

Judges

"In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit." **Judges 21:21**

Themes of the Book of Judges

1. God offers Grace to people who do not deserve or even seek for it.
2. God wants lordship over every area of our lives, not just some.
3. There is a need for continual spiritual renewal in our lives here on earth, and a way to make that a reality,
4. We need a true savior to which human saviors point to through all their flaws.
5. God is in charge no matter what it looks like.



Deuteronomy 6 outlines the nations responsibilities:

1. Love and Obey God vv.1-5
2. **Teach your children Gods laws (vv.6-9)** Sometime parents fail to teach or children rebel with hard hearts (or both)
3. Be thankful for God's blessings (vv.10-15)
4. Separate yourself from pagan gods of Canaan (vv.16-25)

"A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the majority discovers it can vote itself largess out of the public treasury." Alexander Tytler goes on, "The average age of the world's greatest civilizations has been 200 years. These nations have progressed through this sequence: From bondage to spiritual faith; From spiritual faith to great courage; From courage to liberty; From liberty to abundance; From abundance to selfishness; From selfishness to apathy; From apathy to dependence; From dependence back into bondage."

Half Hearted Discipleship Judges 1:1-2:5

CHAPTER 1—Mentioned are nine of the 12 tribes in their failure to win a total victory in driving out the enemy. The three not mentioned are Reuben, Issachar, and Gad. It must be assumed that they likewise failed. Each tribe faced a particular enemy. At no time was the entire nation engaged in a warfare against any particular enemy. The weakness of the tribes is revealed in verse 3 where Judah called upon Simeon for help in his local situation.

Numbers 33:50-56

CHAPTER 2—A report on the sad condition of the people, that eventually required judges to be raised up to deliver them. This chapter outlines the entire book and God’s philosophy of human history. The words for “judge,” “judgment,” and “judged” are used 22 times. The word “evil” occurs 14 times. The people did evil and God raised up judges (vv. 11, 16). The people did evil because they did not obey God (vv. 2, 17). They did not obey because they did not believe God (v. 20). The cycle of history that they followed is given in verses 11 through 16.

Idolatry – Is writing your own story with yourself in the middle, your pleasure, comfort and fame.

“Whatever controls us is really our God...The person who seeks power is controlled by power. The person who seeks acceptance is controlled by people. We do not control ourselves but the Lord of our life.” Rebecca Pippert

APPLICATION:

- Gal 6:9 - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
- The Israelites got tired of fighting and stopped short of completing the mission God gave them. Their mistake would cost their descendants the Promised Land.
- Being a follower of Jesus isn’t always easy, but the last thing we want to do is to give up early and fail to obtain rest in our Promised Land.
- God will help us preserve, but there will be times when God expects us to push through hardships to complete the tasks He’s given us to do.

Big Ending

The original land given to Israel through Abraham was roughly 300,000 thousand miles but only at their peak under King DAVID ONLY occupied 30,000 square miles (only 10%).

- **Ephesians 1 and 2 Peter 1 states we have been given every spiritual blessing**

*³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.” **Ephesians 1:3***

³ His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

*¹⁰ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” **2 Peter 1:3-11***

- **We let the enemy dwell in the land of our lives and then make excuses for them...** Live in the Spirit to conquer the flesh – we are more than conquerors.

Compromise (disobedience) leads to co-habitation, which leads to oppression to degradation.

When the federal income tax was signed into law in 1913, a senator speaking in opposition to the bill stated, "If we allow this 1% foot-in-the-door, at some future date it might rise to 5%." Just think!! In many cases it is now over 30%.

Judges 1: 1—2: 5

Uncompromising faithfulness to God manifest in behavior distinct from that of unbelievers, maintenance of godly traditional values, and reliance on divine strategies for success results in the enjoyment of divine blessing

Failure of uncompromising obedience to divine commands precludes the enjoyment of divine blessing.

99 Percent

What you'd get if 99% were good enough:

- No phone service for 15 minutes each day.
- 1.7 million pieces of first class mail lost each day.
- 35,000 newborn babies dropped by doctors or nurses each year
- 200,000 people getting the wrong drug prescriptions each year
- Unsafe drinking water three days a year.
- Three misspelled words on the average page of type.
- 2 million people would die from food poisoning each year.
- I would cheat on my wife 3 times a year

Sermon 1 – Pride Test

- The dream is to work things out of my life to fulfill my destiny.
- We continue to take tests because my character is the foundation for my destiny.
- God's dream is bigger and better than my dream.- Because God is bigger and better than me!
- You keep taken test and fail and God keeps giving you the same test. God puts re-take on the paper.
- You want to know Gods dream, get to know God
- Pride always has to talk – pride always has to interrupt
- The root of pride is insecurity, inferiority, inadequate – the way to beat this is to be confident in God.
- Stay humble by being in God's Presence – he is big
- Knowing I'm a child of the King takes care of my insecurities, but I'm not prideful because I know I was adopted – human

Sermon2 -Palace Test

- Prosper – to get behind you and push you forward
- The Key to prospering is the Presence of the Lord
- The Presence of the Lord is Obedience
- Blessing =Obedience Curse=disobedience
- Saul was cursed because he was disobeyed
- Job 36:11
- John 15:7-8
- Proverbs 28:13
- The key to Obedience is Faith
- The Key to Faith is the Word.
- Omni presence – inner presence and manifest presence
- A farmer plants because he's going to get a crop. Tithing – if you will rob God then you will rob me.
- Hebrews 3:18-19 – They did not enter Gods rest because of unbelief =disobedience
- Romans 10:17 – Hear, Believe , Obey

Sermon 3 – Prophetic Test

- Psalm 105:17
- Do I judge the Bible or do Bible Judge me
- Truth does not grow bur our understanding grows
- All my words submit to God's Word
- Someone being used greatly of God spends great time in the Word.