_\_\_\_
5. How did the city of Shiloh react when the man from Benjamin told them about the ark of God? 4:13 \_\_\_\_\_
6. How old was Eli? 4:15 \_\_\_\_\_
7. How long had Eli judged Israel? 4:18 \_\_\_\_\_
8. How did Eli's daughter-in-law respond to the women who told her that she had a son? 4:20 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Why would the Philistines not step on the threshold of Dagon's temple? 5:4 - 5 \_\_\_\_\_

10. What did the Philistines decide to send back with the ark of God? 6: 3 - 5, 17, 18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What event in Israelite history did the Philistines refer to? 6:6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. How did the Philistines send the ark of God back? 6: 7 - 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. What did the Israelites in Beth-shemesh do with the cart that the ark of God was on and the cows that pulled the cart? 6:14 - 15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. What did the men of Beth-shemesh say when the Lord struck down the men who looked upon the ark of God? 6:20 \_\_\_\_\_
15. How long did the ark of God stay at Kirjathjearim and what did Israel do? 7:2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. What was restored to Israel from the Philistines? 7:14 \_\_\_\_\_
17. What were the names of Samuel's sons? 8:2 \_\_\_\_\_
18. How did Israel forsake God? 8:8 \_\_\_\_\_
19. What things did Samuel tell Israel a king would do? 8:11 - 17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
20. Would Israel obey the voice of Samuel? 8:19 \_\_\_\_\_

### Thought Questions

1. Did God want a difference between the holy and unholy? Lev. 10: 10 - 11; Ezek. 22:26 ; Lev. 15:31 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did Israel treat the ark of the covenant as holy in their battle with the Philistines? I Sam. 4:3 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What problems prevented Israel from winning their battles with the Philistines? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What solution did Samuel give Israel? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the solution to *our* problems? Matt. 22:37 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. When Israel wanted a king, who were they rejecting? \_\_\_\_\_
7. When men today do not listen to the truth that is taught by evangelists, who are they rejecting? Matt. 10:40; I Thess. 4:8 \_\_\_\_\_
8. When men will not listen to God's word, what does God do? Ps. 81: 11 -13 \_\_\_\_\_
9. What will happen to the man that rejects God? John 12:48 ; II Thess. 1: 7 - 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 19

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 17 ; 18**

**Micah's Idol.**

In those days there was no king in Israel, and every man did what was right in his own eyes. In the hill country of Ephraim lived a man named Micah. One day Micah came to his mother and said, "I heard you utter a curse about the eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from you. Well, I have that silver. I am the one who took it."

Micah's mother said, "God bless you, my son!"

When Micah returned the silver to his mother she said, "I had wholly dedicated this silver to the Lord for my son to make a graven image and a molten image. I will give it to you."

Micah gave the silver to his mother and she took two hundred shekels of it and gave it to a silversmith, who made them into a graven image and a molten image. These images were put into Micah's house.

Micah had a shrine at his home. He made an ephod, some idols, and consecrated one of his own sons as priest.

At this same time a young Levite who had been living in Judah left and went to find another place to live. On his way, he came to the house of Micah. Micah asked him where he was from, and when he found out that the young man was a Levite he invited him to live with him, and be a father and priest to him.

The Levite agreed, and Micah said, "I know the Lord will be good to me since this Levite is my priest."

In those same days, some men from the tribe of Dan were seeking a place to settle in, because their inheritance had not yet fallen to them. So they sent out five warriors to spy out the land.

These five men came to Micah's house and spent the night. While there, they realized that they knew the young Levite, and so they asked him to inquire of the Lord about their journey they were to

make.

The Levite told them that their trip had God's approval, so they left and went to the city of Laish. The people of Laish had a prosperous land.

When the five returned home they told their brethren, "Let's attack Laish. The land is good and the people unsuspecting."

600 men from Dan armed for battle set out for Laish. On the way they came to Micah's house. The 600 men stood at the gate, while the 5 spies went inside Micah's house and took his carved image, molded image, ephod, and other gods.

The Levite saw them and asked, "What are you doing?"

The Danites said, "Be quiet. Come with us. Hadn't you rather be a priest to a whole tribe, than to just one man's family?"

This convinced the Levite, and he was happy to go with them. Micah and his neighbors banded together and pursued the men from Dan. The Danites shouted to Micah, "Why have you called your men out to fight?"

Micah replied, "You took my gods and my priest. What more do I have?"

Then the Danites warned Micah not to argue with them. Micah saw that they were too strong for him, so he went back home.

The men from Dan attacked Laish and burned the city. Then they rebuilt it and named it Dan. And they worshiped Micah's idols.

**MEMORY WORK**

**Deut 28:63**

**63" And it shall be, that just as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess. (NKJ)**

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. What did Micah do to one of his sons? Judg. 17:5 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did Micah tell the Levite he would give him every year? 17:10 \_\_\_\_\_
3. How did Micah treat the young Levite? 17:11 \_\_\_\_\_
4. How did the men from Dan know the young Levite? 18:3 \_\_\_\_\_
5. What questions did the men from Dan ask the Levite about himself? 18:3 \_\_\_\_\_
6. What did the Levite tell them? 18:4 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did the men of Dan want to know about their trip? 18:5 \_\_\_\_\_
8. What kind of people lived in Laish? 18:7, 10 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where did the 600 Danites camp? 18:12 \_\_\_\_\_
10. As the priest went with them, what did he take possession of? 18:20 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What did the men from Dan warn Micah might happen if he argued with them? 18:25 \_\_\_\_\_
12. Were the people from Laish expecting the men of Dan? 18:27 \_\_\_\_\_
13. Did anyone come to the rescue of Laish? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What did the Danites set up for themselves? 18:30 \_\_\_\_\_
15. Where was the house of God? 18:31 \_\_\_\_\_

## THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. What was wrong with Israel doing what was right in their own eyes? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What happens to a people who do what is right in their own eyes? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are there people who do what is right in their own eyes today? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did you see any indication that the young Levite could be a priest under God's law? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Did you see any indication that Micah sought God's will in anything he did? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What happens to a people who do not retain God in their knowledge? Rom. 1: 28 - 31 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did God say people who do these things are worthy of? Rom. 1: 32 ; II Thess. 1: 8 - 9 \_\_\_\_\_
8. What was the downfall of Israel? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Can Israel's downfall also be ours? \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 20

**LESSON TEXT: Judges 19; 20; 21**

**The Levite and his concubine.**

In the hill country of Ephraim was a Levite man who was dwelling there. This Levite man took a concubine from Bethlehem in Judah, but she was not faithful to him. She left the Levite and went back to her father's house.

The Levite went after her, taking his servant and two donkeys. When he reached his father-in-law's house, his father-in-law was very happy to see him.

The Levite's father-in-law pressed upon him to stay, so he did for three days. On the fourth day, as he prepared to leave, his father-in-law convinced him to stay another night. On the fifth day, his father-in-law tried to convince him to stay longer, but the Levite would not tarry and left to go home.

When the day was drawing to a close, the Levite's servant wanted him to stop and stay in the city of the Jebusites. But the Levite wanted to go on to Gibeah.

The sun was beginning to go down when they came to Gibeah in Benjamin. Since no man asked them to lodge with him that night, the Levite sat down in the open square of the city.

At this same time, there was an old man leaving his work in the fields. The old man saw the Levite and asked him to come home with him. As the old man and the Levite were having a good time together, wicked men of the city surrounded the house and beat upon the door. They asked the old man to send the Levite out to them so that they could have sex with him.

The old man told the wicked men, "No, my brothers. Do not act so wicked. This man has come into my house, so do not do this vile thing."

Then the old man offered the men his virgin daughter and the Levite's concubine. The wicked men would not listen to him, so he sent the concubine out to them.

The wicked men raped and abused the concubine all night until morning, and at dawn she lay down at the door of the old man's house.

That morning, the Levite came out of the house and saw the concubine lying there. He told her to get up, that they must be going. However, she was dead.

When the Levite returned home with her body, he took a knife and cut the concubine into twelve pieces, and sent her body parts throughout the territory of Israel.

When the tribes of Israel saw this terrible deed, everyone from Dan to Beersheba gathered at Mizpah. 400,000 swordsmen came. The Israelites asked the Levite, "How did this evil happen?"

The Levite replied, "I came to Gibeah in Benjamin with my concubine to lodge there. The men of Gibeah surrounded the house I was in, and would have killed me. They violated my concubine and she is dead. So I cut her into pieces and sent her throughout Israel because these men committed an abomination and outrage."

"Behold, all of you, give your advice and counsel."

The Israelites said, "We will not go home, but will go to Gibeah and repay them for the outrage they have committed."

The first thing Israel did was send men to the tribe of Benjamin who asked them to give up the wicked men who had done this deed. But Benjamin wouldn't listen. They decided instead to go to battle against Israel.

Israel went out to fight against Benjamin at Gibeah. The men of Benjamin killed 22,000 men of Israel.

Israel went to the Lord weeping and asked Him, "Are we to fight our brothers in the tribe of Benjamin again?"

The Lord said, "Go up against them."

The second day of battle, Benjamin destroyed

18,000 Israelites. Discouraged, Israel came to the house of God weeping again. They fasted and offered burnt offerings. They asked the Lord, "Should we battle our brothers of Benjamin again, or shall we cease?"

The Lord said, "Go up and I will give them into your hand tomorrow."

Israel set up an ambush for Gibeah and went to battle with them the next day. Benjamin came out and killed about 30 Israelites. Benjamin thought that this battle would be won like the first two. Israel fled before the men of Benjamin and drew them out of the city onto the highways. Then Israel rose up from their ambush and the Lord defeated Benjamin.

The men of Benjamin looked behind them and the city of Gibeah was burning and going up in smoke. Some of the Benjamites fled to the wilderness.

After the battle, Israel came to the house of God and wept saying, "O Lord of Israel, why did this happen? Why should there be one tribe lacking in Israel?"

Israel began to feel compassion for Benjamin. They had sworn that none of them would give their daughters to any man in Benjamin for a wife, but they came up with a plan to give the men of Benjamin wives out of Jabeshgilead and Shiloh. Benjamin rebuilt their towns and lived in them.

In those days there was no king in Israel and everyone did what was right in their own eyes.

### MEMORY WORK

Deut 28:63

**63" And it shall be, that just as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess. (NKJ)**

### USE YOUR BIBLE

1. Why didn't the Levite want to stay in the city of the Jebusites? Judg. 19:12 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What questions did the old man ask the Levite? 19:17 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where did the Levite say he was going? 19:18 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Did the Levite need any provisions? 19:19 \_\_\_\_\_

5. How was the concubine lying at the door? 19:27 \_\_\_\_\_

6. What did the people of Israel say when they saw the body parts of the concubine? 19:30 \_\_\_\_\_

7. How many tribes were represented in opposition to this terrible deed? 20:2 \_\_\_\_\_

8. Why did the Levite say he had sent his concubine's body parts throughout Israel? 20:6 \_\_\_\_\_

9. How many Israelites were in agreement as to what they would do to Benjamin? 20: 8, 11 \_\_\_\_\_

10. Why did the tribes want the wicked men of Gibeah? 20:13 \_\_\_\_\_

11. What was the first thing Israel wanted to know from God? 20:18 \_\_\_\_\_

12. Who was the priest of Israel at this time? 20:28 \_\_\_\_\_
13. What did the men of Israel do to all the cities of Benjamin? 20:48 \_\_\_\_\_
14. Why did Israel give the men of Benjamin wives from Jabeshgilead? 21:8, 9 \_\_\_\_\_
15. Who was killed in Jabeshgilead? 21:11 \_\_\_\_\_
16. How many women in Jabeshgilead were saved alive? 21: 12 \_\_\_\_\_
17. Were there enough women from Jabeshgilead for the men of Benjamin? 21:14 \_\_\_\_\_
18. Why did Israel grieve? 21:15 \_\_\_\_\_
19. Why did Israel want Benjamin to have wives? 21: 17 \_\_\_\_\_
20. Where did the remainder of men in Benjamin get their wives? 21: 20, 21,23 \_\_\_\_\_

### THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. What should have been done to the Levite's wife under the Old Law? Lev. 20:10 ; Deut. 22: 22-24 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What does the actions of the men of Gibeah tell you about the condition of Benjamin at that time? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Although the Levite informed Israel about the wickedness of the men of Benjamin, was he guiltless in his actions? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why do you think the men of Benjamin would not turn the men of Gibeah over to the Israelites? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why do you think God let Israel lose the first two battles with Benjamin? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Was it God's will that Israel defeat Benjamin? \_\_\_\_\_
7. When Israel had done the right thing and defeated Benjamin, they began to feel sorry for what they had done. They saw the consequences of Benjamin's sin, and that Benjamin would no longer survive as a tribe in Israel without descendants. Did Israel inquire of God before they found the men of Benjamin wives? \_\_\_\_\_
8. If it was God's will that Benjamin be destroyed, should Israel have grieved for Benjamin? 21:15 \_\_\_\_\_
9. When some people today do God's will, but then see that there will be a cost to their lives, or consequences, do they behave like the children of Israel? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Should we be willing to accept the consequences that come from doing God's will? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What happens when people do what is right in their own eyes? \_\_\_\_\_

*Israel realized the heinous sin that the men of Benjamin had done. They wanted to purge Israel of this terrible sin. However, when they did God's will, they were not willing to accept the consequences of purging that sin, and they blamed God because He made a breach of the tribe of Benjamin in Israel. We need to be careful that we not be like Israel. Many times when we do God's will there will be consequences. We have to keep in mind where we are going, and we need to ask ourselves: Do we really want God's will done, and are we willing to face the consequences of doing right to be in relationship with Him?*

*Those who answer "yes" will do right, regardless of what happens.*



Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 21

**LESSON TEXT: Ruth**

**Ruth and Naomi.**

In the days that judges ruled Israel, a man named Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, went to the land of Moab because there was a famine in the land. Elimelech died and left Naomi with her two sons. Both sons married Moabite women. Their names were Orpah and Ruth.

Mahlon and Chilion died and Naomi decided to go back to the land of Judah. Both of her daughter-in-laws were going to go with her, but she told them to go back to their mother's homes. As she kissed them both daughter-in-laws wept and told her, "We'll go back with you to your people."

But Naomi told the women to go home. They wept again and Orpah kissed Naomi goodbye, but Ruth clung to Naomi. Naomi urged her to go back home but Ruth said, "Intreat me not to leave you or to turn from following after you. Where you go, I'll go. Where you stay, I'll stay. Your people will be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I'll die and be buried. May the Lord deal with me severely if anything but death separates you and me."

When Naomi saw how determined Ruth was, she stopped urging her to go home. The two women traveled until they reached Bethlehem. The women who saw Naomi said, "Can this be Naomi?"

But Naomi told them to call her Mara because the Almighty had dealt bitterly with her.

When they arrived in Bethlehem, the barley harvest was beginning. Ruth asked Naomi if she could go in the fields and glean leftover grain. When she went out to glean, she found out that she was gleaning in the field of one of Elimelech's relatives named Boaz.

When Boaz came into the field he saw Ruth and asked who she was. He was told that she was the Moabite woman who had come back with Naomi

and that she had worked steadily since that morning. Boaz went to Ruth and told her, "Do not go to any other field, my daughter. Stay here and glean with my servant girls. I have charged the men not to touch you, and when you are thirsty you may get a drink from the water that my men have drawn."

Ruth was humbled by this and wanted to know why she had found favor in his eyes. He told her that he had heard of what she had done for her mother-in-law, and left her own people to live with her."

Ruth asked Boaz to let her find favor in his eyes, even though she was not his servant. At mealtime, Boaz offered her food that she ate. He told his men, "Let her glean among the sheaves, and let some of the bundles fall on purpose for her."

Ruth gleaned until evening and took what she had gleaned home to Naomi. Naomi asked, "Where did you glean today?"

Ruth told her that she had been in Boaz' field. Naomi said, "He is a close relative." She was pleased that Ruth was gleaning in his field, because she might have been harmed in the field of someone else.

Ruth gleaned until the end of the barley harvest and the wheat harvest.

One day Naomi said to Ruth, "My daughter, shouldn't I try to find a home for you where you will be well cared for? Boaz is our relative and tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor.

Wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but do not let him know you are there. When he has laid down, go in and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do."

Ruth agreed to do what Naomi said. She went to the threshing floor and when Boaz had finished eating and drinking and had laid down, she went in

quietly, uncovered his feet and laid down.

At midnight, Boaz was startled and turning himself he found the woman lying at his feet. "Who are you?", he asked.

She answered, "I am your servant, Ruth. Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a close relative."

Boaz said, "You are blessed of the Lord. This kindness is greater than what you showed earlier, and you have not run after the younger men. Now, my daughter, don't be afraid. I will do all you request, for everyone in town knows you are a virtuous woman. I am a near relative, but there is one closer than me. Stay here tonight, and in the morning we will see if he will perform the duty of a close relative. If not, I will do it."

Ruth stayed until morning, and got up before anyone could recognize another. Boaz said, "Don't let it be known that a woman came to the threshing floor. Bring me your vail, and hold it out."

When Ruth held out the vail, he filled it with six measures of barley. She went home to Naomi and told her all Boaz had done. Naomi told her that Boaz would not rest until the matter was settled.

That morning, Boaz went to the town gate and waited for Naomi's near relative to come by. The near relative did not want to do his duty toward Naomi and her daughter-in-law, so Boaz announced to all there that he was buying the property of Elimelech, Mahlon, and Chilion. He also announced that he was acquiring Ruth for his wife, in order to maintain the name of Mahlon, so that his name would not disappear in Israel.

The elders of Israel, and everyone at the town gate witnessed what Boaz did, and gave their approval.

Boaz took Ruth home and she became his wife. She had a son and Naomi became his nurse.

### Memory Work

#### Ruth 1:16

And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:

(KJV)

### Use Your Bible

1. Why did Naomi decide to go back to Judah? Ruth 1:6 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What reasons did Naomi give Ruth and Orpah for going back to their homes? 1:11 - 13 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What did Orpah go home to? 1:15 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Why did Ruth find favor in Boaz' eyes? 2:11 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Of whom did Boaz ask that Ruth be given reward for what she had done? 2:12 \_\_\_\_\_

6. What kind of man did Naomi say that Boaz was? 2:20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What did Naomi ask Ruth when she came home? 3:16 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Who did Boaz get to witness the transaction with the other near kinsman? 4:2,9 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What did Boaz tell the near kinsman about first? 4:3 - 4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. What else did Boaz tell the near kinsman? 4: 5 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. What reason did the near kinsman give for not doing his duty? 4: 6 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. In what manner was the transaction between the near kinsman and Boaz done? 4:7 - 8 \_\_\_\_\_
13. What praise did the women in Bethlehem tell Naomi about Ruth? 4: 15 \_\_\_\_\_
14. What was the name of Ruth's son? 4:17 \_\_\_\_\_
15. Who was her son the grandfather of? 4:22 \_\_\_\_\_
16. In whose lineage was Boaz' and Ruth's son? Matt. 1: 5, 6, 16 \_\_\_\_\_

## Thought Questions

1. How deep was Ruth's commitment to Naomi? Ruth 1: 16 - 17 \_\_\_\_\_
2. What kind of people would glean the fields for grain? Lev. 19:9, 10 ; 23:22; Deut. 24: 19 - 21 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does this tell us about Ruth? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Was Ruth willing to accept guidance and advice from Naomi? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What should be our attitude toward accepting guidance and advice from those older and wiser than we are? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How was Ruth blessed for choosing a good path for herself? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How are we blessed? Rev. 22:14 ; Ps. 112:1 \_\_\_\_\_
8. Does being blessed by God mean that only good things will happen in our lives? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Do the unrighteous receive some blessings from God? Matt. 5: 45 \_\_\_\_\_
10. What did God say would happen to the unrighteous? Ps. 37: 1,2,9, 20 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What kind of inheritance will the righteous receive? Ps. 37:18; I Pet. 1:4-5; I John 2:25 \_\_\_\_\_

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
LESSON 22

**REVIEW**

*Begin by seeing how many you can answer without looking back in your book for answers.*

1. What promise to Abraham had been fulfilled by Joshua's day? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What words of encouragement did God give to Joshua before he went into the promised land? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who hid the spies that went into Jericho? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What river did the Israelites cross on dry land? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who drove out the inhabitants of the land? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the outward sign that God commanded the male Israelites have, to show that they were His people? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What city did Israel circle for 7 days before it was destroyed by God? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What man caused Israel to lose the battle at Ai? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_
9. At what two mountains did Israel gather to hear blessings and curses of the Law read? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Who deceived Israel by wearing old clothes, shoes, and carrying old sacks and moldy bread? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What did Joshua pray that God do as Israel was in the battle with the Amorites? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Did God fulfill the land promise with Israel? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Did the tribes drive out all the inhabitants of the land as God commanded? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What tribes received their land on the east side of the Jordan? \_\_\_\_\_
15. What tribes received land on the west side of the Jordan? \_\_\_\_\_
16. How did God provide for persons who had killed another accidentally? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Why did God want Israel to be separate from the nations around them? \_\_\_\_\_
18. What did Joshua tell Israel in his last speech to them? \_\_\_\_\_
19. After the death of Joshua, who did God raise up to deliver Israel from their enemies? \_\_\_\_\_
20. Describe Israel's pattern of behavior throughout the period of the Judges: \_\_\_\_\_

21. Tell what nations each judge fought:

Othniel _____	Ehud _____	Shamgar _____
Deborah _____	Gideon _____	Abimelech _____
Tola _____	Jair _____	Jephthah _____
Ibzan _____	Elon _____	Abdon _____
Samson _____	Eli _____	Samuel _____

- 22. What judge killed Eglon, king of Moab? \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. What judge sat and judged Israel under a palm tree? \_\_\_\_\_
- 24. What judge killed 600 Philistines with an ox goad? \_\_\_\_\_
- 25. Who killed Sisera with a tent peg? \_\_\_\_\_
- 26. What judge defeated Midian with 300 men? \_\_\_\_\_
- 27. Who was a self-appointed leader of Israel? \_\_\_\_\_
- 28. What judge made a vow to offer as a burnt offering the first one to come out of his home? \_\_\_\_\_
- 29. What judge's downfall was the women that he loved? \_\_\_\_\_
- 30. What woman did Eli think was drunk as she prayed? \_\_\_\_\_
- 31. What did Eli fail to do with his sons? \_\_\_\_\_
- 32. What enemy took the ark of God and defeated Israel? \_\_\_\_\_
- 33. What judge set up a stone called, "Ebenezer"? \_\_\_\_\_
- 34. What is the meaning of "Ebenezer"? \_\_\_\_\_
- 35. In what way did Israel want to be like the nations around them? \_\_\_\_\_
- 36. Who did Israel reject? \_\_\_\_\_
- 37. What man had a graven image that the people of Dan worshiped? \_\_\_\_\_
- 38. What terrible thing did a Levite do with his concubine that had all of Israel upset? \_\_\_\_\_

- 39. What Moabite woman went back to Israel with her mother-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_
- 40. Tell something that you learned in this study that will help you grow as a Christian. \_\_\_\_\_

41. How can a study of the Judges be applicable to us? \_\_\_\_\_

<p>MEMORY WORK</p> <p>Ruth 1:16</p>
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REVIEW THE OTHER MEMORY WORK WE HAVE STUDIED THIS QUARTER.

Invasion and Conquest of the Promised Land  
and  
The Judges of Israel  
TEACHER'S NOTES

LESSON 1: The life of Moses prepared the way for Joshua and for what he must do. Ask students if they think Joshua knew what kind of people Israel was, and that they were prone to be discontented.

To be pleasing to God, Joshua had to do ALL that was written. He could not turn from it in practice, and he had to be strong and courageous to carry it out. He could not allow discouragement to deter him from this work. It would be by doing God's will that Israel would receive His greatest blessings.

Look at Rev. 22: 18 in reference to God's command to Joshua, "do all according to the Law... do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left...."

Moses had warned Israel what would happen to them if they were unfaithful (Lev. 26:17, 20,22, 31, 33; Deut. 28). He also told them about their blessings if they obeyed God ( Deut. 28: 1, 9 , 11)

LESSON 2: Remind students that the command to "arise and go over Jordan" was a test of his faith. There was no visible way of crossing – no bridge, boat, etc.

If the class you are teaching is all one sex you may want to point out the faith of Israel at this time while they were circumcised. The men would have been incapacitated while they were healing from the circumcision and had to depend on God to keep them safe.

God's word tells us the good and bad of people. When He told us about Rahab, this in no way was an approval of her lifestyle.

Evidence that Rahab repented of her former life: She is in Christ's lineage; her children and grandchildren are righteous, and she is listed as a hero of faith in Hebrews 11.

*You may want to make student assignments starting with this lesson. Give the student the questions and scripture and let him make a short report. These reports will give more meaning to some things in the lessons, as well as enriching our Bible knowledge and fitting the Bible story together.*

**Report for lesson 3:** *Tell why Jericho was destroyed, and about the curse upon it. Heb. 11: 31; Josh. 6:26; I Kings 16: 33 - 34.*

LESSON 3: "Use Your Bible" question 1 – Matt. 4: 10; Heb. 1:6

"Thought Question" number 3: Rom. 13: 14 "make no provision for the flesh"...

**Report for Lesson 4:** *Why did God want the nations around Israel destroyed? Deut. 12:30 - 31; 20:18; 18:9; Ex. 23:33*

LESSON 4: **Report for lesson 5:** *Name the three nations that God would not allow Israel to take and why. Deut. 2: 4,5,9, 19; Gen 36: 9; 25: 30*

Be sure and point out that Israel renewed their covenant with God.

Deut. 20: 10 - 18 is God's law to Israel on what to do with enemy nations.

Point out that God did not just go into the land and indiscriminately kill other nations. The nations were to be killed because of their iniquity or sin. The people were wicked. If their children had lived, more than likely they would have been wicked too. All the little children in those wicked nations are now safe with God .

LESSON 5: Remind the students that when Israel moved into the land they had prepared cities and homes to move into. However, Israel did not immediately move into these cities, so many times they were taken back over by an enemy nation and Israel had to fight for possession again. This was Israel's failing. God kept His promise to give them the land.

LESSON 6: **Report for lesson 7:** Summarize and tell what the iniquity of Peor was. Josh 22: 17; Num. 25: 1 - 9; Ps. 106: 28 - 31

LESSON 7: The Levites were to teach Israel the Law (Deut. 33:10). They were given things by Israel and were required to give part of it back to God. (Num. 18: 9 - 20)

Thought Question 1: Point out the care, mercy, and concern God had for His people. Point out that He did not want his land polluted with blood (Num. 35:33). Also God cares about the details.

Thought Question 3: Ask students if Israel could be holy and separate if they were like the nations around them. Apply to today.

LESSON 8: **Report for lesson 9:** What kinds of things did Israel do in disobedience to God? Ps. 106: 35 - 39

Have students remember the points from Joshua's speech:

1. (v. 1 - 13) REMEMBER what God has done for you.
2. (v. 14) FEAR GOD
3. (v. 14) SERVE GOD in sincerity and in truth.
4. (v. 15) BE SEPARATE from the nations around you.

Point out to students that it only takes about one generation for God's people to go into apostasy. Josh. 24:31

LESSON 9: **Report for lesson 10:** Who were the Kenites and why were they with the Israelites? Judg. 1: 16; 4:11; Num. 10: 29 - 31

Discuss the pattern of behavior Israel followed, and how we can follow the same pattern.

Point out the importance of teaching the next generation. Josh 4: 21 - 22, 24; Ex. 12: 25 - 27; 13:14

God's religion is a taught religion. II Tim. 2:15

LESSON 10: Othniel was the son-in-law of Caleb, and also his nephew 3:9.

**Report for lesson 11:** Why was it important that Gideon destroy the altar of Baal, and cut down the grove? Deut. 7: 5 - 6; Ex. 34: 13 - 16

LESSON 11: Thought Question 2 – discuss the Lord's parable in Luke 14: 15 - 27

**Report for lesson 12:** Who were the Midianites? Gen 25: 1 -4; I Chron. 1:32 What other name did they go by? Judg. 8:24; Gen. 37:28 Why did God want Midian destroyed? Num. 25: 16 - 18

LESSON 12: Point out that Gideon needed assurance and God gave it to him – however, He required Gideon to depend upon Him.

LESSON 13: Point out the apparently Israel sat by unconcerned because none avenged the death of the 70 brothers.

**Report for lesson 14:** How important was keeping a vow to the Lord? Deut. 23: 20 - 23; Prov. 20:25; Eccl. 5: 2 - 5; Num. 30 : 2

LESSON 14: **Report # 1 for lesson 15:** To whom was a person with a Nazarite vow to separate himself to, what foods could he not eat, and what length was his hair to grow? Num. 6: 2,3,4, 5, 6, 18

**Report #2 for lesson 15:** What three people in the Bible were under Nazarite vows, and what things were common to all of them? Judg. 13; I Sam. 1:11, 20, 28 ; Matt. 11: 18 - 19; Lk. 1:15

Thought Question 1 – point out Abimelech's pride (Prov. 8: 13; 6: 16 - 19)

LESSON 15:

Point out that Samson's wife "pleased him well". It does not appear that he thought her wise or virtuous,

but a pretty, pleasing face. Had this marriage not been “of the Lord”, he should not have chosen her (Deut 7: 3). This marriage brought him in acquaintance with the Philistines.

Discuss the things that should be our criteria in choosing a mate.

Will the same things that turned Israel away from Him also turn us away? Deut 7: 2 - 3

LESSON 16: Discuss these things about Delilah: 1. She captivated Samson by her love (lust). 2. She conquered him, all the while pretending kindness. 3. She was scheming. 4. She succeeded in finding out his secret, whereas the Philistines had failed. 5. She was persistent and determined to have her own way. 6. A “Delilah” can destroy a man.

Discuss these things about Samson: 1. He let his love for Delilah blind him to obedience to God. 2. He seemed to delight in teasing. He didn’t intend to leave God, but just wanted to have a little fun. 3. His fun and teasing as well as his close association with Delilah brought about his demise. 4. Satan used women to tempt him. 5. His penitence and prayer led him back to God. 6. He realized his strength, both physically and spiritually, came from God.

Make application – The way we behave, dress, etc. can play a part in what kind of mate we attract.

LESSON 17: Discuss how corrupt leaders of God’s people will cause his people to leave Him.

LESSON 18: Thought Question 8: II Thess. 2: 10 -12 God will let a person who does not listen to Him believe a lie.

LESSON 19: Discuss how this story illustrates how idolatry had totally permeated Israel’s lives and they disregarded His law. They were to the point where they were mixing worship to God with idolatry.

Micah tried to justify himself by doing part of what God wanted, but not all. Likewise, the Levite.

Point out that denominations do the same things today.

LESSON 20: Discuss the fact that there are consequences for doing right. Benjamin was not willing to accept those consequences. Today, in order to serve God some may lose family, profession, or friends.

Discuss what happens to a people who do what is right in their own eyes.

LESSON 21: Thought Question 10 – Ps. 73

Point out that the behavior of Ruth in revealing to Boaz that he must redeem her was a custom of the day. In no way was it shameful or wrong.

LESSON 22: In your review, remind your students that the book of Judges is applicable to them today. God wanted Israel’s devotion, and He wants our also. He wants ALL of it – He does not want our “leftovers” or half-hearted worship.

Remember God’s advice to Joshua, which is also good advice for us! Remember, Fear God, Serve Him, and Be Separate.

Remember that like Joshua, we are in “enemy” territory too. Determine to know God and His commandments and do not raise “a generation that knows not God”! Serve ONLY Him!