

## The Book of Judges - An Introduction

So we are starting the book of Judges. What is it all about? Well, if we understand where it fits in with the other books, then it will all make a little more sense. First there was Adam, then Noah's Ark and then the Tower of Babel. Afterwards there was Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, followed by Moses. After Moses, Joshua took charge and then we had the time of the Judges. They were the people who lead Israel after Moses and Joshua (and before the Kings - such as Saul, David and Solomon). Some of the famous Judges that we will read about include Gideon, Deborah, and everyone's favourite - Samson! Happy reading!

### Monday (Read Judges 1: 1-15)

(1) Complete the verse: "And the Lord said, "Judah shall go up..."

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(2) What did the children of Judah do when they reached Jerusalem?

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(3) After Adoni-Bezek had his thumbs and big toes cut off, he remembered how he had done the same to others before and now God was punishing Him. What lesson can we learn from this?

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### Tuesday and Wednesday (Read Judges 1: 16-34)

(4) Verses 27 to 34 are confusing. We read about how some of the tribes of Israel did not drive out all the people from the lands they were invading. For example, Ephraim (one of the tribes) did not drive out the Canaanites who dwelt in Gezer (Judges 1: 29). Why is this a big deal? Copy out Judges 2:2 for the answer...

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(5) Pretend you are a Sunday School servant for year 7. Write down three things you would tell your class about chapter 1.

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**The Judges were leaders of Israel (in between Moses/Joshua and the Kings - Saul, David, Solomon etc.) They included people like Samson, Gideon, Deboarah and others. Samuel was the last judge - which makes sense, since he annointed King Saul. The book has nothing to do with men wearing wigs smashing hammers in court!**



## Thursday (Read Judges 2: 1-10)

(6) Will the Lord ever break His promises with us? (verse 1)

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(7) What was the consequence of the Israelites not driving out the inhabitants of the lands they invaded? (verse 3)

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(8) Who lead Israel before and after Joshua

- A. Before – Moses. After – Kings
- B. Before – Moses. After – Judges
- C. Before – Abraham. After – Kings
- D. Before – Abraham. After – Judges.

## Friday and Saturday (Read Judges 2: 11-23)

(9) What did the children of Israel do that angered the Lord? (verse 11-12)

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(10) What were the consequences of this sin? (verse 14)

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(18) Would this problem have happened if the children of Israel had driven out all these foreigners in the first place as God ordered?

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(19) What practical lesson can we all learn from this?

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## DID YOU KNOW? Jesus Promises to be your friend (John 15:14-15)

Jesus called His disciples to be His *friends*. The word applies to everyone who would ever become His disciple. You've probably heard a lot about being Jesus' servant. Of course, Jesus wants you to do your best to be a servant who pleases Him. But more than that, He wants you to treat Him like your friend. Jesus wants a friend who loves Him more than anyone or anything else. A person who will turn towards Him and love Him with their whole heart.

Be careful not to take His friendship for granted. He isn't like your friends at school just as imperfect as you are. He is God. While you're learning to love Him as your best friend, don't ever lose sight of how awesome He is and of all the incredible gifts He gives you. **Start to think of yourself as Jesus' friend.**



To Obey God  
means He can  
be seen in my  
lifestyle



**Obey God.  
It will  
save you a  
lot of  
trouble.  
Just ask  
the people  
of Israel!**