

Interesting Facts About Judges

MEANING: Judges means “rulers,” “Delivers,” or “Saviors.”

AUTHOR: Authorship uncertain. May have been Samuel.

TIME WRITTEN: Between 1043 B.C. & 1004 B.C.

POSITION IN THE BIBLE:

- 7th Book in the Bible
- 7th Book in the Old Testament
- 2nd of 12 books of History (Joshua - Esther)
- 59 Books to follow it.



CHAPTERS: 21

VERSES: 618

WORDS: 18,976

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT JUDGES:

JUDGES

- Following the death of Joshua, Israel fell into a 350 year Dark Age.
- The events covered in the Book of Judges range from about 1380 B.C. to 1045 B.C. (335 years). NOTE: The events of Judges extend another 30 years since it includes the life of Samuel.
- In computing the time frame of Judges. It appears that the rulerships of some of the judges overlap because not all of them ruled over the entire land.
- Judges describes various cycles of apostasy, oppression, and deliverance in:
 - The southern region - Judges 3:7-31
 - The northern region - Judges 4:1 - 5:31
 - The central region - Judges 6:1 - 10:5
 - The western region - Judges 13:1 - 16:31
- Judges is a book about sin and its consequences.
- **Judges 21:25** is a most descriptive verse: “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

- 13 judges are mentioned in the Book of Judges. Four more are mentioned in 1 Samuel.
- 7 apostasies . . . 7 servitudes . . . 7 deliverances.
- The cycle of Judges appears to be:

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| • Rebellion | → | • Sin |
| • Retribution | → | • Servitude |
| • Repentance | → | • Supplication |
| • Restoration | → | • Salvation |
| • Rest | → | • Silence |
- In Judges, the oppressors of Israel are:

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| • Mesopotamians | | • Canaanites |
| • Moabites | | • Midianites |
| • Philistines | | • Ammonites |
- The named Judges are:

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|------------------------|-----------|----------|
| • Othinel | • Tola | • Samson |
| • Ehud | • Jair | • Eli |
| • Shamgar | • Jephtha | • Samuel |
| • Deborah (with Barak) | • Ibzan | • Joel |
| • Gideon | • Elon | • Abijah |
| • Abimelech | • Abdon | |
- After a judge delivers the people from oppression, they rule and administer justice.
- Primary reasons for Israel’s failure during the period of the Judges:
 - A lack of faith in God.
 - A lack of obedience to God.
- Israel’s failure to drive out the inhabitants of Canaan during the period of the conquest, contributed significantly to the sin problem in Israel.
- **Judges 2:10** - “Another generation arose after them who did not know the Lord nor the work which He had done for Israel.”