

# Judges



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# JUDGES

1And it came to pass after the death of Joshua, that the children of Israel enquired of the Lord, saying, Who shall go up for us first against the Chananites, to fight against them? <sup>2</sup> And the Lord said, Judas shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand. <sup>3</sup> And Judas said to his brother Symeon, Come up with me into my lot, and let us array ourselves against the Chananites, and I also will go with thee into thy lot: and Symeon went with him. <sup>4</sup> And Judas went up; and the Lord delivered the Chananite and the Pherezite into their hands, and they smote them in Bezek to the number of ten thousand men. <sup>5</sup> And they overtook Adonibezek in Bezek, and fought against him; and they smote the Chananite and the Pherezite. <sup>6</sup> And Adonibezek fled, and they pursued after him, and took him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes. <sup>7</sup> And Adonibezek said, Seventy kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their food under my table: as I therefore have done, so God has recompensed me: and they <sup>1</sup> brought him to Jerusalem, and he died there.

8And the children of Judas fought against Jerusalem, and took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and they burnt the city with fire. <sup>9</sup> And afterwards the children of Judas went down to fight with the Chananite dwelling in the hill country, and the south, and the plain country. <sup>10</sup> And Judas went to the Chananite who dwelt in Chebron; and Chebron came out against him; [and the name of Chebron before was Cariatharbocephor:] and they smote Sessi, and Achiman, and Tholmi, children of Enac. <sup>11</sup> And they went up thence to the inhabitants of Dabir; but the name of Dabir was before Cariathsepher, the city of Letters.

12And Chaleb said, Whosoever shall smite the city of Letters, and shall first take it, I will give to him Ascha my daughter to wife. <sup>13</sup> And Gothoniel the younger son of Kenez the brother of Chaleb took it; and Chaleb gave him his daughter Ascha to wife. <sup>14</sup> And it came to pass as she went in, that Gothoniel urged her to ask a field of her father; and she murmured and cried from off her ass, Thou hast sent me forth into a south land: and Chaleb said to her, <sup>2</sup> What is thy request? <sup>15</sup> And Ascha said to him, Give me, I pray thee, a blessing, for thou hast sent me forth into a south land, and thou shalt give me the ransom of water: and Chaleb gave her according to her heart the ransom of the upper springs and the ransom of the low springs.

16And the children of Jothor the Kenite the father-in-law of Moses went up from the city of palm-trees with the children of Judas, to the wilderness that

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<sup>1</sup> + 1:7 Gr. bring.

<sup>2</sup> + 1:14 Or, What ails thee?

is in the south of Juda, which is at the descent of Arad, and they dwelt with the people.

17And Judas went with Symeon his brother, and smote the Chananite that inhabited Sepheth, and they utterly destroyed them; and they called the name of the city Anathema. <sup>18</sup> But Judas did not inherit Gaza nor her coasts, nor Ascalon nor her coasts, nor Accaron nor her coasts, nor Azotus nor the lands around it. <sup>19</sup> And the Lord was with Judas, and he inherited the mountain; for they were not able to destroy the inhabitants of the valley, for <sup>3</sup> Rechab prevented them. <sup>20</sup> And they gave Chebron to Chaleb, as Moses said; and thence he inherited the three cities of the children of Enac.

21But the children of Benjamin did not <sup>4</sup> take the inheritance of the Jebusite who dwelt in Jerusalem; and the Jebusite dwelt with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem until this day.

22And the sons of Joseph, they also went up to Bæthel; and the Lord was with them. <sup>23</sup> And they encamped and surveyed Bæthel: and the name of the city before was Luza.

24And the spies looked, and behold, a man went out of the city, and they took him; and they said to him, Shew us the way into the city, and we will deal mercifully with thee. <sup>25</sup> And he shewed them the way into the city; and they smote the city with the edge of the sword; but they let go the man and his family. <sup>26</sup> And the man went into the land of Chettin, and built there a city, and called the name of it Luza; this is its name until this day.

27And Manasse did not drive out the inhabitants of Bæthsan, which is a city of Scythians, nor her towns, nor her suburbs; nor Thanac, nor her <sup>5</sup> towns; nor the inhabitants of Dor, nor her towns; nor the inhabitant of Balac, nor her suburbs, nor her towns; nor the inhabitants of Magedo, nor her suburbs, nor her towns; nor the inhabitants of Jeblaam, nor her suburbs, nor her towns; and the Chananite began to dwell in this land. <sup>28</sup> And it came to pass when Israel was strong, that he made the Chananite tributary, but did not utterly drive them out. <sup>29</sup> And Ephraim did not drive out the Chananite that dwelt in Gazer; and the Chananite dwelt in the midst of him in Gazer, and became tributary. <sup>30</sup> And Zabulon did not drive out the inhabitants of Kedron, nor the inhabitants of Domana: and the Chananite dwelt in the midst of them, and became tributary to them. <sup>6</sup> <sup>31</sup> And Aser did not drive out the inhabitants of Accho, and that people became tributary to him, nor the

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<sup>3</sup>+ 1:19 Heb. they had chariots of iron.

<sup>4</sup>+ 1:21 Gr. inherit.

<sup>5</sup>+ 1:27 Gr. daughters.

<sup>6</sup>+ 1:30 Gr. him, sc. Zabulon.

inhabitants of Dor, nor the inhabitants of Sidon, nor the inhabitants of Dalaph, nor Aschazi, nor Chebda, nor Nai, nor Ereo. <sup>32</sup> And Aser dwelt in the midst of the Chananite who inhabited the land, for he could not drive him out. <sup>33</sup> And Nephthali did not drive out the inhabitants of Bæthsamys, nor the inhabitants of Bæthanach; and Nephthali dwelt in the midst of the Chananite who inhabited the land: but the inhabitants of Bethsamys and of Bætheneth became tributary to them.

34And the Amorite drove out the children of Dan into the mountain, for they did not suffer them to come down into the valley. <sup>35</sup> And the Amorite began to dwell in the mountain of shells, in which are bears, and foxes, in Myrsinon, and in Thalabin; and the hand of the house of Joseph was heavy upon the Amorite, and he became tributary to them. <sup>36</sup> And the border of the Amorite was from the going up of Acrabin, from the rock and upwards.

2And an angel of the Lord went up from Galgal to the <sup>7</sup> place of weeping, and to Bæthel, and to the house of Israel, and said to them, Thus says the Lord, I brought you up out of Egypt, and I brought you into the land which I swore to your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant that I have made with you. <sup>2</sup> And ye shall make no covenant with them that dwell in this land, neither shall ye worship their gods; but ye shall destroy their graven images, ye shall pull down their altars: but ye hearkened not to my voice, for ye did these things. <sup>3</sup> And I said, I will not drive them out from before you, but they shall be for a <sup>8</sup> distress to you, and their gods shall be to you for an offence. <sup>4</sup> And it came to pass when the angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept. <sup>5</sup> And they named the name of that place Weepings; and they sacrificed there to the Lord.

6And Joshua dismissed the people, and they went every man to his inheritance, to inherit the land. <sup>7</sup> And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that lived many days with Joshua, as many as knew all the great work of the Lord, what things he had wrought in Israel.

8And Joshua the son of Naue, the servant of the Lord, died, <sup>9</sup> a hundred and ten years old. <sup>9</sup> And they buried him in the border of his inheritance, in Thamnathares, in mount Ephraim, on the north of the mountain of Gaas. <sup>10</sup> And all that generation were laid to their fathers: and another generation rose up after them, who knew not the Lord, nor yet the work which he wrought in Israel. <sup>11</sup> And the children of Israel wrought evil before the Lord,

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<sup>7</sup> + **2:1 Heb.** .□□□□

<sup>8</sup> + **2:3 Gr.** distresses.

<sup>9</sup> + **2:8 Gr.** son of a hundred and ten years. Hebraism.

and served Baalim. <sup>12</sup> And they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and walked after other gods, of the gods of the nations round about them; and they worshipped them. <sup>13</sup> And they provoked the Lord, and forsook him, and served Baal and the Astartes.

14And the Lord was very angry with Israel; and he gave them into the hands of the spoilers, and they spoiled them; and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, and they could not any longer resist their enemies, <sup>15</sup> among whomsoever they went; and the hand of the Lord was against them for evil, as the Lord spoke, and as the Lord sware to them; and he greatly afflicted them.

16And the Lord raised up judges, and the Lord saved them out of the hands of them that spoiled them: and yet they hearkened not to the judges, <sup>17</sup> for they went a whoring after other gods, and worshipped them; and they turned quickly out of the way in which their fathers walked to hearken to the words of the Lord; they did not so. <sup>18</sup> And because the Lord raised them up judges, so the Lord was with the judge, and saved them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for the Lord <sup>10</sup> was moved at their groaning by reason of them that besieged them and afflicted them. <sup>19</sup> And it came to pass when the judge died, that they went back, and again corrupted themselves worse than their fathers to go after other gods to serve them and to worship them: they abandoned not their devices nor their stubborn ways.

20And the Lord was very angry with Israel, and said, Forasmuch as this nation has forsaken my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not hearkened to my voice, <sup>21</sup> therefore I will not any more cast out a man of the nations from before their face, which Joshua the son of Naue left in the land. And the Lord left them, <sup>22</sup> to prove Israel with them, whether they would keep the way of the Lord, to walk in it, as their fathers kept it, or no. <sup>23</sup> So the Lord <sup>11</sup> will leave these nations, so as not to cast them out suddenly; and he delivered them not into the hand of Joshua.

3And these are the nations which the Lord left to prove Israel with them, all that had not known the wars of Chanaan. <sup>2</sup> Only for the sake of the generations of Israel, to teach them war, only the men before them knew them not. <sup>3</sup> The five lordships of the Phylistines, and every Chananite, and the Sidonian, and the Evite who dwelt in Libanus from the mount of Aermion to Laboemath. <sup>4</sup> And this was done in order to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would obey the commands of the Lord, which he charged their fathers by the hand of Moses.

<sup>10</sup> + 2:18 Gr. repented. This word seems generally to stand for .□□□

<sup>11</sup> + 2:23 Or, left.