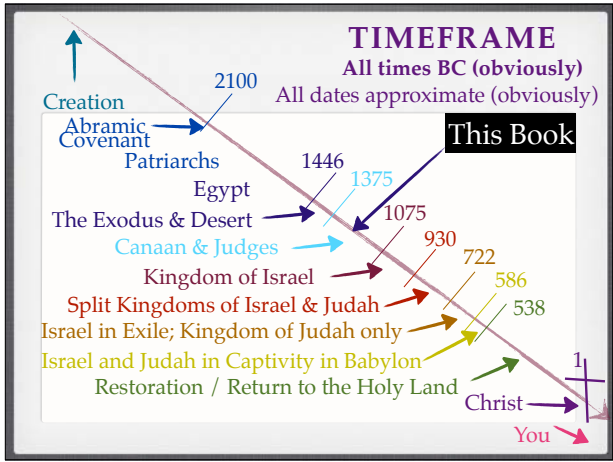
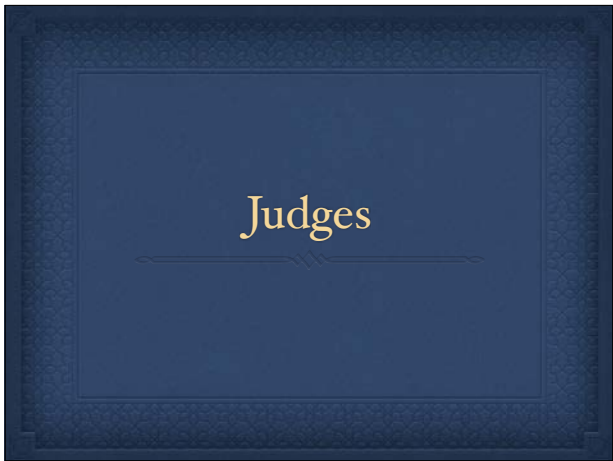


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3

Basic Facts

- *Approximate dates of Judges: 1380 to 1050 BC
(If The Exodus was about 1446 BC)*
- *Main Theme: When you follow God, He will bless you. When you stray, you'll face the consequences.*

4

Theological Contribution

- *Many covenant promises have been fulfilled*
- *"The time had come for Israel to be the kingdom of God in the form of an established commonwealth on Earth" (Zondervan 325)*
- *But, Israel QUICKLY forgot the acts of God that brought them to their current situation/prosperity. (Zondervan 325)*

5

Key verse: 17:6 and others "In those days Israel had no king"

- *True: Israel had no king--it had leaders called judges*
- *Written during a time when they did have a king*
- *Written from the future, about the past*
- *Why not? God was their king.*

6

Cycle of Sin and Redemption

✿ *Know the cycle:* The repeating cycle of sin and redemption

Step One: Gods people sin- "The Israelites once again did evil in the eyes of the Lord"

Step Two: Gods people are punished

Step Three: Gods people are rescued by God- "He, too, saved

Israel"...repentance

Step Four: (Gods people worship, praise, remember, or apologize to God)

Step Five: Gods people start to forget or fall away from God

Cycle repeats

7

Othniel

✿ *The first judge 3:9: "But when they cried out to the Lord, he raised up for them a deliverer, Othniel...who saved them..."*

✿ *3: 7-11*

8

Ehud

✿ *Left-handed Benjaminite*

✿ *3:12-30*

9

Deborah

- ✿ *Chapters 4 & 5*
- ✿ *Helped Barak win the battle of the Kishon River*
- ✿ *Good Woman Judge*

10

Gideon

- ✿ *"Perfect" Judge*
- ✿ *Chapters 6 through 9*
- ✿ *Wool test*
- ✿ *Chapter 7--who defeats the Midianites? God does.*

11

Abimelech

- ✿ *"anti-perfect" judge*
- ✿ *Chapter 9*
- ✿ *9:5: "He went to his father's home...and on one stone murdered his seventy brothers, the sons of [Gideon]."*

12

Jephthah

- ✿ 10:6 through 12:7
- ✿ “social outcast”; an outlaw, but mighty warrior
- ✿ usually had God on his side
- ✿ one “funny” passage (aside from 42000 Ephraimites being killed) -- 12: 4-6 “Shibboleth” vs. “Sibboleth”.

13

Samson

- ✿ “weak and strong”
- ✿ Chapters 13 through 16
- ✿ birth; strength, Delilah, Philistine palace, death

14

“Minor” Judges

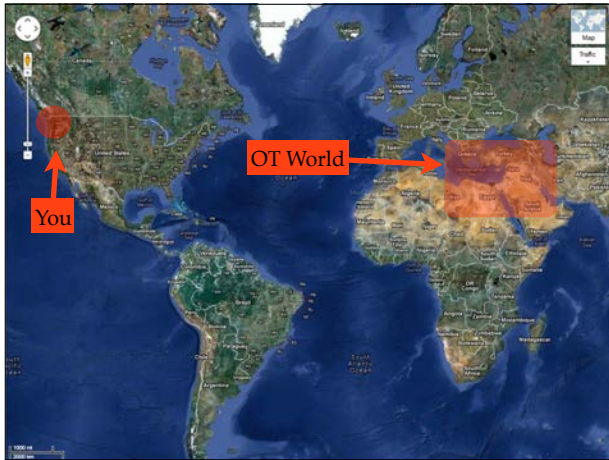
- ✿ Shamgar, Tola, Jair, Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon
- ✿ Just know their names

15

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17



18

TYPE OF BOOK

- Moses' Torah / Pentateuch
- History ✓
- Poetry & Wisdom
- Major (Long-book) Prophets
- Minor (Short-book) Prophets

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AUTHOR

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READERS & RECIPIENTS

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STORYLINE



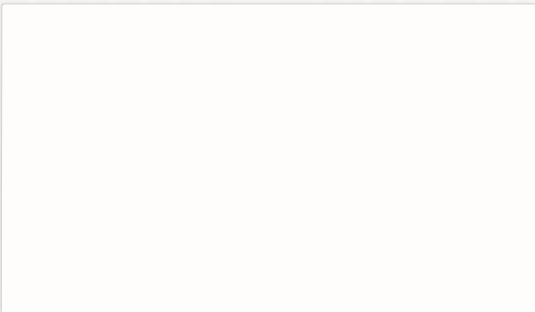
22

Major OT Themes found in this Book:

1. God is Love--He is Just and Merciful
2. God Creates
3. We are supposed to be God's Obedient Servants
4. Cycle of Sin and Redemption
5. God Speaks through His Prophets
6. God is Always with His People
8. God continues to uphold and unfold the Abramic Covenant
9. We are JoGoFd--Justified by Grace through Faith

23

THEOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTION



24

SECULAR CONTRIBUTION

25

- West Wing: Shibboleth

KEY VERSE

26

- 17:6

REQUIRED READING

27

- 6, 7, 12, 16

28



LUTHER SAYS:

- In the book of Judges one can see the good that God did through Ehud, Gideon, Deborah, Samson, and other individuals, though the people were not worthy of it. (LSB 380)

29



MR. MARTIN SAYS:

Name: _____ Date: _____

- Judges Quiz:
- Part One: (48 points) (4 pts each)
Write down the names of the 8 Judges, based on their descriptors: some are used more than once.
- a. the first judge _____
 - b. the hero from Benjamin _____
 - c. the perfect judge _____
 - d. social outcast _____
 - e. Shibboleth vs. Shibotheleth _____
 - f. weak and powerful _____
 - g. the anti-perfect judge _____
 - h. any "minor" judge _____
 - i. wood test _____
 - j. helped Barak _____
 - k. killed all his brothers _____
 - l. the good woman _____

30



MR. MARTIN SAYS:

- Part Two: (52 points) (13pts each) **DO ANY FOUR!**
Please use complete sentences:
1. Describe who the judges were: their roles in Israel's society, their relationship with God and with the people. Were they God-loving or not?
 2. Why did God give the Israelites judges instead of kings? Why did he eventually give them kings instead of judges?
 3. Why does the author of Judges several times write, "In those days, Israel had no king?"
 4. How is the Cycle of Sin and Redemption clearly seen throughout the Book of Judges?
 5. What was supposed to be happening by now in the history of Israel? Why wasn't it happening?

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