

Old Testament Survey

Joshua

(Conquer & Divide)

Author: Joshua (24:26; 18:9. Use of first person “we” or “us” - 5:6. One of priests, perhaps Eleazer would have written epilogue about Joshua’s death)

Date: Written ~ 1406-1374 B.C. (Covers Joshua becoming leader to his death)

Theme: The fulfillment of Yahweh's promise to plant Israel in Canaan through their obedience. (11:23)

Outline:

- I. The conquest of Canaan. 1-12
 - A. Preamble. 1:1-9
 - B. Preparation for conquest. 1:10-5:15
 - C. Conquest of the land. 6-12
- II. Division of the land. 13-21
 - A. Preamble. 13:1-7
 - B. Apportionment of the land. 13:8-21
- III. Appendix. 22-24

Key People

Joshua

Key Chapters & Verses

- 1** God commissions Joshua & he assumes command.
1:7-9. Joshua's charge to obey the book of the law, be strong & courageous, for God is with them.
- 2** Rahab shelters the spies in Jericho in return for her own safety.
- 6** The conquest of Jericho
- 7** Defeat at Ai due to Achan's sin. Achan, family and possessions stoned in valley of Achor.
- 9** The Gibeonite's deceitful covenant with Joshua
10:12-15. Joshua commands the sun to stand still during the battle with the Amorites.
11:23 - "Joshua took the whole land according to all the LORD had spoken to Moses."
13-19. Division of the land, Levitical role.
- 20** The 6 cities of refuge, (Kedesh, Shechem, Hebron, Bezer, Ramoth, Golan) for the protection of manslayers from the avenger of blood.
- 24:14-15.** Joshua's charge to the people to choose whom they would serve - he would serve the LORD.

Old Testament Survey - Joshua

Context:

I. The conquest of Canaan. 1-12

A. Joshua Replaces Moses (1:1-18)

1. Joshua is Commissioned (1-9)

2. Joshua Commands Israel (10-15)

3. Joshua is Accepted by Israel (16-18)

B. Preparation for conquest. (2-5)

1. Spying Canaan (2)

A. The Faith of Rahab (1-21)

James 2:25 – She placed herself in peril because of her beliefs about God

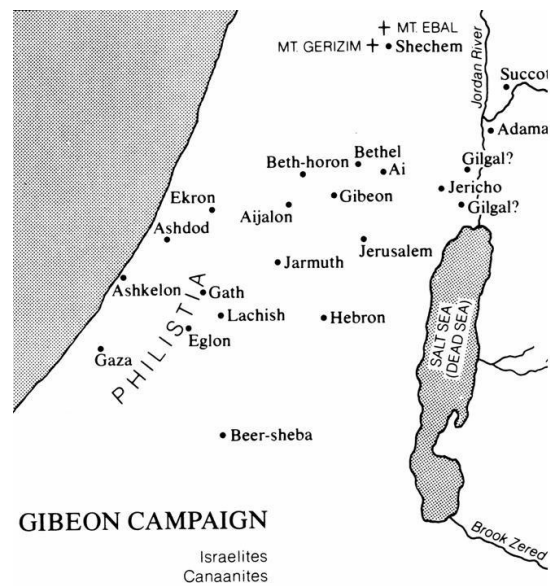
B. The Faith of the Spies (22-24)

2. Entering Canaan (3-5)

A. Crossing the Jordan (3)

B. The Memorial Stones (4)

C. Keeping the Covenant Rites (5)



C. Conquering Canaan (6-12)
1. Conquest of Central Canaan (6-8)
A. Victory at Jericho (6)

Notes on fall of Jericho:

Most secular (and many Christian) archeologists follow the dating of Kathleen Kenyon that City IV Jericho fell about 1550 BC due to the absence of imported Cypriot pottery in her two 26' X 26' foot squares and then remained uninhabited for hundreds of years, and therefore, the Biblical story of Joshua is tale and not historical narrative. However, John Garstang's extensive excavations (1930-1936) found much imitation Cypriot bichrome pottery which Kenyon ignores in her own research. Garstang also found in the City IV areas Egyptian scarab amulets corresponding to a date of around 1400 B.C. for Jericho's destruction. Dr. Bryant Wood published in 1990 based on Garstang's work and Kenyon's posthumous summation of her work and cites the common domestic pottery found by both Garstang and Kenyon, plus the scarab amulets, and the stratigraphy as evidence of 14th Century B.C. occupation. Current Carbon-14 dating is in dispute, but a correction of correlation being demanded by Egyptologists would bring this method of dating also into harmony with the Biblical account. (If the C-14 dates are correct, then Kenyon's dating would still be wrong for it would have to be adjusted to about 1710 B.C.).

Summary of Archeology Evidence for Destruction of Jericho at time of Joshua

Dating of pottery including both the common domestic pottery in both Garstang's and Kenyon's excavations, and the imitation Cypriot bichrome pottery in Garstang's more extensive dig.

Dating of Egyptian scarab amulets

Stratigraphy in City IV per Kenyon's work requires a longer period for phases within it
C-14 dating if adjusted as demanded by Egyptologists

Other Archeological Evidence Corresponding to Biblical Account of Joshua

*Grain storage jars were full after spring harvest. Joshua 2:6, 3:15, 4:9, 5:10 siege in early spring

*Full storage jars means it was not a long siege before the city fell & that it was not plundered after - Joshua 6:17-19

*Dwellings built against the outer (mudbrick) city wall as was Rahab's dwelling - Joshua 2:15

*The city wall collapsed to the base of the tell - Joshua 6:20

*The city was burned with an intense fire after the walls fell - Joshua 6:24

*After its destruction by fire, the main part of the city remained uninhabited for many decades.

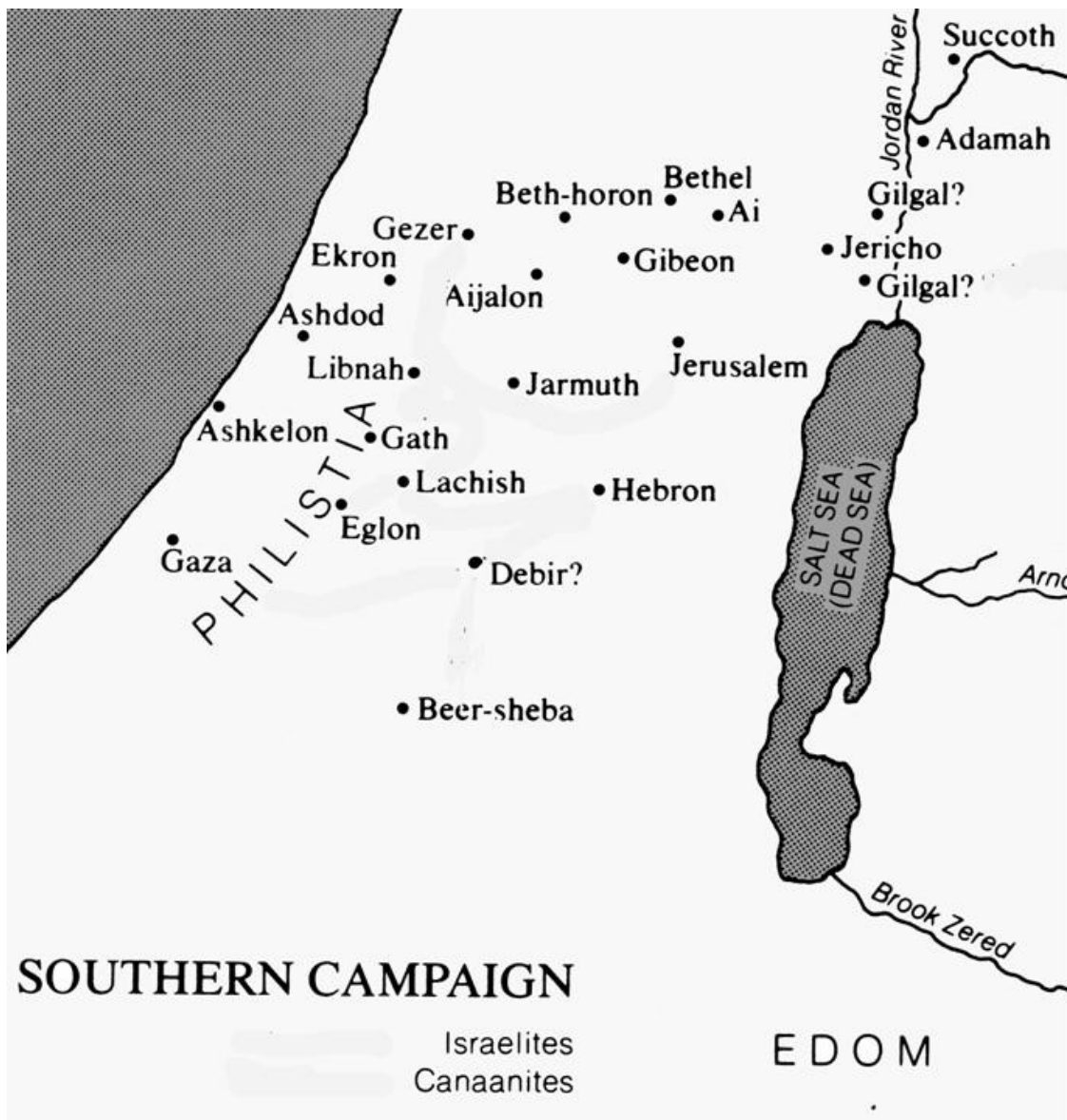
*The isolated palace-like structure that Garstang called the "Middle Building," dated to the 14th century BC. The resident here was well-to-do, as evidenced by a large quantity of imported Cypriot pottery. It was only inhabited for a short time. Its description and chronology fit the story of Eglon, king of Moab, who set up operations in the abandoned city of Jericho some decades after the death of Joshua, as recorded in Judges 3:12-30.

See: https://www.conservapedia.com/Jericho_chronology_dispute

<http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2008/05/Did-the-Israelites-Conquer-Jericho-A-New-Look-at-the-Archaeological-Evidence.aspx>

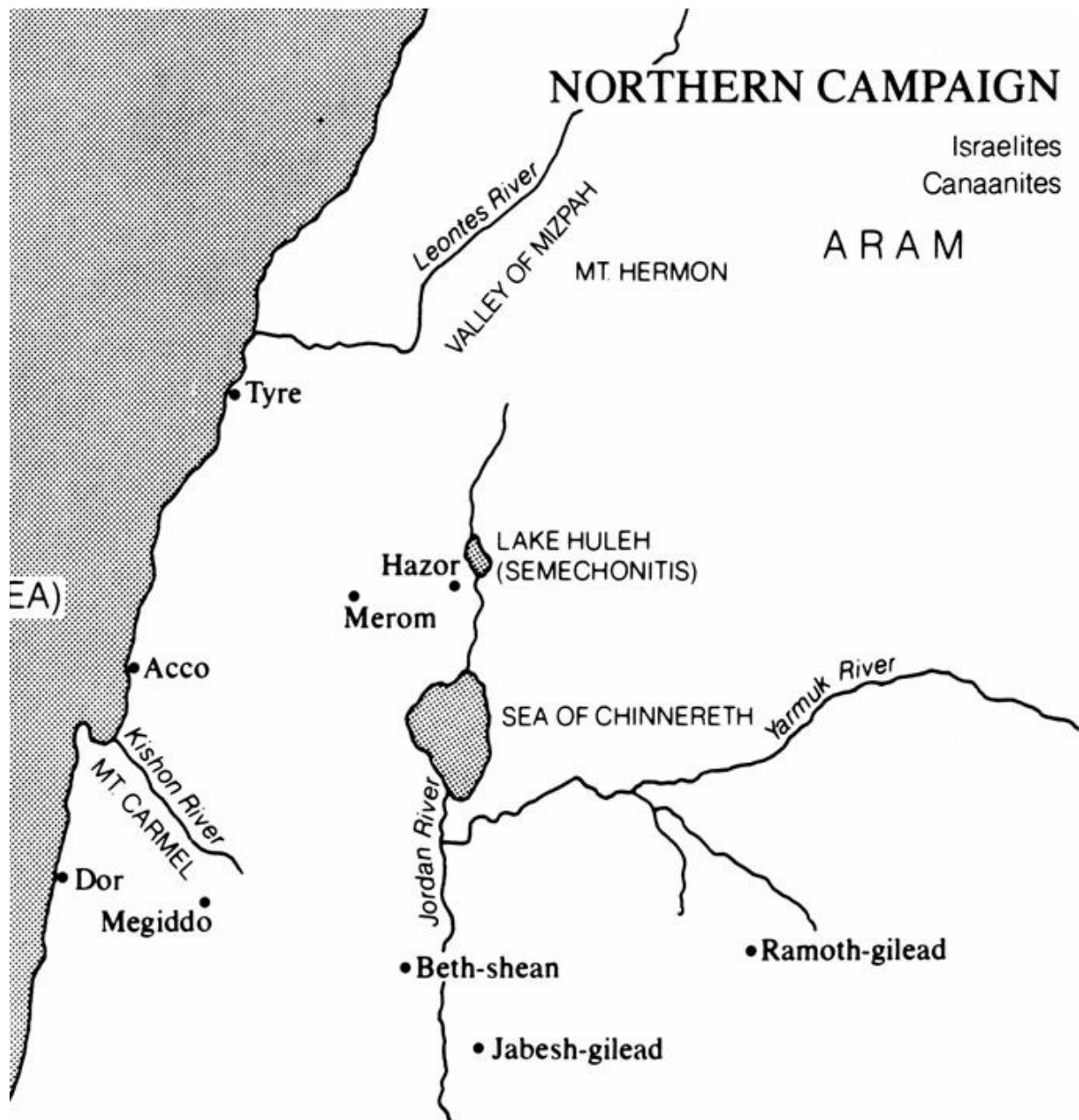
<http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2008/06/The-Walls-of-Jericho.aspx>

- B. Defeat at Ai (7)
- C. Victory at Ai (8)
- 2. Conquest of Southern Canaan (9-10)
 - A. Failure with the Gibeonites (9)
 - B. Victory over the Amorites (10)



3. Conquest of Northern Canaan (11:1-15)

4. Summary of the Conquest (11:16-12:24)



II. Division of the land. 13-21

A. Settlements East of the Jordan

1. Unconquered Territories (13:1-7)
2. Geographical Boundaries (13:8-13)
3. Tribal Boundaries (13:14-33)

B. Settlements West of the Jordan (14-19)

1. First Division at Gilgal (14-17)
2. Second Division at Shiloh (18-19)

C. Settlement of the Levites (20-21)

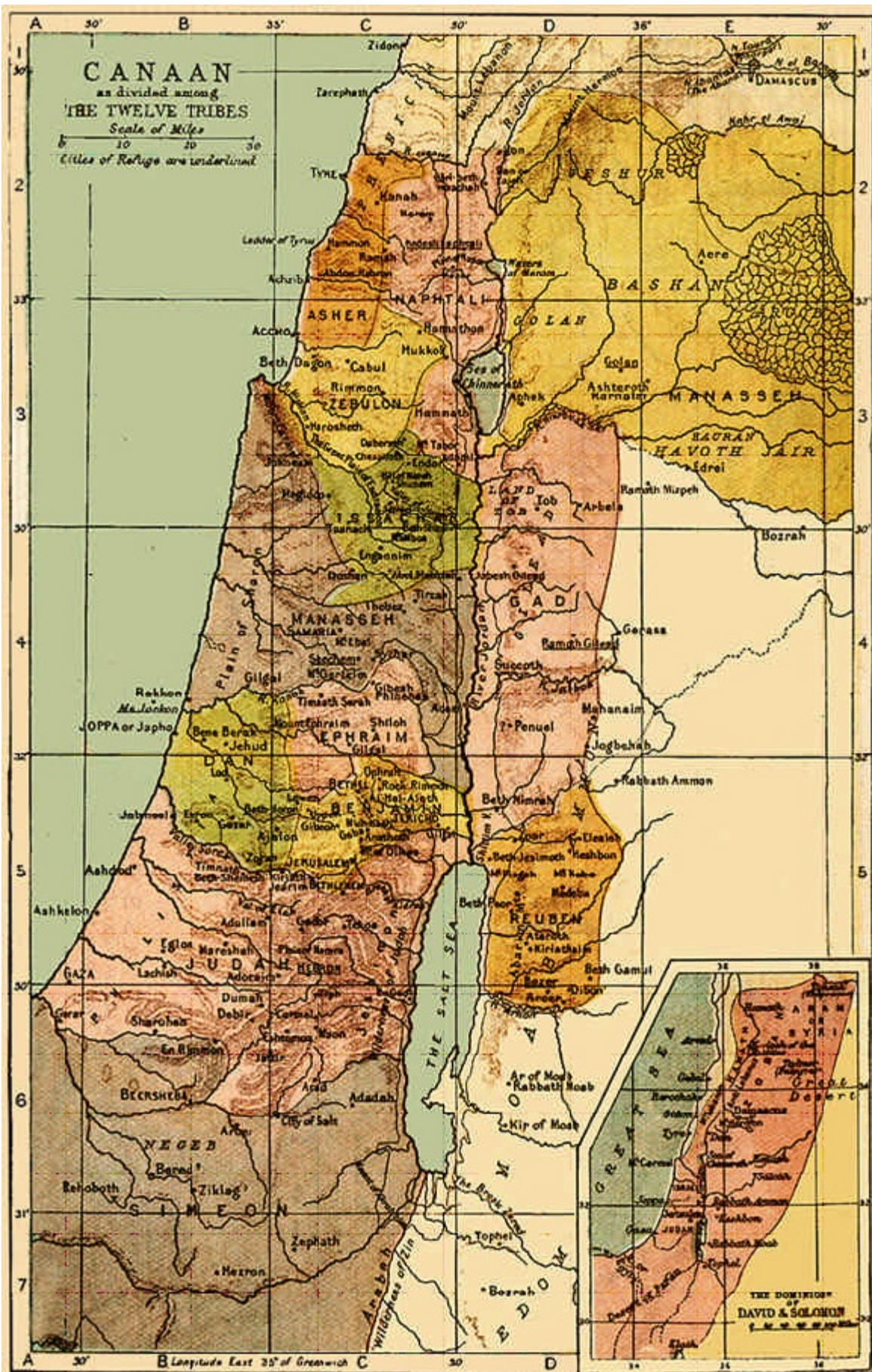
1. The Cities of Refuge (20:1-9)
2. The Levitical Cities (21:1-42)
3. The Settlement of Israel is Completed (21:43-45)

III. Appendix. 22-24

A. The Altar of Witness (22)

B. Joshua's Farewell Addresses and Charges (23:1-24:28)

C. Joshua and Eleazar Die (24:29-33)





Old Testament Survey

Judges

(failure)

Author: Samuel (or one of the prophets. Talmud attributes it to Samuel)

Date: Written between 1053 & 1004 B.C. [Written after the ark was removed from Shiloh (18:31; 20:27 cf. 1 Samuel 4:3-11) and after start of Saul's reign (17:6, 18:1, etc. "there was no king in those days") and before David dispossessed the Jebusites in 1004 B.C. (1:21 cf. 2 Sam. 5:5-9). 18:30 refers to a Philistine captivity.

Dates covered: 1406-1055 B.C. 1406 concludes battles led by Joshua. 1055 death of Samson.

Theme: *"The Failure of the theocracy to obey Yahweh through the Judges preparing the way for the monarchy."* (Gleason Archer)

Theme verse: Judges 21:25 *In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*

Judges is written thematically in a selective chronological flow. (Chap. 17-21 occur before chapters 3-16). Its purpose is to carry the story of Israel from the death of Joshua to the time of Samuel and the beginning of the Kingdom. It gives a defense of Israel's monarchy by showing the utter failure of the people to live in a theocracy. The nation needed to be unified under a righteous king. That is why the phrase "in those days there was no king" occurs 4 times (17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25). Two of those times (17:6 & 21:25) the phrase "every man did what was right in his own eyes" is added as a forceful comment, in fact it is the conclusion of the book (21:25).

Judges gives the causes for the failure of the theocracy, then traces its failure throughout the geographical regions of Israel showing the failure of all the people to live according to God's covenant with them. It concludes with two stories showing the depravity of the people in idolatry and immorality resulting in anarchy. Sin leads to suffering. Repentance leads to deliverance.

Outline:

- I. Causes for the period of the Judges. 1:1-3:6
 - A. Incomplete obedience. 1-2:5
 - B. Idolatry. 2:6-3:4
 - C. Intermarriage with the heathen. 3:5,6
- II. Cycles of 7 Judges. 3:7-16:31
- III. Consequences of disobeying Yahweh (17-21)
 - A. Micah and the Danites. 17,18 (Idolatry)
 - B. Gibeah and the Benjamite civil war. 19-21 (Immorality and anarchy)

Key People : Deborah, Gideon, Samson

Key Chapters & Verses

2:6-23. The general cycle:(Serve LORD, next generation forgets LORD, God allows oppression. They cry for deliverance. Judge is given, they serve the LORD, next cycle begins).

4,5. Song of Deborah and Barak (victory over Sisera)

6-8. Gideon defeats the Midianites, judges 40 years

11:34-40. Jephthah's foolish vow fulfilled regarding his daughter.

13-16. Samson's life and deeds.

17:6; 18:1; 21:25 - "In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes."

Old Testament Survey - Judges

Detailed Outline:

I. Causes for the period of the Judges (1:1-3:6)

A. Incomplete Obedience (1-2:5)

1. Failure to Complete the Conquest (1)

2. Announcement of Judgment (2:1-5)

B. Idolatry (2:6-3:4)

1. Death of Godly Generation (2:6-10)

2. Cycles of Idolatry, Judgment and Deliverance (2:11-23)

3. Nations left to Test Israel (3:1-4)

C. Intermarriage with the heathen (3:5,6)

II. Cycles of Judges - Oppression & Deliverance (3:7-16:31)

A. Southern Campaign (3:7-31)

1. Othniel (3:7-11)

2. Ehud (3:12-30)

3. Shamgar (3:31)

B. Northern Campaign I (4:1-5:31)

1. Deborah & Barak (4)

2. Victory Song of Deborah & Barak (5)

C. Central Campaign (6:1-10:5)

1. Gideon (6-8:32)

a. Gideon Called (6:1-32)

b. Midianites Defeated (6:32-8:21)

c. Peace for 40 Years (8:22-32)

2. Abimelech (8:33-9:57)

3. Tola (10:1,2)

4. Jair (10:3-5)

D. Eastern Campaign (Jephthah) (10:6-12:7)

E. Northern Campaign II (12:8-15)

1. Ibzan (12:8-10)

2. Elon (12:11-12)

3. Abdon (12:13-15)

F. Western Campaign (13-16).

1. Samson's Birth (13)

2. Samson's Sinful Marriage (14)

3. Samson's Vengeance (15)

4. Samson's Failure & Revenge (16)

III. Consequences of Disobeying Yahweh (17-21)

A. Idolatry: Micah & the Danites (17,18)

B. Gross Immorality: Gebeah (19)

C. Internal Conflict: Benjamite Civil War (20-21)

Conclusions:

THE JUDGES OF ISRAEL

GIDEON Major judges

TOLA Other judges

● City

○ City (uncertain location)

▲ Mountain peak



