

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 34 – Who Will Fight The Canaanites Through Shamgar As The Judge (Judges 1-3)

1. Is Judges chapter 1 a review or is it all fresh material after the death of Joshua (read through chapter two verse 10 before answering)?

- While verse one of chapter one throws you off, clearly it is still a review since Joshua does not die until chapter two, verse eight.

2. Are the following statements true or false:

- a. God chose the tribe of Judah and Simeon to fight the Canaanites. True or **False**
- Scripture: It is false because the Lord chose Judah and Judah THEN asked Simeon to go up with them into battle promising the favor in return when Simeon would fight for their inheritance (**Judges 1:1-3**).
- b. The Lord did not help Judah. True or **False**
- Scripture: He did help Judah (**Judges 1:4; 19**).
- c. Adonibezek joined other kings of the past who had their thumbs and their great toes cut off. **True** or False
- Scripture: **Judges 1:5-7**
- d. The children of Judah set Jerusalem on fire. **True** or False
- Scripture: **Judges 1:8**
- e. Caleb offered his daughter to the one who smote Kirjathsepher. **True** or False
- Scripture: **Judges 1:12-15**; cf. **Joshua 15:16-18**
- f. The children of Judah drove out the inhabitants of the valley. True or **False**
- Scripture: Judah could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron (**Judges 1:19**).
 - Chariots of iron were a big issue for Israel (**Joshua 17:16**).
- g. The Jebusites were driven out of Jerusalem. True or **False**
- Scripture: The children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day (**Judges 1:21**; cf. **Joshua 15:63**).
 - If we notice, there could be an alleged discrepancy between the accounts of this in Judges and Joshua. However, one needs to realize that Jerusalem belonged half to the tribe of Judah and half to Benjamin (**I Kings 12:21; 23** and **II Chronicles 11:1**).
- h. The Canaanites were driven from all the land of Israel. True or **False**
- Scripture: “*And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out. Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them*” (**Judges 1:28-29**).
- i. Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan all failed to drive out the inhabitants of their lands. **True** or False
- Scripture: **Judges 1:30-36**

3. Does the angel [messenger] of the Lord reveal why there are still heathens in the land God gave Israel?

- Yes, he does. Note: “*And an angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I swore unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you. **And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice**: why have ye done this? Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you. And it came to pass, when the angel of the Lord spake these words unto all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept” (Joshua 2:1-4).*

4. What instantly changed when Joshua and his generation passed away?

- “*And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the Lord, that he did for Israel. And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died, being an hundred and ten years old. And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash. And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and **there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel**” (Judges 2:7-10).*

5. Did the ignorance of the next generation lead Israel closer or further from God?

- Much further (Judges 2:11-13).

6. What was God’s reaction to the sins committed in the generation after Joshua and the elders that were with Joshua?

- “*And the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies. Whithersoever they went out, the hand of the Lord was against them for evil, as the Lord had said, and as the Lord had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed” (Judges 2:14-15).*

7. Who would deliver Israel from the hands of the spoilers?

- Judges that God rose up (Judges 2:16).

8. How receptive were the children of Israel to the judges God raised among them at the beginning?

- “*And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the Lord; but they did not so. And when the Lord raised them up judges, then the Lord was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it repented the Lord because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them. And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way” (Judges 2:17-19).*

9. What was God’s intended purpose with the heathen nations He left among the Israelites?

- *“And the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice; I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died: That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the Lord to walk therein, as their fathers did keep it, or not. Therefore the Lord left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua. Now these are the nations which the Lord left, to prove Israel by them, even as many of Israel as had not known all the wars of Canaan; Only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof; Namely, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baalhermon unto the entering in of Hamath. And they were to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken unto the commandments of the Lord, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses” (Judges 2:20-23-3:4).*

10. Did the children of Israel keep themselves pure from the heathens that dwelt among them?

- *“And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites. And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and forgat the Lord their God, and served Baalim and the groves” (Judges 3:5-7).*

11. What judge delivered Israel out of the hand of Chushanrishathaim king of Mesopotamia whom the Lord used to punish Israel?

- Othniel (Judges 3:9-10).

12. Did the status of Israel change drastically after Othniel died?

- They went from forty years of peace (Judges 3:11), to sin against God again (Judges 3:12), and finally into Moabite captivity (Judges 3:13-14).

13. Who was chosen to deliver Israel from the rule of the Moabites?

- Ehud the son of Gera (Judges 3:15).

14. What happened to Eglon king of Moab?

- *“But Ehud made him a dagger which had two edges, of a cubit length; and he did gird it under his raiment upon his right thigh. And he brought the present unto Eglon king of Moab: and Eglon was a very fat man. And when he had made an end to offer the present, he sent away the people that bare the present. But he himself turned again from the quarries that were by Gilgal, and said, I have a secret errand unto thee, O king: who said, Keep silence. And all that stood by him went out from him. And Ehud came unto him; and he was sitting in a summer parlour, which he had for himself alone. And Ehud said, I have a message from God unto thee. And he arose out of his seat. And Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly: And the haft also went in after the blade; and the fat closed upon the blade, so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly; and the dirt [entrails; NKJV or guts] came out” (Judges 3:16-22).*

15. What did Ehud do to rally the children of Israel? Was he successful?

- To rally Israel: *“And Ehud escaped while they tarried, and passed beyond the quarries, and escaped unto Seirath. And it came to pass, when he was come, that he blew a trumpet in the mountain of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mount, and he before them. And he said unto them, Follow after me: for the Lord hath delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand. And they went down after him, and took the fords of Jordan toward Moab, and suffered not a man to pass over” (Judges 3:26-28).*
- Yes, it was successful: *“And they slew of Moab at that time about ten thousand men, all lusty, and all men of valour; and there escaped not a man. So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest fourscore years” (Judges 3:29-30).*

16. Who slew of the Philistines six hundred men with an ox goad and also delivered Israel?

- Shamgar the son of Anath (**Judges 3:31**).