

THE MESSAGE OF JUDGES

Introduction – The Deuteronomic historian tells us what occurs after Joshua's leadership is over, when the tribes go into their allotted territories.

A. Faithfulness to the Covenant

Judges 2:1-4

Judges 2:10-15

Unfaithful behaviors by Israel resulted in God allowing them to suffer at the hands of their enemies.

B. Spirit-empowered leaders, judges, deliver the tribes from their oppressors.

Judges 3:7-11

1. The cycle of Israelite rebellion leads to them being oppressed by their enemies. Then Israel turns to the Lord, crying out for deliverance and He sends judges to save them and restore rest.
2. The book of Judges is made up of stories that repeat the same cycle over and over with different judges intervening to deliver them.
3. Things get morally worse over the length of the book of Judges, ending with the depravity of the tribe of Benjamin and its near extinction.

C. Yahweh's Kingship

Judges 8:22-23

Judges 21:25

1. The Deuteronomic historian continues the story about Israel's search for a human king rather than accepting God as their King in the book of Samuel.
2. The book of Kings tells of the failure of Israel's human kings.

Conclusion – We live in a time of moral and spiritual chaos, like the book of Judges. This can be seen with nihilistic young men killing innocent people, widespread sexual identity confusion, and the absurdity of moral relativist dogmatically advocating for selective issues in a self-righteous manner.

1 Timothy 1:15-17