

BIBLE READING FOR 2023

WEEK #12

Judges & Ruth

03-19-23

Monday - Judges 1-5

Wednesday - Judges 11-15

Friday - Judges 20 - Ruth 4

Tuesday - Judges 6-10

Thursday - Judges 16-19

Judges records events that took place among Israel after the death of Joshua and up to the time of Samuel, which was about a 300 year period. In some ways, this was a dark time in their history because of their repeated lapses into sin. The individuals that are the main characters in this book were not so much judges, in the sense that we would typically use that word, as they were military leaders or deliverers. The book gives us a look at some of the problems that God's people got themselves into, and how, when they turned to Him, He was able to provide the solution. As these stories are told we see both strengths and weaknesses of certain individuals and of Israel as a whole.

The author is unknown. Early Jewish scholars attributed it to Samuel but there is nothing in the book itself to confirm that he was actually the author.

The date of writing is thought to be about 1000 B.C.

The theme is deliverance and the cyclical nature of sin. Israel went through the following cycle over and over again:

1. Sin (idolatry, immorality, etc.)
2. Trouble, oppression (punishment)
3. Cry to God for help (repentance)
4. God sent a judge, deliverer (to save them)

A list of Israel's judges, all of which are mentioned in the book of Judges except Eli and Samuel:

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. Othniel | 6. Gideon | 11. Elon |
| 2. Ehud | 7. Tola | 12. Abdon |
| 3. Shamgar | 8. Jair | 13. Samson |
| 4. Deborah | 9. Jephthah | 14. Eli |
| *5. Barak | 10. Ibzan | 15. Samuel |

*Some do not count Barak as a judge. There are also those that include Abimelech in this list but God did not call or appoint him as a judge.

An outline of the book of Judges:

1. The cycle of sin and deliverance 1-16
2. Depravity of Israel 17-21

Ruth, a short Old Testament book named after its main character, is about a Moabite woman who shows admirable love and devotion to her mother-in-law, after the death of her first husband. As a result of her second marriage, Ruth becomes part of the lineage of David as his great-grandmother, and therefore, part of the lineage of Christ.

The author of Ruth is unknown but some speculate it may have been Samuel.

The date of writing is approximately 1000 B.C.

An outline of Ruth: 1.) Ruth's devotion to Naomi 1
2.) Ruth and Boaz 2-4

Questions for Judges and Ruth:

- 1.) Israel got involved in what sin in chapter two, shortly after the death of Joshua and his generation?
- 2.) What judge is talked about in the last verse of chapter three?
- 3.) In chapter fifteen, what did the Philistines do to Samson's first wife?
- 4.) Who was Ruth's sister-in-law?
- 5.) What was the name of Ruth's second husband?

Answers to questions for Week #11 – Joshua chapters 1-24:

- 1.) The Reubenites, Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh.
- 2.) Circumcise the sons of Israel.
- 3.) Caleb.
- 4.) Kedesh, Shechem, Kiriath-arba (Hebron), Bezer, Ramoth, Golan.
- 5.) Serve the Lord.