

When you fall and cry out to God, He will send you a Deliverer.

1. Israel Failed to Complete the Conquest of Canaan.

Jud. 1-3

- a. Seven tribes failed to finish their missions to extricate sin and evil from Canaan (1).
- b. God judged Israel and Canaan’s moral cancer as Joshua’s generation died (2).
- c. The sinful enemies remained as threats to their faithfulness and righteousness (2:20-3:4).

“And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger,”... “They were for the testing of Israel, to know whether Israel would obey the commandments of the Lord, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. So the people of Israel lived among the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And their daughters they took to themselves for wives, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they served their gods,” Jud. 2:11-12...3:4-6

2. God Delivered Israel from Seven Cycles of Sin.

Jud. 3-16

- a. God raised up Othniel, Ehud and Shamgar defeating Mesopotamians, Moabites and Philistines, respectively, in the South (3).
- b. God raised up Deborah and Barak as a team in the North, defeating Canaanites (4-5).
- c. Gideon defeated the Mideanites (6-8); Tola and Jair took Abimelech (8-10), Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon and Abdon took the Ammonites (10-12), and Samson the Philistines (13-16).

“That the leaders took the lead in Israel, that the people offered themselves willingly, bless the Lord!”... “So may all your enemies perish, O Lord! But your friends be like the sun as he rises in his might.’ And the land had rest for forty years,” Jud. 5:2 ... 31

3. Israel Sinned like the Canaanites. But Ruth and Boaz Displayed Faith.

Jud. 17-21, Ruth

- a. Idolatry flourished among individuals (17) and entire tribes (18).
- b. Immorality flourished (19), and many tribes began to fight each other (20-21).

“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes,” Jud. 21:25

- c. Ruth’s faith was demonstrated with Naomi’s family (1-2), and love with Boaz (3-4).

“For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.” ... “Boaz said to Ruth and Naomi, ‘The Lord be with you!’ And they answered, ‘The Lord bless you,’” Ruth 1:16b ... 2:4b

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