

Series: Major Bible Events

Title: The Judges

Text:(Judges 1-21) (Judges 17:6)

Author: We suppose by Samuel (the last Judge)

NT: (Heb 11:32-40) A Romantic view of History

Purpose: A history book of Israel's "Dark Ages"

Spans 325 years, recording 7 cycles of oppression/deliverance

Subject Matter: Chronicled the 12 men & women who delivered Israel from their oppressors.

Special Feature: Documents Israel's 1st Civil War.

I. The Background

A. An Historical Link:

B. A Key Phrase: (Judges 17:6)

C. The Cycle:

1. The People Sin: (vs 11-13)
2. God Chastens Them: (Vs 14)
3. They Repent & Cry Out to God: (Vs 15)
4. God Raises up a Leader to deliver them: (Vs 16)
5. God Delivers them: (Vs 18)
6. They Go back into Sin: (Vs 19)
7. the Reason for the Cycle: (Vs 21-22)

II. The Backsliding: Seven Cycles of Apostasy:

Sin, Judgment, Repentance, Forgiveness, Restoration

#1 Mesopotamia Conquered, Othniel the Judge: (Jud 3:1-11)

#2 Philistines Conquered, Ehud the Judge: (Jud 3:12-31)

#3 Canaanites Conquered, Deborah & Barak the Judge: (Jud 4:1-5:31)

#4 Midianites Conquered, Othniel the Judge: (Jud 6:1-8:32)

#5 Civil War, Abimelech, Tola, Jair judges: (Jud 8:33-10:5)

#6 Philistines Conquered, Jephthah, Izban, Elon, Abdon

Judges: (Jud 10:16-12:15)

#7 Philistines Conquered, Samson the Judge: (Jud 13-16)

III. The Blight

A. Religious Apostasy: (Judges 17-18)

B. Moral Decline: (Judges 19) Disintegration of the family

C. Political Anarchy: (Judges 20-21)

IV. Mega Themes:

A. Decline by Compromise:

B. Decay by Apostasy:

C. Defeat by Oppression: (Heb 12:5-17)

D. Deliverance by Heroes: