

When Everyone Did Whatever They Wanted__

A Bible Study on the Book of Judges

Introduction and Judges 1:1-3:6

(Where do you usually look for the title of a book? For this one, look at Judges 21:25.)

Background

When?

1400-1350BC
Moses & Joshua
Canaan Conquered

1350 – 1050 BC
JUDGES

1050-1000BC
Samuel & David
Monarchy Begins

What God said about the newly conquered land of Canaan:

Deuteronomy 7:1-6

Deuteronomy 18:9-14

Judges 1:1-3:6

1:1-2

When is this?

In the book and time of Joshua, the organized resistance of the Canaanites was broken over the course of seven years. After Joshua, the individual tribes were to “mop up resistance” in their own areas.

1:22-29

One sample from chapter one. What’s your opinion?

2:1-3

The “Angel of the LORD” – what in his words suggests that this is more than an angel.

How are God and the Israelites contrasted in these verses?

What was the consequence of their sin?

2:4-5

When we are half-hearted in following God, what should we do? (1 John 1:8-9)

What was, and was not, the result of repentance for the Israelites?

What should we expect and not expect from repentance?

We should know that God forgives every single sin, and counts us as righteous because of Jesus. On the other hand, we often sometimes will have to deal with the consequence of our sin. E.g. – DUI – it is forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ; you still lose your license.

2:6-10

Is verse 6 confusing to you? It should be.

This is a flash back. Chapter one told what happened in the years just after Joshua's death. Now begins the story in 2:6 to 3:6 which summarizes the history of Israel from the time of Joshua to the end of the judges 300 years later. After 3:6 we start the actual history.

Look at the good effect of Joshua and his generation.

2:10-19 outlines a cycle that happened repeatedly in the book of Judges

verses 11-13 Step #1 _____

verses 14-15 Step #2 _____

verses 16-17 Step #3 _____

verses 18 Step #4 _____

verse 19 at the end of each cycle, where is Israel's spiritual body temperature?

2:20-23

At first Israel did not drive out the Canaanite nations

At the end, what did God say?

3:1-4

These are the tribes left around Israel. The land they inhabited was part of the land God had promised to Israel, but which Israel never took possession of.

Before reading the final two verses, what would you say is the biggest component to the decay of American society in the past fifty years?

3:5-6

These are the tribes among whom the Israelites lived.

What does God say, in verse 6, was a key component of Israel's decay?

Do society's marriage practices have any effect on society?

Do our marriage practices within the church have any effect on our church?

They most certainly do. In the New Testament, God does not give a law which says a Christian must marry another Christian. However, throughout the Bible, one of the biggest sources of spiritual danger comes through believers married to non-Christians. (Genesis 6:1-2,5-6; Exodus 34:16; Deuteronomy 7:3-4; 2 Corinthians 6:14-15)