**Judges**

*Chapter 1-2*

**BACKGROUND**

* In those days *there was* no king in Israel: every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes. (Judges 21:25)
  + The king that Israel had rejected and no longer had was Jehovah.
    - 7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. 8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. 9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. (1 Samuel 8:7-9)
* Dates
  + Call of Abraham to the establishment of Canaan – 490 years
  + From the establishment of Canaan to the establishment of the monarchy – 490 years
    - And after that he gave *unto them* judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet. (Acts 13:20)
    - Add Samuel’s reign (estimated to be 40 years)
  + From the establishment of the monarchy until its downfall – 490 years
  + From the downfall of the monarchy to the coming of the Messiah – 490 years
* Judges (13 in Judges, 2 in 1 Samuel)
  + Othniel (Tribe of Judah) – 40 years (Judges 3:9,11)
  + Ehud (Benjamin) – 80 years (3:15, 30)
  + Shamgar – Unknown - (3:31)
  + Deborah / Barak (Naphtali) – 40 years (4:4, 5:31)
  + Gideon (Manasseh) – 40 years (8:28)
  + Abimelech (Manasseh) – 3 years (9:22)
  + Tola (Issachar) – 23 years (10:1-2)
  + Jair (Manasseh) – 22 years (10:3)
  + Jephthah () – 6 years (12:7)
  + Ibzan () – 7 years (12:8-9)
  + Elon (Zebulon) – 10 years (12:11)
  + Abdon () – 8 years (12:13-14)
  + Samson (Dan) – 20 years (16:31)
  + Eli (Levi) – 40 years (1 Sam 4:18)
  + Samuel (Levi) – Unknown
* And Adonibezek said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered *their meat* under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died. (Judges 1:7)
  + Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again. (Luke 6:38)
  + 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. (Galatians 6:7-9)
  + Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. (Romans 12:19)
* Failure of the tribes delineated
  + For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil. (Ecclesiastes 12:14)
  + In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel. (Romans 2:16)
    - And the LORD was with Judah; and he drave out *the inhabitants of* the mountain; but could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron. (Judges 1:19)
      * Matthew Henry – “They could not trust God under any disadvantage”
      * 7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? 8 This persuasion *cometh* not of him that calleth you. 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. (Galatians 5:7-9)
* True introduction / Transition to the time of the Judges
  + 6 ¶ And when Joshua had let the people go, the children of Israel went every man unto his inheritance to possess the land. 7 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. 8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, *being* an hundred and ten years old. 9 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathheres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash. 10 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. 11 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim: 12 And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that *were* round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger. 13 And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth. 14 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. 15 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 2:6-15)
    - Baalim – plural of Baal
    - Ashtaroth – female form of Baal
      * 11 Hath a nation changed *their* gods, which *are* yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for *that which* doth not profit. 12 Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD. (Jeremiah 2:11-12)