

~EHUD 2 (191)
(E'hud)

- Son of Gera of the tribe of Benjamin.
- And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. So Yehowah raised up for them a savior, **Ehud** the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a left-handed man. In time the sons of Israel sent tribute by his hand to Eglon the king of Moab. (**Judges 3:15**)
- **Ehud** was chosen by God to deliver the nation from an 18-year bondage to King Eglon of Moab, an oppression God permitted because they did what was bad in Yehowah's eyes.
- And once again the sons of Israel went doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. At that Yehowah let Eglon the king of Moab grow strong against Israel, because they did what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. (**Judges 3:12**)
- Furthermore, he gathered against them the sons of Ammon and Amalek. Then they went and struck Israel and took possession of the city of palm trees. (**Judges 3:13**)
- And the sons of Israel continued to serve Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years. (**Judges 3:14**)
- When the Israelites began to call to Yehowah for aid, God raised up a savior in the person of **Ehud**. In time, the Israelites sent tribute to Eglon by means of **Ehud**, who had made a two-edged sword for himself, its length being a cubit, **Hebrew**, *go'medh*, actually a linear measurement about which there is uncertainty in this particular case. Some believe it was a short cubit of about 38 centimeters (15 inches).
- **Ehud** was a left-handed man, or, literally, a man closed, impeded, of his right hand. But this does not mean that **Ehud** was crippled, as such Hebrew phraseology is used in connection with 700 Benjamite warriors, who are not likely to have had a physical defect but were **left-handed** and evidently ambidextrous.
- And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. So Yehowah raised up for them a savior, **Ehud** the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a left-handed man. In time the sons of Israel sent

- tribute by his hand to Eglon the king of Moab. (**Judges 3:15**)
- Meanwhile **Ehud** made a sword for himself, and it had two edges, its length being a cubit. Then he girded it underneath his garment upon his right thigh. (**Judges 3:16**) Footnote
 - Out of all this people there were seven hundred chosen men left-handed. Every one of these was a slinger of stones to a hairbreadth and would not miss. (**Judges 20:16**)
 - Armed with the bow, using the right hand and using the left hand with stones or with arrows in the bow. They were of the brothers of Saul, of Benjamin. (**1 Chronicles 12:2**)
 - The Bible does not specifically say **Ehud** was ambidextrous, though that is possible. Nevertheless, being left-handed, he girded the sword underneath his garment upon his right thigh.
 - After presentation of the tribute, **Ehud** sent the tribute bearers away but turned back at the quarries of Gilgal. **Ehud** then came to Eglon as the Moabite king sat in his roof chamber, and he said to him, A word of God I have for you.
 - Interested, Eglon arose from his throne. At that, **Ehud** thrust in his left hand and took the sword off his right thigh, plunging it into obese Eglon's belly, with the result that the handle kept going in also after the blade so that the fat closed in over the blade.
 - A right-handed man would likely draw his sword from his left side, across his body. So it is not probable that Eglon would expect **Ehud** to draw a sword from the right thigh, using his left hand.
 - The enemy ruler now dead, **Ehud** escaped through the air hole, after closing and locking the doors of the roof chamber behind him. When Eglon's servants finally opened the doors, they discovered that their lord was fallen to the earth dead!
 - And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. So Yehowah raised up for them a savior, **Ehud** the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a left-handed man. In time the sons of Israel sent tribute by his hand to Eglon the king of Moab. (**Judges 3:15**)
 - Meanwhile **Ehud** made a sword for himself, and it had two edges, its length being a cubit. Then he girded it underneath his

- garment upon his right thigh. (**Judges 3:16**)
- And he proceeded to present the tribute to Eglon the king of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man. (**Judges 3:17**)
 - And it came about that when he had finished presenting the tribute, he at once sent the people away, the bearers of the tribute. (**Judges 3:18**)
 - And he himself turned back at the quarries that were at Gilgal, and he proceeded to say; I have a secret word for you, O king. So he said; Keep silence! With that all those who were standing by him went on out from him. (**Judges 3:19**)
 - And **Ehud** came to him as he was sitting in his cool roof chamber that he had to himself. And Ehud went on to say; A word of God I have for you. At that he rose up from his throne. (**Judges 3:20**)
 - Then **Ehud** thrust in his left hand and took the sword off his right thigh and plunged it into his belly. (**Judges 3:21**)
 - And the handle kept going in also after the blade so that the fat closed in over the blade, for he did not draw the sword out of his belly, and the fecal matter began to come out. (**Judges 3:22**)
 - And **Ehud** proceeded to go out through the air hole, but he closed the doors of the roof chamber behind him and locked them. (**Judges 3:23**)
 - And he himself went out. And his servants came and began looking, and there the doors of the roof chamber were locked. So they said; He is just easing nature in the cool interior room. (**Judges 3:24**)
 - And they kept waiting until they were ashamed, and, look! There was no one opening the doors of the roof chamber. At this they took the key and opened them, and, look! Their lord was fallen to the earth dead! (**Judges 3:25**)
 - **Ehud**, having escaped to the mountainous region of Ephraim, marshaled an army of Israelites, saying to them; Follow me, because Yehowah has given your enemies, the Moabites, into your hand.

- After capturing the fords of the Jordan, the Israelites cut off the Moabites retreat to their homeland. Doubtless already greatly demoralized by their king's death, 10,000 Moabites were struck down by the Israelites, every one robust and every one a valiant man, and not a single one escaped.
- Moab having been subdued under Israel's hand and **Ehud's** leadership, the land had no further disturbance for eighty years.
- As for **Ehud**, he escaped while they were lingering, and he himself passed by the quarries and made his escape to Seirah. (**Judges 3:26**)
- And it came about that when he got there he began blowing the horn in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel began going down with him out of the mountainous region, he being at their head. (**Judges 3:27**)
- Then he said to them; Follow me, because Yehowah has given your enemies, the Moabites, into your hand. And they went following him and got to capture the fords of the Jordan against the Moabites, and they did not allow anybody to pass over. (**Judges 3:28**)
- And at that time they went striking down Moab, about ten thousand men, every one robust and every one a valiant man, and not a single one escaped. (**Judges 3:29**)
- And Moab came to be subdued on that day under Israel's hand, and the land had no further disturbance for eighty years. (**Judges 3:30**)
- **Ehud** is not specifically called Judge **Ehud**, rather he is referred to as a savior.
- And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. So Yehowah raised up for them a savior, **Ehud** the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a left-handed man. In time the sons of Israel sent tribute by his hand to Eglon the king of Moab. (**Judges 3:15**)
- But Othniel was called both a savior and a judge.
- And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. Then Yehowah raised a savior up for the sons of Israel that he might

save them, Othniel the son of Kenaz, the younger brother of Caleb. (**Judges 3:9**)

- The spirit of Yehowah now came upon him, and he became the judge of Israel. When he went out to battle, then Yehowah gave Cushan-rishathaim the king of Syria into his hand so that his hand overpowered Cushan-rishathaim. (**Judges 3:10**)
- And the period was the time of the Judges. So **Ehud** was apparently considered not only a savior, but also a judge.