

THE TIME OF THE JUDGES

Read the book of Judges; 1 Samuel 8

1. What were the Israelites commanded to do upon taking possession of the land of Canaan? See Deuteronomy 7:2-6. Using a concordance, cross-reference or other reference tool, list another place in the Bible where this instruction is given.
2. Report on Israel's faithfulness to obey this command. Read Judges 1:1-2:5; 3:5-7.
3. From the same passages, as well as 2:14-15, record God's response to Israel's disobedience.
4. What died with the death of Joshua and his generation? What should we learn from this? See Judges 2:6-10.
5. Relate the cycle of events that led to the role of judges in God's plan for Israel and continued throughout the period of the judges. See Judges 3:7-9, 15a; 4:1-3.
6. Read Judges 3:9-16:31.
 - a. For how many years did God rule Israel through judges? See Acts 13:20.
 - b. What judge was a woman?
 - c. What judge was left-handed?
 - d. What judge delivered Israel from the Midianites?
 - e. What judge was known for his strength?
 - f. What judge anointed Saul as Israel's first king?
 - g. Which of the accounts of deliverance by the judges is your favorite? Why?
7. What request of the people led to the end of the period of the judges? See 1 Samuel 8:5.
8. How does the primary reason behind this request lead us away from God's will many times yet today?
9. Explain God's response to this request. See Deuteronomy 7:6-14; 1 Samuel 10:17-19; 12:12-19; Hosea 13:9-11.
10. Explain Samuel's response to this request. See 1 Samuel 8:7.
11. On the reverse paraphrase what God said about a king and also how the people responded. See 1 Samuel 8:10-22.