

January 22
Judges 2

Gideon and Angel, c. 1651
by Constantijn van Renesse

Rebellion's Cycle



Barak before Deborah, c. 1690, Luca Giordano



Samson and Delilah, c. 1609
by Peter Paul Rubens



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS



Conquest and Challenges of Israel's Settlement

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Dec 4 | Commissioned | Joshua 1 | Lord Calls Joshua |
| 2. | Dec 11 | Conquest | Joshua 6 | Jericho Walls Down |
| 3. | Dec 18 | Savior Announced | Luke 1 | Angel Gabriel to Mary |
| 4. | Dec 25 | <i>... Merry Christmas ...</i> | | |
| 5. | Jan 1 | Settled | Joshua 22 | Heart, Honor, Home |
| 6. | Jan 15 | Value All | Prov. 24 & Mark 10 | <i>Sanctity of Life Sunday</i> |
| ★ | Jan 22 | Rebellion's Cycle | Judges 2 | Return to God to Live |
| 8. | Jan 29 | Willing Servants | Judges 4 | Deborah Lifts Barak |
| 9. | Feb 5 | Timid Warrior | Judges 6 | Angel Charges Gideon |
| 10. | Feb 12 | Compromised Potential | Judges 16 | Samson & Delilah |
| 11. | Feb 19 | Faith Through Trials | Ruth 1 | Ruth Helps Naomi |
| 12. | Feb 13 | Redeemed & Secure | Ruth 3-4 | Noble Ruth Wins |



Lesson Author's Theme

God brings righteous judgment on His rebellious people, with the goal of their repentance.

Judges

1:1-36 Israelites & Canaanites TOGETHER Summary

2:1-10 Angel of Lord @ the Place of the Weepers

2:11-13 Abandonment – Worship of Baals

2:14-15 Oppression – God Hands Them Over

2:16-19 Repentance – Lord Moved to Pity

Really like “Abandonment – Oppression – Repentance”



Key Verse Judges 2:18

Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for the Israelites, the Lord was with him and saved the people from the power of their enemies while the judge was still alive.

The Lord was moved to pity whenever they GROANED because of those who were oppressing and afflicting them.



Alternate Title from Judges 2:1 &5

Place of the Weepers

Tears ... come from ...

Tears ... pain ... fear

Tears ... hurrert ... heartache ...

Tears come from our *HEART*



Lot of tears ... in Judges ... The Book of Tears

Daddy Please Don't Cry

written by Mac Davis, sung by Elvis Presley, 1969

Today I stumbled from my bed
With thunder crashing in my head
My pillow still wet ... From last night's tears

And as I think of giving up
A voice inside my coffee-cup
Kept crying ... and ringing in my ears

Don't cry Daddy ... Daddy, please don't cry

Daddy, you've still got me and little Tommy
Together we'll find a brand new mommy
Daddy, daddy, please laugh again
Daddy ride us on your back again
Oh, daddy, please don't cry

Book of Judges

Could be Called . . .

The Book of Tears . . .

Maybe even rivaling the

Book of Job

Judges is **FILLED** with heartache

Heartache of every kind ...

Heartache for everyone ...

Seems ... **NO ONE ESCAPES PAIN**

Book of Judges ... *is*

The Book of Tears



Barak before Deborah, c. 1690, Luca Giordano

Lot of tears ... in Judges ... The Book of Tears

Daddy Please Don't Cry, written by Mac Davis, sung by Elvis Presley, 1969

Why are children always first

To feel the pain and hurt the worst

It's true, but somehow ... It just don't seem right

'Cause ev'ry time I cry I know ...

It hurts my little children so

I wonder will it be the same tonight

Don't cry Daddy ... Daddy, please don't cry

Daddy, you've still got me and little Tommy

Together we'll find a brand new mommy

Daddy, daddy, please laugh again

Daddy ride us on your back again

Oh, daddy, please don't cry

Book of Judges ... Book of Tears

“Judges” comes from *Shophetim*,
the title in the Hebrew Bible

Shophetim comes from *Shaphat*

Shaphat – to judge, discern, direct

Shophetim are heads or chiefs of
the Israelites who governed

Israelite theocracy lasts about
350 years

Lasts from the death of Joshua
to the death of Samson,
or to the prophet Samuel



Barak before Deborah, c. 1690, Luca Giordano

Book of Judges

We will visit THREE very, very small parts

350 Years

CANAAN

LATE BRONZE II A

Othniel

Tribal allotments

Cushan-Rishathaim oppression

LATE BRONZE II B

Ehud

Moabite oppression

Kadesh

Israel laid waste

Deborah & Barak

Canaanite oppression

Gideon

Major Philistine settlement begins

Midianite oppression

IRON I

Samson

Eli at Shiloh

Ibzan Elon Abdon?

Ammonite & Philistine oppression

Saul

Samuel

EGYPT

DYNASTY XVIII

Akhenaten

Tutankhamum

Amenhotep III

Hareh

Semenkhkare

Ay

Ramses

DYNASTY XIX

Seti I

Ramses II

Israel Stela

vs. Sea People

Ramses II

DYNASTY XXI

Ten Commandments Movie
with Charlton Heston



Judges 200 years if one uses the early date of Exodus

Book of Judges – Simple Outline

1. 1 - 3:6

Introduction

2. 3:7 - 16

History of Several Judges

3. 17 - 21

Twofold Appendix

Appendix Narratives

17-18 Worship images by Ephraimite
Micah ... transport of that worship
by the Danites to Laish-Dan

19-21 Infamous brutality of Gibeah ...
war of revenge by Israel against tribe of
Benjamin—*most barbaric in ALL the Bible*



Barak before Deborah, c. 1690, Luca Giordano

Book of Judges – Six Cycles

Oppressors	Judges	Verses	
1. Mesopotamian King	Othniel	Jud. 3: 7-11	
2. Moabitish King Eglon <i>Philistines brief note</i>	Ehud Shamgar	Jud. 3:12-30 Jud. 3:31	
3. Canaanitish King Jabin <i>with Deborah's song of victory, Jud. 5</i>	Deborah & Barak	Jud. 4	c. 1180 B.C.
4. Midianites <i>with history 3-yr reign of his son Abimelech</i> <i>brief notes on</i>	Gideon Tola & Jair	Jud. 6-8 Jud. 9 Jud. 10: 1-5	c. 1130 B.C.
5. Ammonites & Philistines <i>brief notes on 3 judges</i>	Jephthah Ibzan, Elon, Abdon	Jud. 10: 6-12: 7 Jud. 12: 8-15	
6. Philistines	Mighty Samson	Jud. 13-16	c. 1060 B.C.

Time ... extensive periods of OPPRESSION

100 years ago . . . in 1917

We were three years into **WWI**

One more year to go before
WWI ended in Nov. 1918

Ahhh ... 350 years ago was 1667

1666 GREAT FIRE of London
devastated 13,000+ buildings!

1667 first blood transfusion

1667 John Milton, blind, poor,
signs contract to publish
his masterpiece *Paradise Lost*

Many, many, wars since 1667

Judges'
350 Years
is a very, very
Long Time 💧

Decades and
Decades of
bitter TEARS
of Oppression
before each
Judge Comes



Key Verse Judges 2:18

The Lord was moved to pity whenever they GROANED because of those who were oppressing and afflicting them.

You know that is true ... this verse comes to us AFTER telling a *history* of many TEARS ... see also Psalm 51:18
You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.



Alternate Title from Judges 2:1 &5

Place of the Weepers

Angel of the Lord arrives ...

When the Angel finishes ... they CRY

Perhaps ... you know the feeling ...

EVERYONE here has been to THIS place



1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER

Notice this ...

Judges Chapter 1 retells a LOT

Judges Chapter 2, an Angel Appears

The Angel gives a SHORTER recall

Israel laments ...

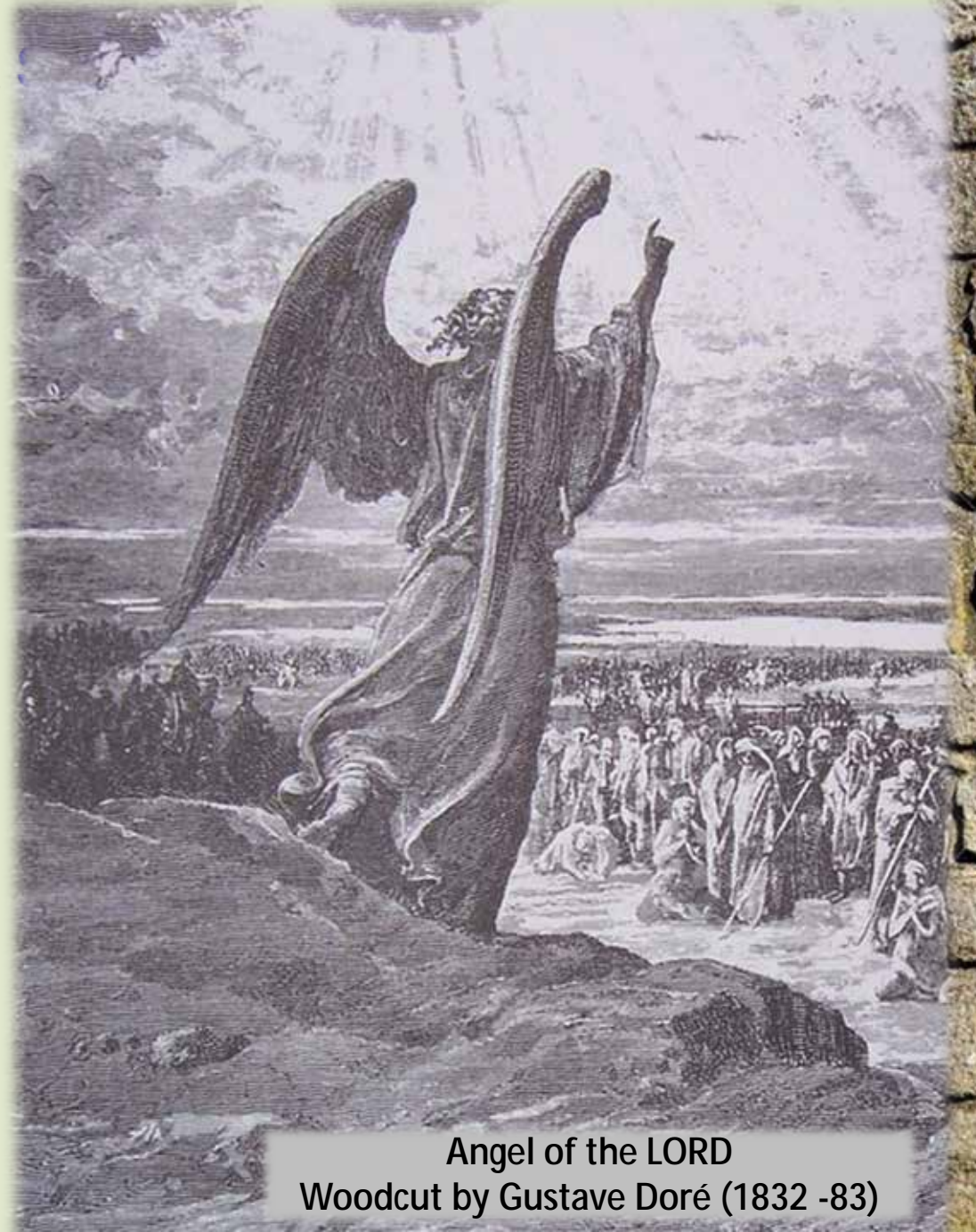
Israel sheds load of TEARS

Then the Book of Judges takes off

The Book of Tears

Lot of story and narrative ... yet ...

teeny tiny pieces from *350 years!*



Angel of the LORD
Woodcut by Gustave Doré (1832 -83)

1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER Summary

Run, run, run ... look recap of history

¹ After the death of Joshua, the Israelites asked the LORD,
“Who of us is to go up first to fight against the Canaanites?”

Men of Judah ask Simeonites ... LORD gave them Canaanites and
Perizzites – 10,000 men

Lion – Symbol of Judah

Gen. 49:9, Jacob:

Judah is a lion's whelp:
from the prey, my son, thou
art gone up: he stooped down,
he couched as a lion,
and as an old lion;
who shall rouse him up?

THE
LION
OF JUDAH



1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER Summary

Lion is symbol on Ethiopian Flag

Also on the Imperial Flag of
Emperor Haile Selassie

225th King from King David

Ethiopia believes their kings
are successors of Menelik

**Son of Solomon &
Queen of Sheba**

Heile Selassie started religion
of Rastafarianism in Jamaica

Lot of Christian beliefs ...

Except Selassie is an
incarnation of Christ



Flag of Ethiopian

THE
LION
OF JUDAH

OR



Emperor Haile Selassie



1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER Summary

As the narrative history continues ... Adoni-Bezek runs ...

They catch him & cut off his thumbs & big toes ... ooouuuchh!

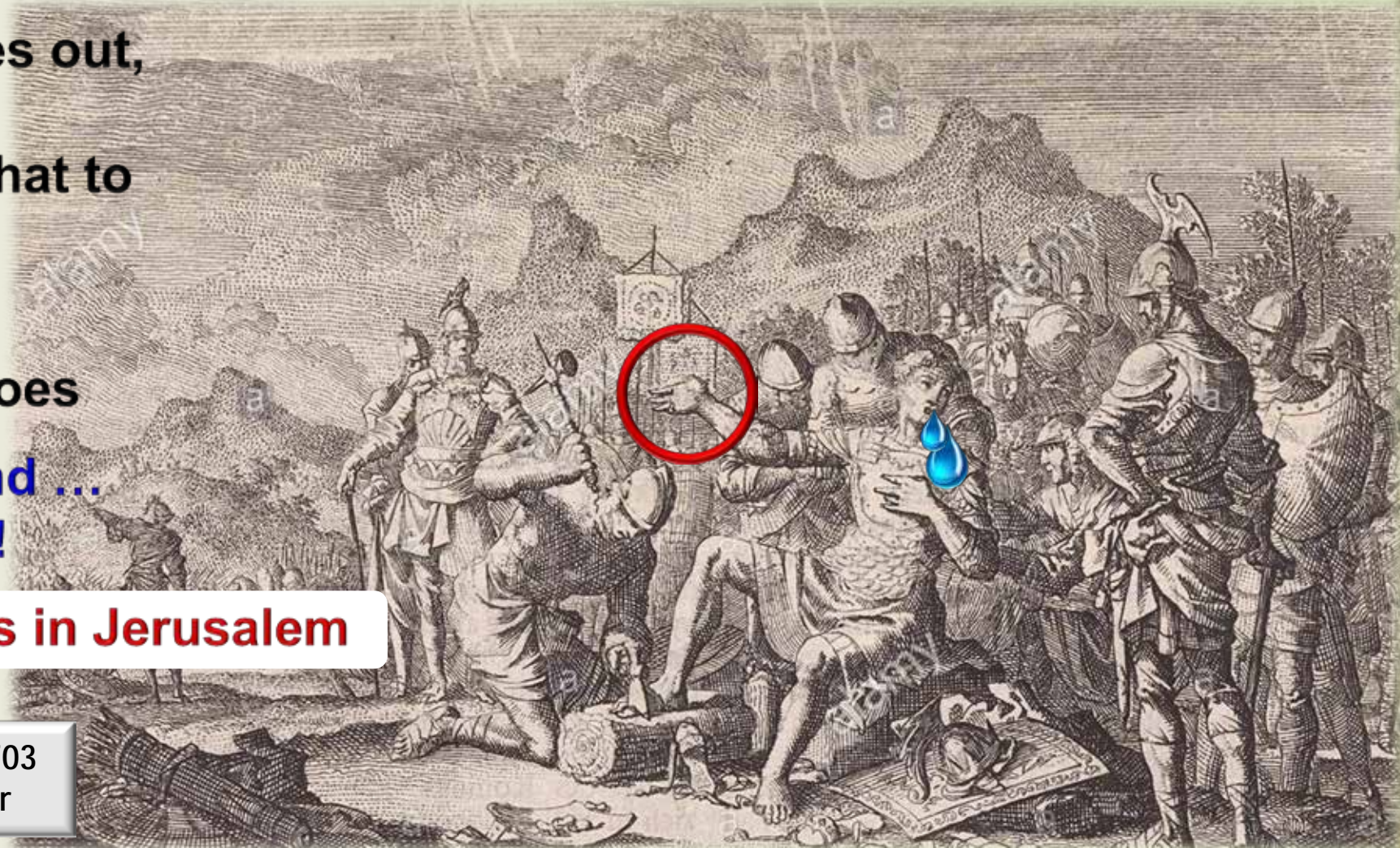
Adoni-Bezek cries out,
laments the

70 kings he did that to

70 kings that HE
cut off *THEIR*
thumbs & big toes

What goes around ...
Comes around!

Adoni-Bezek dies in Jerusalem



1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER Sum

¹² Caleb gives daughter Aksah in marriage to Othniel for taking Kiriath Sepher / Debir

- > Otheniel is Caleb's nephew *or*
- > Othniel is Caleb's brother

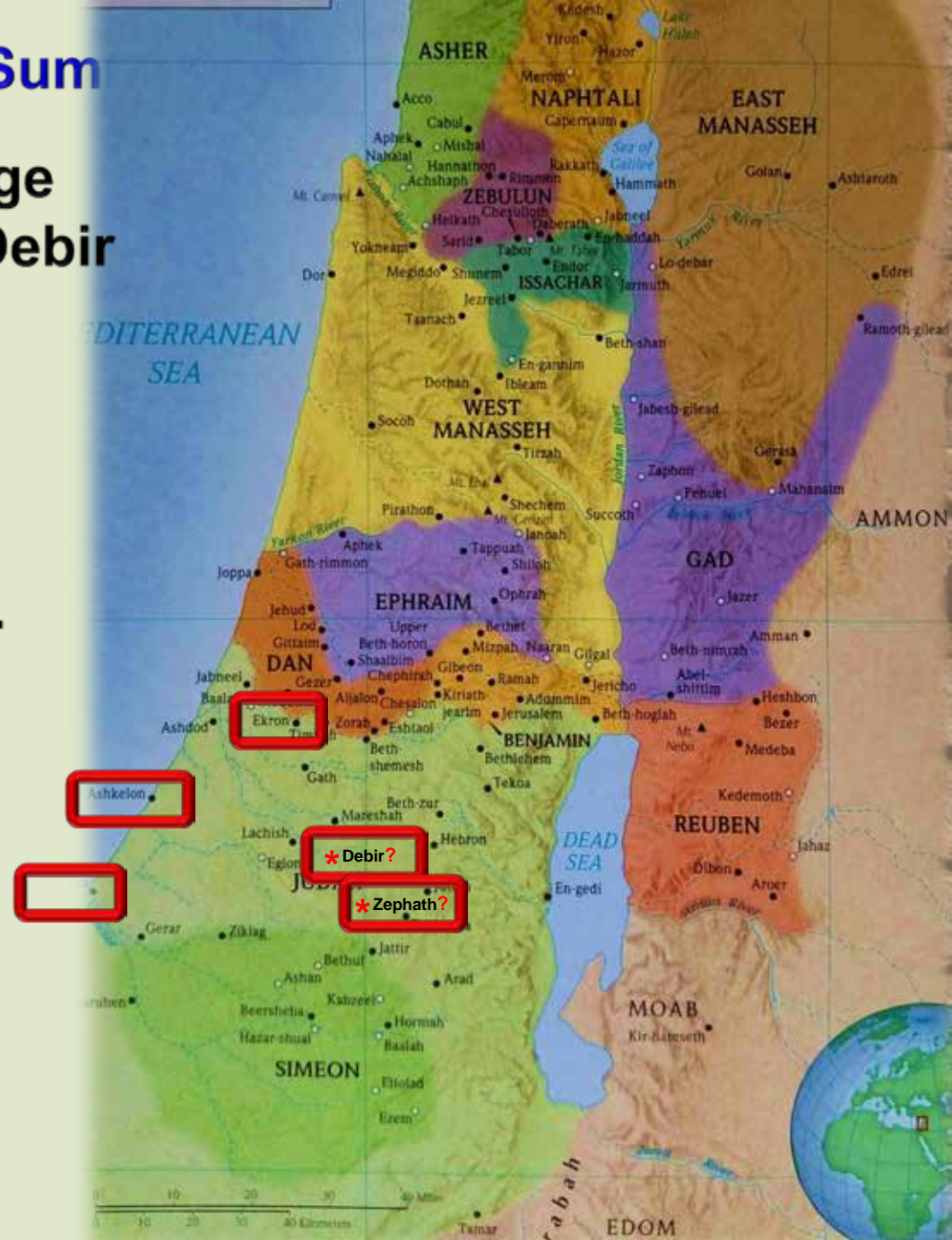
Aksah – means “Anklet”

Aksah asked Daddy Othniel for a field ...

¹⁷ Judah & Simeonites attack Zephath, *totally destroyed the city*

¹⁸ Judah also took Gaza, Ashkelon and Ekron ...

“The LORD was with them”



1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER Summ

**20 Caleb gets Hebron ...
drives out three sons of Anak.**

21 Benjamites did NOT drive out the Jebusites

22 Tribes of Joseph attacked Bethel ...

The LORD was with them ...

23 Tribe of Joseph's spies ask man
How do we get into your city?

Man tells the spies of Tribe of Joseph
Tribe kills all, but save man & his family

Oh ... a lot of weeping ...



1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER Summ

Yet ... most have a LOT of trouble!

27 Manasseh did **NOT** drive people from 5 cities

29 Ephraim did **NOT** drive Canaanites from Gezer

30 **Nor** Zebulun ... from Kitron or Nahalol

31 **Nor** did Asher ... from 7 cities

32 Asherites lived among the Canaanites ...
did **NOT** drive them out

33 Naphtali did **NOT** drive out the people from
Beth Shemesh or Beth Anath ...

Got the Message?

Israel & Canaanites TOGETHER



1:1-36 Israel & Canaanite TOGETHER Summary

- ³⁴ Amorites confined the Danites to the hill country, not allowing them to come down into the plain.
- ³⁵ Amorites held out ... in Mount Heres, Aijalon and Shaalbim, but when ... tribes of Joseph increased ... Amorites enslaved
- ³⁶ Boundary of Amorites ...

Scorpion Pass to Sela and beyond

Scorpion Pass on northwest corner of Petra

Petra was in the 1989 movie,

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade



Petra



2:1-10 Angel of Lord @ Place of Weepers

¹ Angel of the Lord
went up from Gilgal to **Bochim**

Angel said, “**I brought you
out of Egypt and led you
into the land I had
promised to your fathers.**”

Angel is speaking to them
How do you **FEEL** about that?
What is your impression?

Angel of the LORD
woodcut by Gustave Doré (1832 -83)



2:1-10 Angel of Lord @ Place of Weepers

¹ Angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to **Bochim**, said, “I brought you out of Egypt and led you into the land I had promised to your fathers.”

I also said: I will never break My covenant with you.

Bochim – **Place of Weeping** ... *or*

Bochim – **Place of Weepers**

LXX – Septuagint – inserts “Bethel”

Greek Trans. of O.T. Bible from 200 B.C.

But it's **STRANGE** that the Angel would **TRAVEL** to Bethel ...

Just don't know what to make of this ...

Where is the **Place of Weepers**?



2:1-10 Angel of Lord @ Place of Weepers

Angel of the Lord continues ... “God said ...

**² Don't make a covenant with people ...
tear down their altars ...**

**But you have not obeyed Me.
What is this you have done?**

“Angel of the Lord” appears 58x in O.T.

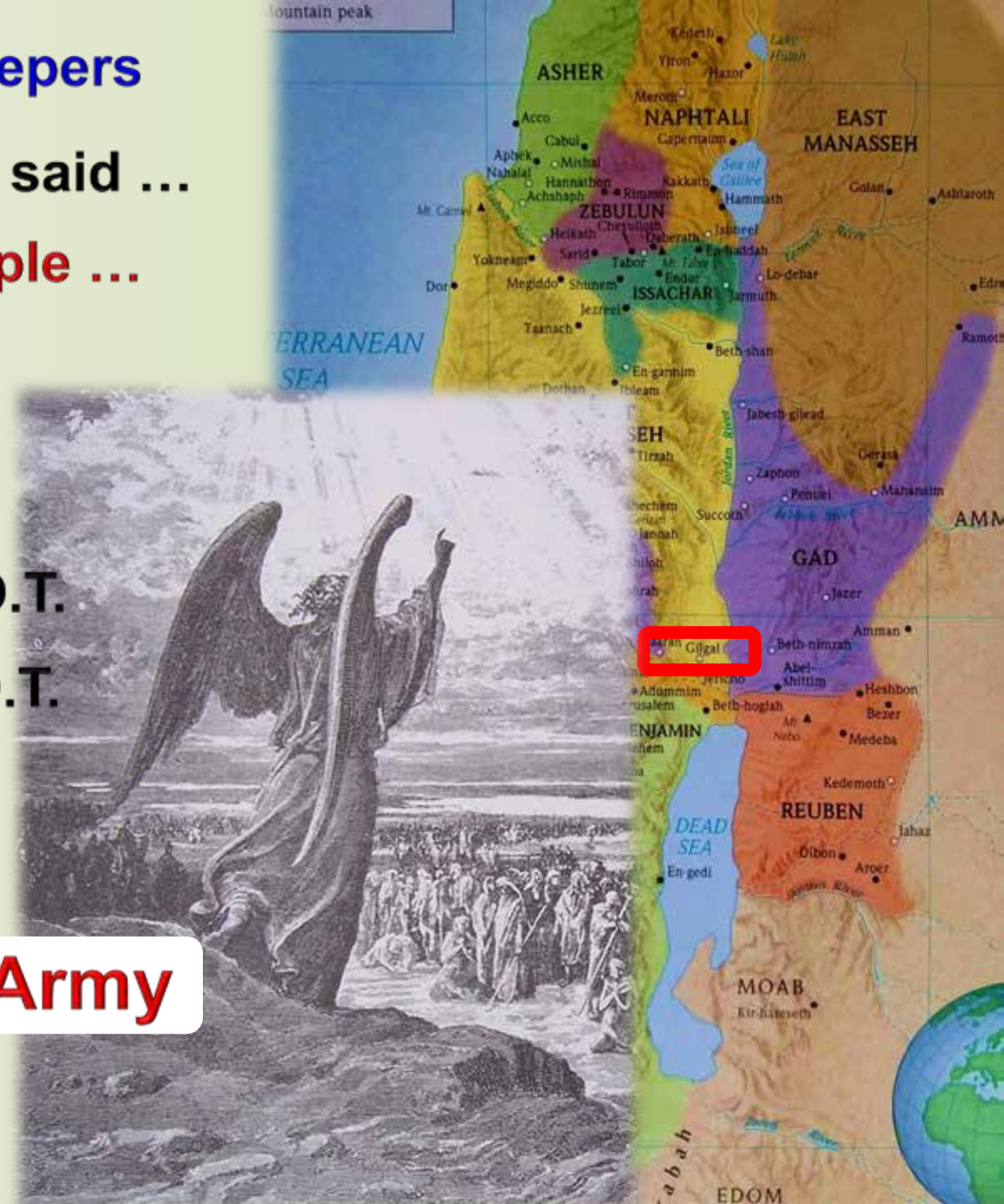
“Messenger of God” appears 9x in O.T.

Remember Joshua 5:14

Angel appears to Joshua as the

Commander of Lord's Army

Angel of the LORD
Woodcut by Gustave Doré (1832 -83)



2:1-10 Angel of Lord @ Place of Weepers

³ Therefore ... I will **NOT** drive out these people.... They will be thorns in your sides ... their gods will be a trap to you.”

⁴ When the Angel of the Lord had spoken these words to all the Israelites,
the people wept loudly.

Now ... listen to this ...

⁵ So they named that place **Bochim** and offered sacrifices there to the Lord.

At Gilgal, they call the place where the Angel stood the ...

Place of Weepers

vs. 2:1 was a historian writing after the fact ... *perhaps*



2:1-10 Angel of Lord @ Place of Weepers

⁶ Joshua sent the people away, and the Israelites went to take possession of the land, each to his own inheritance.

THEN ... they repeat Joshua 24:31 ... nearly

⁷ The people worshiped the Lord throughout Joshua's lifetime and during the lifetimes of the elders who outlived Joshua....

⁸ Joshua son of Nun, Servant of the Lord, died at the age of 110.

⁹ They buried him in the territory of his inheritance....

Then ... the rest of the story:

¹⁰ That whole generation was also gathered to their ancestors.

**After them another generation rose up who
did not know the Lord or the works He had done for Israel.**

2:11-13 Abandonment – Worship Baals

¹¹ The Israelites did what was evil in the Lord's sight. They worshiped the Baals

**Notice as we begin the Lesson Verses
NARRATIVE or history is both ...**

BEHIND ... and ... BEFORE us

Narrative BEHIND Judges 1:1 to 2:10

Narrative BEFORE Judges 3:1 to 21:21

Verses 2:11-23 is NOT a story ...

these are HEART ... the HEART of God

What God HATES ... and LIKES



“Baal of the Lightning,” a stele from Ugarit, in Syria
showing the god holding a lance in the form of lightning
Height 4 ft. 8 in., in Louvre in Paris – *Encyclopedia Judaica*

2:11-13 Abandonment – Worship Baals

¹¹ The Israelites did what was evil in the Lord's sight. They worshiped the Baals

¹² and abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of Egypt.

They went after other gods from the surrounding peoples and bowed down to them.

They infuriated the Lord, ¹³ for they abandoned Him and worshiped Baal and the Ashtoreths.

Infuriated the Lord ...

NOT a good thing to do

Baal means lord, owner, possessor ... or
or **HUSBAND** ...



“Baal of the Lightning,” a stele from Ugarit, in Syria showing the god holding a lance in the form of lightning Height 4 ft. 8 in., in Louvre in Paris – *Encyclopedia Judaica*

2:11-13 **Abandonment** – Worship of Baals

Several cities used “Baal” as first part of name

Like Baal-peor or Baal-gad ...

Baal is a god that provides fertility ...

Fives miles northeast of Bethel is Baal-hazor

Baal of Hazor, seen in 2 Sam. 13:23 where
David’s son Absalom ambushed his brother
Amnon who had raped his sister Tamar

Judges 2:11 says they worshiped Baals

There were many **KINDS** of Baals

Baal is often shown with a sister or consort

Baal can be seen in Satanic cults today,
but that was **NOT** so in 1400 B.C.



“Baal of the Lightning,” a stele from Ugarit, in Syria
showing the god holding a lance in the form of lightning
Height 4 ft. 8 in., in Louvre in Paris – *Encyclopedia Judaica*

2:11-13 Abandonment – Worship of Baals

They also worshiped **Ashtoreths**

In Greek, called **Astarte**

Female god of fertility, sexuality and war

Often, she is a wife or consort of Baal

Egyptians gave Astarte the title

“Lady of Heaven”

Babylonians & Assyrians called her Ashtar



Astarte with a horned headdress
in the Louvre, Paris

2:11-13 Abandonment – Worship of Baals

After Alexander the Great,
the Hellenists called her **Aphrodite**
the Romans called her **Venus**

The name “Canaan” ... goes way back
Canaanites – Canaan back to 2300 B.C.
Likely Canaan came from
“**trader**” or “**merchant**”

Aphrodite of the Syracuse type. Marble copy of the 2nd century CE after a Greek original of the 4th century BC



2:11-13 Abandonment – Worship Baals

2:13, They infuriated the Lord, ¹³ for they abandoned Him and worshiped Baal and the Ashtoreths.

It's hard to relate how Israel could this ...

Any thoughts on that?

How can we relate the “following after Gods” today?

From the time of Moses, the First Commandment
1400 B.C. Israelites ... to us today in 21st century

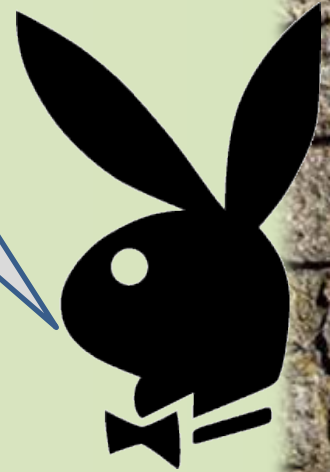
One easy way is to note ...

But is it that easy?

Are there other THINGS that compete?

Are there OTHER “gods” that compete?

it
Sells



2:14-15 **Oppression** – God Hands Them Over

¹⁴ The Lord's anger burned against Israel, and He handed them over to marauders who raided them. He sold them to the enemies around them, so that they could no longer resist their enemies.

¹⁵ Whenever the Israelites went out, the Lord was **AGAINST** them and brought disaster [on them], just as He had promised and sworn to them.
So they suffered greatly.

Rebellion ... *SORT OF*

Greatest offense is turning to OTHER gods!



2:16-19 Repentance – Lord Moved to Pity

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ Lord raised up judges, who saved them from the power of their marauders, but they did not listen to their judges. Instead, they prostituted themselves with other gods.... They quickly turned from the way of their fathers, who had walked in obedience to the Lord's commands. They did not do as their fathers did.

¹⁸ Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for the Israelites, the Lord was with him and saved the people from the power of their enemies while the judge was still alive. **The Lord was moved to pity whenever they GROANED because of those who were oppressing and afflicting them.**

¹⁹ Whenever the judge died, the Israelites would act even **more corruptly** than their fathers, going after other gods to worship and bow down to them. They did not turn from their [evil] practices or their obstinate ways.

2:16-19 Repentance – Lord Moved to Pity

This is the INTRODUCTION to the Book of Judges ...

The introduction to the **Book of Tears** ...

Israel turns to other Gods ... God rejects

Israel cries out, “Help us” ... God has pity, sends judge

Judge dies ... Israel gets worse ... **Worst of ALL is in Judges 19-21**

^{2:1} Angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to **Bochim**

When the Israelites heard the Angel ... they cried ... named the place

Place of the Weepers

Short statement by Angel ... **but it hits HOME ... GOD is SPEAKING**

Israel KNOWS this is GOD ... so very, very, very personal ...

They WEEP and CRY ... from profoundest sorrow

2:16-19 Repentance – Lord Moved to Pity

This is the INTRODUCTION to the Book of Judges ...

The introduction to the **Book of Tears** ...

Israel turns to other Gods ... God rejects

Israel cries out, “Help us” ... God has pity, sends judge

How can we PREVENT that today?

The passage does not really tell us directly ...

Oh, so much like God ... what the passage **DOES TELL** us ...

Is what GOD *A L R E A D Y* told us

Like most of us ... we should not have to repeat ourselves

God is truly a Jealous GOD ... no second place with God

2:16-19 Repentance – Lord Moved to Pity

Book of Judges ... the **Book of Tears** ...

Gives us **SIX Cycles** of **Abandonment – Oppression – Repentance**

Thirteen (13) Judges aid over 350 years ... very, long, long time

Many, many years & decades of oppression ...

If we apply a little math, here is what we get ...

- $350 \div 6 =$ **58 years** for EACH whole 3-Phase Cycle
- $58 \div 3 =$ **19 years** for EACH Phase in the Cycle
given SEVERAL of 13 Judges were near each other on timeline
- EASY to see that ONE single PHASE could be **20-35 years long**

That is, an “**Abandonment**” could be **30 years in making** ...

Or the “**Oppression**” could be **30-40 years long!**

Book of Judges ... the **Book of Tears**

That is ... with only 13 Judges ... *we will look at three*

Over the course of 350 years ...

6 full cycles ... each with 3 phases each

1. Abandonment
2. Oppression
3. Repentance

We only have a FEW verses on 10 Judges—*very few*

Most of Judges, **The Book of Tears**, is on 3 Judges
Deborah ... Gideon ... Samson

You KNOW what this means ... there are **SIX**
30-40-50-60-year periods of **OPPRESSION**

Meaning **100s of 1,000s of stories of OPPRESSION**

Meaning **MILLIONS of Men, Women, Children ...**

 **with Billions of TEARS**



Barak before Deborah
c. 1690, Luca Giordano



Gideon and Angel, c. 1651
by Constantijn van Renesse



Samson and Delilah, c. 1609
by Peter Paul Rubens

Ahhh ... the “Lord” was moved to PITY ...

You KNOW that means ... ohh ...

Let me ask you? ...

Oh my ... really?

How about today?

Oh my ... REAALLY?

Yes ... the CYCLE continues TODAY

Sadly ... too many TEARS ...

Kind of reminds me of a song

Is there ANY time in history where the
CYCLE has NOT been going on??

Do you suppose that CYCLE is going
on HERE ... in UR Mayberry RFD?

"In The Ghetto" ... originally titled, "The Vicious Circle"
written by Mac Davis, made famous by Elvis Presley in 1969

**As the snow flies
On a cold and gray Chicago mornin'
A poor little baby child is born ... *in the ghetto***

And his mama cries



**'Cause if there's one thing that she don't need
It's another hungry mouth to feed ... *in the ghetto***

**People, don't you understand
The child needs a helping hand
Or he'll grow to be ... an angry young man some day**

**Take a look at you and me,
Are we too blind to see?**

Do we simply turn our heads and look the other way?

"In The Ghetto" ... originally titled, "The Vicious Circle"
written by Mac Davis, made famous by Elvis Presley in 1969

**Well, the world turns
And a hungry little boy with a runny nose
Plays in the street as the cold wind blows
... *in the ghetto***

**And his hunger burns
So he starts to roam the streets at night
And he learns how to steal, and he learns how to fight
... *in the ghetto***

**Then one night in desperation
The young man breaks away
He buys a gun ... Steals a car,
Tries to run ... But he don't get far
... and his mama cries**



"In The Ghetto" ... originally titled, "The Vicious Circle"
written by Mac Davis, made famous by Elvis Presley in 1969

As a crowd gathers 'round . . . an angry young man

Face down on the street . . . with a gun in his hand

. . . *in the ghetto*

And as her young man dies,

On a cold and gray Chicago mornin',

Another little baby child is born

. . . *in the ghetto*

.  . *and his mama cries* 



Place of the Weepers is often near by We Should Cry



View from Mt. Nebo



FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
see
PreciousHeart.net/SS

