# STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK OF JUDGES

#### 1:1–2:5: **Introduction 1:** Tribes at War (with the nations) (1:1–2: "Who shall go up first to fight .... Judah shall go up")

-2:6-3:6: Introduction 2: Idolatry

## 3:7-16:31: Twelve Judges (6 major and 6 minor) presented in Two Cycles

#### 3:7-5:31: First Cycle of Judges

- 3:7: "the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord" 3:7–3:11: **Major Judge 1:** Othniel
- 3:12: "And the people of Israel *again* did what was evil in the sight of the Lord" 3:12–3:30 – **Major Judge 2:** Ehud
- 4:1: "And the people of Israel *again* did what was evil in the sight of the Lord" 4:1–5:31 – **Major Judge 3:** Deborah & Barak

#### 6:1-16:31: Second Cycle of Judges

- 6:1: "the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord" 6:1–8:35: **Major Judge 4:** Gideon
- 10:6: "The people of Israel *again* did what was evil in the sight of the Lord" 10:6–12:7: **Major Judge 5:** Jephtah
- 13:1: "And the people of Israel *again* did what was evil in the sight of the Lord" 13:1–16:31: **Major Judge 6:** Samson

### —17:1–18:31: **Conclusion 1:** Idolatry

19:1–21:25: Conclusion 2: Tribes at War (with each other)
(20:18: "Who shall go up first to fight ... Judah shall go up)