



College View church Of Christ
Wednesday Night Auditorium Class
December 2021-February 2022

Taught By Ben Little and Justin Roberson

Introduction:

What happens when a society does whatever is right in their own eyes? Is this a picture of life in America in 2021? We realize there are many people who love the Lord in our country still but there is a overwhelming feeling that rather than God being our king, self is instead who we bow down to. There is a book in the Old Testament named Judges that God has revealed to us through His Holy Spirit and preserved for us that mirror this for us. These examples teach us and save us from ourselves! Join us on Wednesdays in our auditorium class as we study The Book Of Judges and Ruth which show us we can truly serve the Lord in dark days and live for him no matter the circumstances.

1 Corinthians 10:11-13- Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore, let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

Outline Of Judges and Ruth:

- First Prologue- Judges 1:1-2:5
- Second Prologue- Judges 2:6-3:5
- 7 Campaigns of Israel- Judges 3:5-16:31
- Epilogue: Israel Conforms- Judges 17:1-20:25

- Wherever You Go I Will Go- Ruth 1
- The Lord Be With You- Ruth 2
- The Kinsmen Redeemer- Ruth 3
- May His Name Be Famous In Israel- Ruth 4

Lesson 1- Judges 1-3:5

Prologue to Judges

1. Who selected Judah to “go up first”? Why was this appropriate? (Gen. 49:8)

2. Caleb wanted to give a warrior an incentive for conquering the city of Debir...What was it? Who is He?

3. In Judges 1:19, if the Lord was with Judah, why could they not drive out the inhabitants of the lowland? Exodus 23:29, Joshua 17:14-18

4. How were the Canaanites and Amorites described in Judges 1:27 & 35 regarding dwelling in the land? Do we see this in the actions of the Israelites?

5. In Judges 2:1-2, what had the Israelites done to receive punishment?

6. Why did the Lord later deliver the children of Israel according to Judges 2:18? What does this tell us about our Father?

7. Does the Lord test us today as in verses 21-22 of chapter 2?

8. What reasons were given for why the Lord left the nations in the land in the beginning of chapter 3? Why didn't God just remove every temptation?

Lesson 2- Judges 3:7-31

Othniel, Ehud and Shamgar

1. What do we know about the pagan god Baal and goddess Asherah.
2. Why was Othniel a great example of what a judge should be? Why was he so different than many of the people at this time? (3:10b)
3. What were some virtuous qualities of His wife Achsah? Judges 1:11-15
4. Who did the Lord strengthen in 3:12-13? Why?
5. List some details about Ehud and his weapon (15, 16) Why might left-handedness be an advantage in this case?
6. Describe Ehud's message he wanted to share with Eglon king of Moab. How did Ehud escape?
7. Was Shamgar's action taken because Israel was again in trouble? (Jud. 5:6)
8. What weapon did Shamgar use? Why would this be necessary?
9. Do we know anything about the background of Shamgar? (Judges 5:6)
Consider that Judges 3:31 is the only time the text ever says, "and he ALSO saved Israel."

Lesson 3- Judges 4-5 Deborah and Barak

1. Who and where was Deborah? Who and where was Barak?

2. What was Deborah's plan? Who commanded it?

3. Does Barak's request suggest that he is cowardly or faithful? (Heb. 11:32)

4. Consider the tactical wisdom of charging the charioted army of Sisera from a mountainous region out onto a plain. What were Barak's chances?

5. Where did Sisera flee to? Why? What reassurances did Jael give Sisera?

6. Did Jael act by divine authority or power? Are we to admire her? Is she praised by Deborah? (24) By God? Did she accomplish God's purposes?

7. Judges 5 is a wonderful song of thanksgiving and celebration of God's deliverance. Pick one of these overlooked blessings she thanked God for and discuss its modern-day significance.

Lesson 4- Judges 6-8

Gideon

1. Instead of raising up a deliverer, God sends a prophet instead...Why?
2. How would you answer Gideon when he asks, "where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about?"
3. Gideon's faith is jump-started in verse 17-19...How?
4. Explain why the Lord only wanted a small number of people to go with Gideon to attack the Midianites.
5. Describe the battle strategy against the Midianites.
6. In chapter 8 who else did Gideon defeat and who did he have issues with?
7. Why did Gideon reject kingship? (v 23) What things did Gideon do that are king-like? (8:18, 24, 26, 27, 30)
8. What does Abimelech mean? How was Abimelech different from Gideon's other 70 sons? (v 31)

Lesson 5- Judges 9-10

Abimelech Tola and Jair

1. What does the story of Abimelech illustrate about the moral, social, and spiritual conditions in Israel? (See Judges 2:3)

2. Explain the parable of the Trees. Who was Jotham? What significance did Mount Gerizim have?

3. Were Gaal and the townspeople right to oppose him? (26-29)

4. Was their method of opposition to be admired? (9:25, 27)

5. Who in the story is to be respected?

6. Describe Abimelech's death? Was justice served?

7. Locate the home country of Tola and Jair. Do these men appear to be military judges?

Lesson 6- Judges 11-12

Jephthah and 3 Minor Judges

1. How did the Lord respond to the children of Israel when they first cried out to Him because of their oppression? What changed His mind?

2. In chapter 11, we read about Jephthah. What was his background and his childhood like?

3. Why did the elders of Gilead want Jephthah to come back?

4. What's different about Jephthah's approach to dealing with the enemy compared to the other judges?

5. Jephthah, more than any other character in Judges, lived and spoke always "before Jehovah" (11:11). What might have produced this godliness?

6. What was the outcome of the foolish vow of Jephthah?

7. Describe the difference in Jephthah's response to Ephraim compared to Gideon's.

8. What are the locations, years, and interesting facts given about these Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon?

Lesson 7- Judges 13-14

Samson (Part 1)

1. Who were his parents? What were they commanded to do?

2. List the Nazirite requirements given to Manoah's wife by the Angel of the Lord for the unborn child.

3. What would be the purpose of the son to be born? What was he to do?

4. Explain what Manoah is asking in Judges 13:12. Who was this Angel of the Lord?

5. What does Samson's "selection" of a wife tell you about his character?

6. What did Samson do to the young lion?

7. How was it that he came to offer up a riddle? What was the wager?

8. What did Samson mean by, "*If you had not plowed with my heifer, You would not have solved my riddle!*"?

Lesson 8 - Judges 15-16

Samson (Part 2)

1. What caused Samson to burn up the grain and vineyards?
2. Explain “he attacked them hip and thigh with a great slaughter”.
3. Describe Delilah—who she was, her background, her character.
4. What bribe was she offered? How much the bribe would be worth in today’s dollars?
5. Describe the three unsuccessful tries to weaken Samson. (7-14)
6. What final prayers did Samson offer up? How did God grant his request?
7. There are more references to “The Spirit of the Lord Moved Him” in the life of Samson than any other judge (see Jud 13:25; 14:6, 19; 15:14). Why does God use imperfect people of faith to do His will?
8. Despite his physical strength, Samson was undone spiritually by giving into temptation. What was his major weakness?

Lesson 9- Judges 17-21

Right In Our Own Eyes

1. Who was Micah? What can you say about his character? Judges 17:13?
2. Why did the Danites take the ephod, household idols, carved image and molded image and take in the Levite?
3. Why did the Levite not want to stay the night in the city of the Jebusites?
4. Why had the Levite cut his concubine into pieces and sent her throughout all of Israel?
5. Why do you think the tribe of Benjamin was unwilling to give up the wicked men of Gibeah?
6. Describe the attack plan on the third day against the Benjamites.
7. The men of Israel swore an oath at Mizpah that none of them would give their daughters to Benjamin as a wife. Any reasons why?
8. Why are the children of Israel are weeping in verse 2 of chapter 21?

Lesson 10- The Book Of Ruth Right In God's Eyes

1. What did Naomi want Ruth and Orpah to do? (Ch 1)

2. What did Ruth and Orpah offer to do? What custom did Naomi refer to? (cf. Deut. 25:5; Matt. 22:24). (Ch 1)

3. Where did 3 things did Boaz do to protect Ruth? (Ch 2)

4. What had Boaz heard about Ruth? (Ch 2)

5. How did Ruth react to the advice of Naomi? Did Ruth follow all the advice of her mother-in-law? (Ch 3)

6. What did Ruth request of Boaz? What impressed Boaz about Ruth? (Ch 3)

7. In 3:11-12, Boaz shares with Ruth "everything you have done has been reported to me." He prays for God to fully bless her because she has sought refuge under God's wing. What does this mean?

8. What offer did Boaz make to this "close relative"? (Ch 4)

9. According to this passage, why did Boaz marry Ruth? (Ch 4) How were Ruth and Boaz to be like the "house of Perez"? (Ch 4)