

Judges Chapters 10-12

Judges we have looked at so far:

• Othniel	Victory over King of Mesopotamia	40 years peace
• Ehud	Defeats Moab	80 years peace
• Shamgar	Defeats Philistines	No record.
• Deborah and Barak	Defeats Canaanites	40 years peace
• Gideon	Defeats Midian	40 years peace.
• Abimelech	War against Gideons Sons	Ruled 3 Years

Chapter 10

VS 1-6

- Tola judges Israel for 23 years – there was peace under his rule, no details.
- Jair judges Israel for 22 years – there was peace under his rule, no details.
- Note: there was 45 years of peace under these two judges.
- Sons of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord – Baal worship.
- Comfortable living
- Ingratitude
- Forgetting where peace comes from (obedience)
- Duet 6 – Love God, teach your children
- Duet 7 – destroy all the inhabitants in the land, do not intermarry, do not worship idols.
- Duet 8: 11-21 – reminder of where it all comes from.

The God's of their enemies:

• Baal	Canaan, Aram, Phoenicia
• Asherah	Canaan, Aram, Phoenicia
• Ashtoreth	Canaan, Aram, Phoenicia
• Ishtar	Babylonia
• Chemosh	Moab
• Molech	Ammon
• Dagon	Philistia

Reminder: Genesis 19: 36-38

- Ammon – Lot's Younger daughter's son through incest with her father.
- Moab – Lot's Older daughters' son through incest with her father.

VS 7- 18

- Philistines and Ammon oppress Israel for 18 years.
- Israel cries out and God has a harsh response.
- Let the God's you serve deliver you.
- Israel repents and removes the foreign Gods.

Chapter 11

VS 1 – 4

- Jephthah introduced
- Son of a prostitute
- Rejected by his brother and city.
- Flees to Tob – 80 miles north.
- Jephthah has a following of worthless men.

VS 5-11

- The elders send for him to come and help them against the Ammonites.
- Jephthah becomes their leader.
- Jephthah is a man of faith:
 - vs 9 – the Lord delivers them.
 - vs 11 – spoke his words before the Lord.
- Jephthah is in Hebrews 11: 32 along with Barak, Gideon and Samson.

VS 12 – 27 History Lesson and Diplomacy

- Ammon – Israel took my land.
- Jephthah – Israel did not take your land.
- Numbers 20: 14-21 – Jephthah references the rejection by King of Edom to pass thru.
- Numbers 21:21-26 – Sihon King of Amorites defeated, Israel takes the land.
 - Israel did not steal the land, they fought and took possession of the land.
 - The Amorites had originally taken the land from the Moabites.
- The LORD gave us the land.
- Chemosh gave you your land. Keep what your God has given you.
- Also, Balak, the King of Moab never asked for the land back, over 300 years.

Four Arguments so Jephthah:

1. The facts of history.
2. God gave them the land – land grant
3. Three centuries of occupation.
4. You are fighting against God.

VS 28 – 29

- The king of the Ammonites did not listen
- The SPIRIT of the Lord came upon Jephthah.
- Jephthah is victorious over Ammon.
- Ammon did not Israel for another 50 years (1 Samuel 11).

VS 30 – 40 Jephthah Tragic Vow.

Whoever comes out of the door of my house I will offer as a burnt offering to the Lord.

Jephthah is victorious over the Amorites and returns home and his daughter comes out.

- Some thoughts and some clarity.
 - What if it was an “unclean” animal – God would not accept it.
 - What if it was a neighbor’s child?
 - What right did Jephthah have to take a life?
 - YHWH does not accept human sacrifice.
 - Saul was prevented from killing Jonathan when the King’s command was violated. (1 Samuel 14: 24-46.)
 - No Levitical priest would have accepted the sacrifice in Shiloh.
 - Monetary redemption was available. (Leviticus 27: 1-8; 30 shekels for a woman).

Dedication vs. Sacrificed

- No where in the text is her death referenced.
- No where in the text is there a grieving for her death by others.
- The focus is her losing her right to marry and bear children – remaining a virgin.
- She would be dedicated to the Lord’s service as was Samuel, when given by his mother.

Chapter 12

VS 1-6 War with Ephraim

- Ephraim did not join with Gideon to fight and did not join with Jephthah to fight.
- Jephthah was not as diplomatic as Gideon (who used flattery).
- Jephthah was focused on defeating the Amorites, not pleasing Ephraim.
- Jephthah had issued a call to arms by Ephraim and refused to respond.
- Shibboleth vs. Shibboleth.

VS 7 Jephthah ruled for six years.

VS 8 – 10 Ibzan ruled for seven years.

VS 11 – 12 Elon ruled for 10 years.

VS 12 – 15 Abdon judged for 8 years.

In all there were 31 years of peace.

