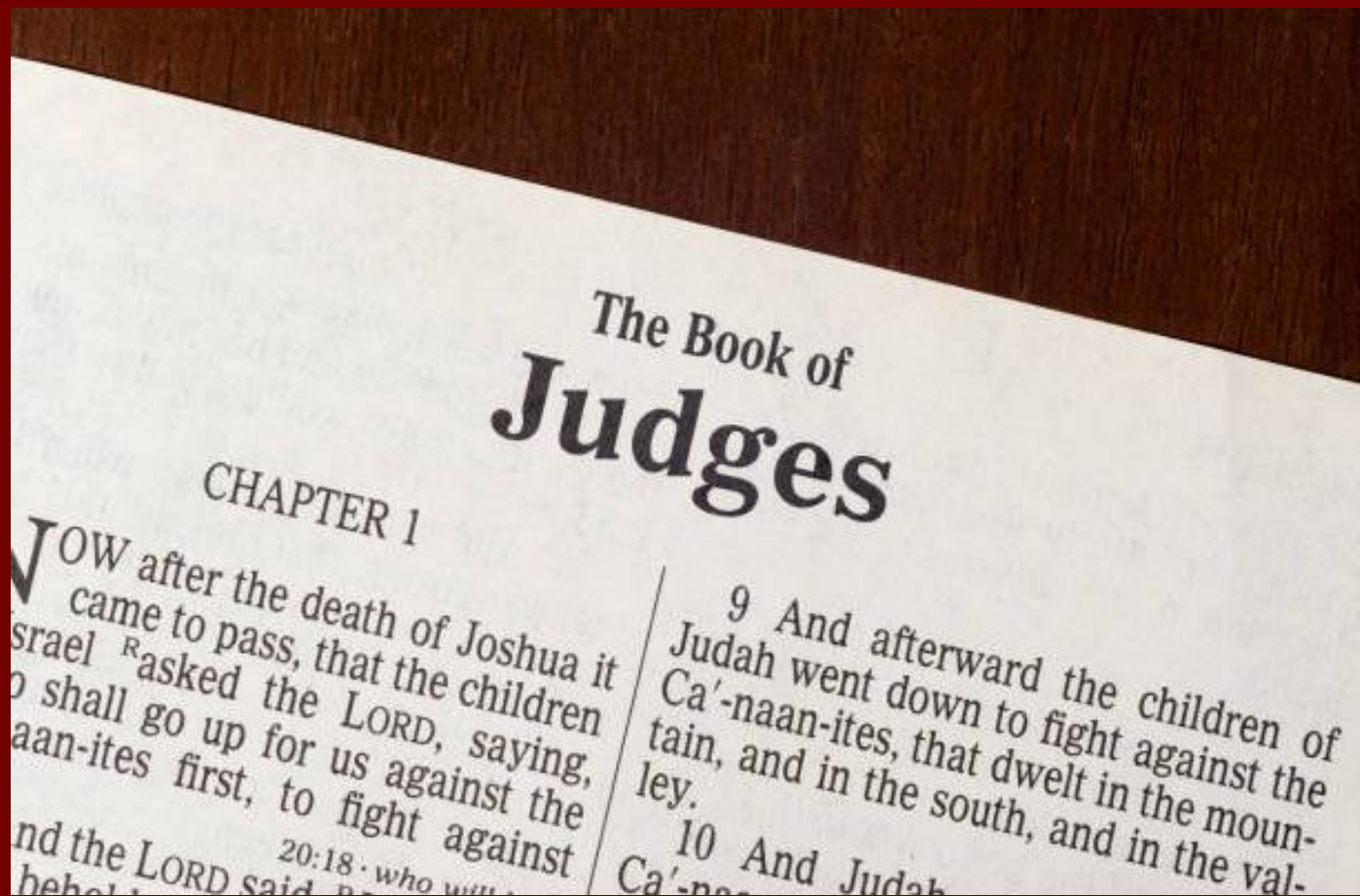


Bible Study:



Bible Study: Judges

■ Background Information

- Although tradition ascribes the book to Samuel, the author is actually unknown. It is possible that Samuel assembled some of the accounts from the period of the judges and that such prophets as Nathan and Gad, both of whom were associated with David's court, had a hand in shaping and editing the material (1 Chronicles 29:29).
- The book of Judges depicts the life of Israel in the promised land from the death of Joshua to the rise of the monarchy.

Bible Study: Judges

■ Background Information

- The Book of Ruth occurred during the period covered in the Book of Judges. It is not known which judge was in charge specifically in their area and their lifetime, but the Bible does affirm the events of the life of Ruth occurred, “In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land...” (Ruth 1:1).
- The Book of Judges covers about 330 years of Israel’s history (c. 1383 BC to c. 1052 BC) and is an account of how God was taken for granted by Israel year after year.

Bible Study: Judges

■ Background Information

- In Judges we can see man's gross sin and immorality, even for those who know God. We see man's problem. This sin is sometimes shown quite vividly and is a horrible reminder of how far man can fall when he does things without God and according to "what is right in his own eyes." Judges 21:25
- The book shows us many examples of the power of faith and how God blesses those who are faithful to Him.

Bible Study: Judges

■ Background Information

- The book shows a repeated four step cycle that takes place seven times in the book.
 - 1. Falling into sin, idolatry, and apostasy.
 - 2. God's punishment.
 - 3. Israel cries for help.
 - 4. God delivers via a judge. We should try to avoid this "sin cycle" in our lives.



c. 1375 B.C.

The book of Joshua told the story of Israel's conquest of the Promised Land. But the conquest was not complete. The book of Judges tells of the various leaders raised up to deliver Israel from the enemies remaining in the land.

Bible Study: Judges



Outline of Content

Chapter 1

- Judah and Simeon's conquests (1-20)
- Jebusites persist in Jerusalem (21)
- Joseph takes Bethel (22-26)
- Canaanites not completely driven out (27-36)



Judges 1

■ Chapter 1: Questions

- Many people ask, “How can a righteous God kill so many people, including children?”
- How would you answer this question?
- What are some of the reasons why God gave this command?
- What do you know about the Canaanite religion and culture?
- Why was God just in doing this?
- What principles / applications can we make from our culture and lives today?

Outline of Content

CHAPTER

2

- Warning from Jehovah's angel (1-5)
- Death of Joshua (6-10)
- Judges raised up to save Israel (11-23)



Judges 2

■ Chapter 2: Questions

- Why do you think the people followed God while Joshua and the elders were alive, but then turned away after they died?
- How can we avoid this problem, today?
- Why did they turn to idol worship?
- What can we learn about God, from His not forgetting about them?



Outline of Content

CHAPTER 3

- Jehovah tests Israel (1-6)
- Othniel, the first judge (7-11)
- Judge Ehud kills fat King Eglon (12-30)
- Judge Shamgar (31)



Judges 3

■ Chapter 3: Questions

- **What command was Israel violating in verse 6?**
- **What does it mean that the “Spirit of the Lord came upon him” (Othniel)?**
- **Why was Ehud paying tribute? Do you think he was following God’s will? Why or why not?**
- **Are there any lessons for us to learn from this today?**

