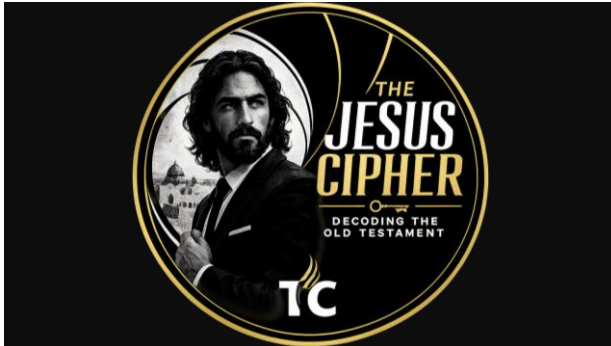
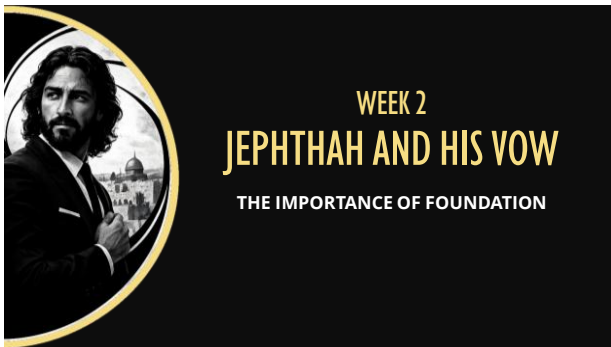
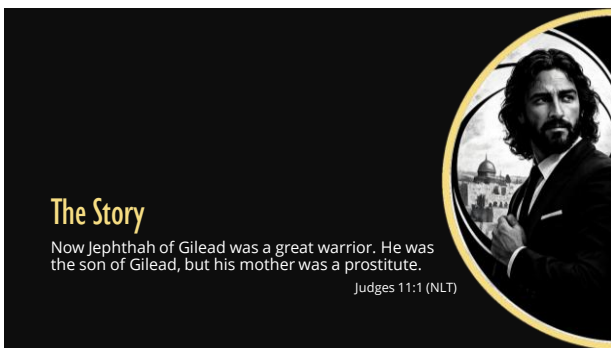




1



2



3

CONTEXTUAL Information



Period of the Judges – 1450-1000 BC

"In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes." (Judges 21:25)

18 years of Ammonite oppression

"For eighteen years they oppressed all the Israelites east of the Jordan River in the land of the Amorites (that is, in Gilead)." (Judges 10:8)

4

Jephthah's Call — Judges 11:1-11



- Who decided Jephthah should be a judge of Israel?

"The elders said, "Come and be our commander! Help us fight the Ammonites!" (Judges 11:6)

- Why did Jephthah agree?

"If I come with you and if the LORD gives me victory over the Ammonites, will you really make me ruler?" (Judges 11:9)

5

Jephthah's Diplomacy — Judges 11:12-28



- Jephthah was chosen to lead in "Battle" – but he started with diplomacy

- Jephthah quotes history as recorded in Numbers 21 and Deuteronomy 2:37 to defend Israel's right to the land

"we avoided the land of the Ammonites all along the Jabbok River and the towns in the hill country—all the places the LORD our God had commanded us to leave alone." (Deuteronomy 2:37)

6

Jephthah's Battle Vow— Judges 11:29-40



- The Spirit of LORD on Jephthah "AT THAT TIME"
- Jephthah's vow
 "If you give me victory over the Ammonites, I will give to the Lord whatever comes out of my house to meet me when I return in triumph. I will sacrifice it as a burnt offering." (Judges 11:30-31)

7

Key Take Aways

"Look! I am placing a foundation stone in Zion [Jerusalem], a firm and tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken [in a hurry]."

Isaiah 28:16 (NLT)



8

Where is JESUS in this passage?



- Compare the presentations of THE LORD in this passage to the nature of Jesus in the gospels
- How does our experience of Christ influence our understanding of this passage?
- What do we do with seeming contradictions of the nature and character of THE LORD and JESUS?

9

JOHN 14:9 - "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!"

JUDGES 10-11

- ANGRY (10:7)
- PUNATIVE (10:13-14)
- TRANSACTIONAL (10:16, 11:30)
- LEGALISTIC (11:10, 11:36)

GOSPELS

- COMPASSIONATE (Matthew 9:36)
- MERCIFUL (John 8:10)
- GIVING (Matthew 10:8)
- LIBERATING (John 8:36)

10

Key Points



- Assumptions can bias our interpretations
- The characters in the story are not always operating out of spiritual truth
- Scripture must be read and interpreted from the foundation of Christ

11

Hermeneutical Applications

If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him.

John 14:7



12

Discussion



What particular methods or tools or ideas stood out to you from this session?

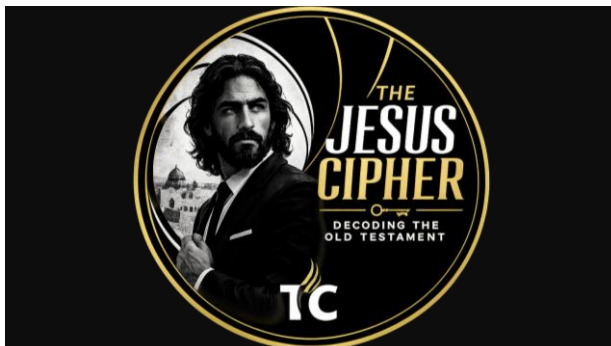
How did this story in particular help/hinder your engagement with a Christo-centric Biblical interpretation/hermeneutic?

How can you apply 1-2 methods discussed in your personal devotional and bible reading?

13



14



15