

~JUDGES, DELIVER ISRAEL FROM OPPRESSION (239)

- The book of Judges is a thrilling record of the exploits of men of faith who were raised up by Yehowah to deliver Israel from oppression. The oppressors came from various directions, the areas where the Judges were active were not always the same.

- But, regardless of how powerful the enemy was, when Israel humbly repented of their bad practices and truly trusted in Yehowah, the Judge would deliver them. This Bible book gives a foregleam of the greater deliverance that God will provide for his servants by means of his Son.

Judges and Their Exploits

Abdon

- And after him Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite began to judge Israel.
- And after him Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite began to judge Israel. ([Judges 12:13](#))
- And he came to have forty sons and thirty grandsons who rode on seventy full-grown asses. And he continued to **judge** Israel eight years. ([Judges 12:14](#))
- Then Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim in the mountain of the Amalekite. ([Judges 12:15](#))

- **Barak**

- Then the sons of Israel again began to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes now that Ehud was dead. ([Judges 4:1](#)) through ([Judges 5:31](#))

- **Ehud**

- 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**)
- 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)**
- 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)**
- **Elon**
- And after him Elon the Zebulunite began to **judge** Israel. And he continued to judge Israel ten years. **(Judges 12:11)**
- Then Elon the Zebulunite died and was buried in Aijalon in the land of Zebulun. **(Judges 12:12)**
- **Gideon**
- Then the sons of Israel began to do what was bad in the eyes of

Yehowah. So Yehowah gave them into the hand of Midian for seven years. (**Judges 6:1**)

- **Through to**
- And they did not exercise loving-kindness toward the household of Jerubbaal, Gideon, in return for all the goodness that he had exercised toward Israel. (**Judges 8:35**)
- **Ibzan**
- And Ibzan from Bethlehem began to **judge** Israel after him. (**Judges 12:8**)
- And he came to have thirty sons and thirty daughters. He sent outside and brought in thirty daughters for his sons from outside. And he continued to **judge** Israel for seven years. (**Judges 12:9**)
- Then Ibzan died and was buried in Bethlehem. (**Judges 12:10**)
- **Jair**
- Then after him Jair the Gileadite rose up, and he continued to **judge** Israel for twenty-two years. (**Judges 10:3**)
- And he came to have thirty sons who rode on thirty full-grown asses, and they had thirty cities. These they continue to call Havvoth-jair down to this day, they are in the land of Gilead. (**Judges 10:4**)
- After that Jair died and was buried in Kamon. (**Judges 10:5**)
- **Jephthah**
- And the sons of Israel again proceeded to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, and they began to serve the Baals and the Ashtoreth images and the gods of Syria and the gods of Sidon and the gods of Moab and the gods of the sons of Ammon and the gods of the Philistines. So they left Yehowah and did not serve him. (**Judges 10:6**)
- **Through to**
- And Jephthah continued to judge Israel for six years, after which

Jephthah the Gileadite died and was buried in his city in Gilead. (Judges 12:7)

- **Othniel**

- So the sons of Israel did what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, and they were forgetful of Yehowah their God and went serving the Baals and the sacred poles. (Judges 3:7)
- At this Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel, so that he sold them into the hand of Cushan-rishathaim the king of Mesopotamia, and the sons of Israel continued to serve Cushan-rishathaim eight years. (Judges 3:8)
- 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)
- After that the land had no disturbance for forty years. Eventually Othniel the son of Kenaz died. (Judges 3:11)

- **Samson**

- And the sons of Israel engaged again in doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, so that Yehowah gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years. (Judges 13:1)

- **Through to**

- Later his brothers and all the household of his father came on down and lifted him up and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the burial place of Manoah his father. As for him, he had judged Israel twenty years. (Judges 16:31)

- **Shamgar**

- And after him there proved to be Shamgar the son of Anath, and

he went striking down the Philistines, six hundred men, with a cattle goad, and he too got to save Israel. (**Judges 3:31**)

- **Tola**
- Now after Abimelech there rose up to save Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, and he was dwelling in Shamir in the mountainous region of Ephraim. (**Judges 10:1**)
- And he continued to **judge** Israel for twenty-three years, after which he died and was buried in Shamir. (**Judges 10:2**)