

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible
 Current Book: Judges – verse by verse

Scripture(s) for Today: Judges 1:1-4 – Joshua is dead; we have all the makings of a good story

Today’s Message:

“A Good Start”



INTRODUCTION

Today, we celebrate our 8th anniversary as a church with the introduction of our next book and series. The children of Israel had all the makings of a great story. Joshua had led them to **VICTORY** and had allocated the land to each of the tribes. Now, all they had to do was **TRUST** and **OBEY** God to take their individual inheritance from God. He promised that He would drive out the enemy for them if they stayed close to Him and obeyed His words. So, how did they do? Well, they **STARTED** well...

LEARNING TOGETHER

A. Overview of Judges * FUNDAMENTAL INFORMATION *

Title Means: *Decision maker; ruler; authority; leader;* in the context of this book: **DELIVERER.**

The Numbers: *Chapters: 21 | Verses: 618 | Words: 18,976*

Author: SAMUEL *(Jews have always ascribed authorship to him; Rom 3:2)*

Historical Time: 1425 BC to 1120 BC *(Judges is written on thematic basis; 3-16 are chronological)*

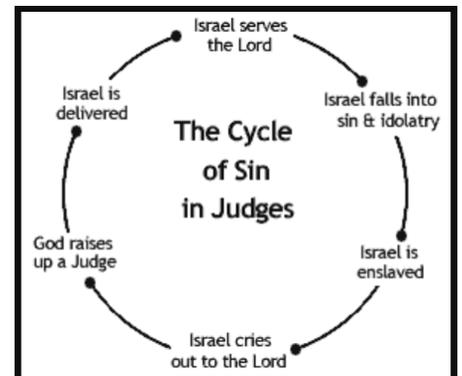
Theme: **The chastening of God’s children as a result of incomplete obedience.**

Keynote: Judges contains some of the most unusual stories in the entire Bible to illustrate the depths of depravity that spiritual people can reach when not obeying God’s word. Incomplete obedience means going only so far with God (happens frequently). When this happens, it will lead to weird, bizarre, and the most unusual things!

THREE BASIC APPLICATIONS

1. Historical

Judges demonstrates the consequences of incomplete obedience as Israel rationalizes God’s truth with her own concepts. It shows Israel’s 7 cycles of sin as she departs from God’s words and returns, over and over and over and over and over again.



2021 VISION: Faithful in Little Things!
Making disciples and caring for souls!

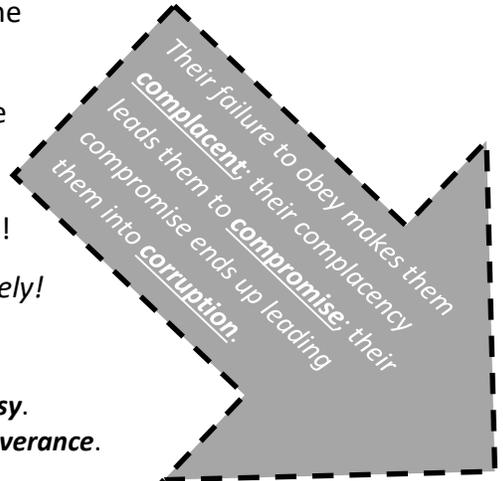
2. Doctrinal

Judges prophetically demonstrates the apostasy **AFTER** the resurrection and **BEFORE** the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ. We see specific details concerning the last years of Christianity during the Laodicean Church age and witness explicit events that take place throughout the Tribulation Period... *“in those days.”*

3. Devotional

The cycles of sin are inescapable when there is **NO** final authority and men do that which is right in their own eyes. Judgments are the result of not completely dealing with sin!

Note: if you follow Christ, obey Him completely!



OUTLINE STRUCTURE – Basic Outline

TRILOGY that leads to TREASON!

- CH 1-2 COMPLACENCY – Israel’s decline into *apostasy*.
- CH 3-16 COMPROMISE – Israel’s cycles of *sin and deliverance*.
- CH17-21 CORRUPTION – Israel’s continued *depravity*.



B. The Lesson

➤ The *Pattern* – God’s people are prone to lose FAITH in His words.

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| 1. God’s people <u>START</u> well. | 1:1 | <i>We always start well.</i> |
| 2. God’s promises do <u>not CHANGE</u> . | 1:2 | <i>Jesus Christ (the Word) is the same.</i> |
| 3. God’s word is <u>not ENOUGH</u> . | 1:3 | <i>We are prone to <u>not</u> trust God’s words.</i> |
| 4. God is <u>FAITHFUL</u> despite sin. | 1:4 | <i>God is faithful even when we are not.</i> |

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