



**February 5, 2026**

**BOOK: Judges**

**Opening Questions:**

- a. How What are some modern “idols” people are tempted to rely?
- b. Can you think of a time when something that made you different actually helped you solve a problem or succeed in a difficult situation?
- c. Name a time when it became difficult to co-exist with someone with different values.

**Discussion Questions:**

**Chapter: 2:**

1. Summarize the cycle described in verses 11-19. Why do you think the people followed God while Joshua and the elders were alive, but then turned away after they died?
2. Name some factors why the Israelites turned to idol worship.
3. Discuss factors as to why the new generation did not know the Lord. Is anyone responsible?
4. What were the Baals and Asherah's? Is there anything about them that made them especially abhorrent to God? (Jer. 19:5, 1 Kings 16:31-33, Deut. 12:3)
5. Describe the “test” in verse 21.

**Chapter 3**

6. Do verses 1-6 change your understanding of why the Israelites could not drive out some of the pagan nations in chapter 1?
7. Verses:1–4 state that the LORD left certain nations “to test Israel.” Is the test primarily about obedience, military skill, covenant faithfulness, or something else?\_ (Deut.8:1-5,

11:26-28, 31:16-18, Ex. 15:25-26, 16:4, Num. 14:22-23, 33-35)

8. Which specific consequences warned about in those texts are already visible by this chapter?
9. Do you agree with God’s strategy of allowing the nations to remain to “test” the Israelites? (Lev 26:37; Deut 28:25.) Does he do this today?
10. Given the listing of the nations in verse 3, which tribes were affected? Are any of the nations familiar?( Exodus 3:8; 23:23; Deut 7:1–2)
11. Why was Israel supposed to stay separate from these nations, and why does the Bible treat living together with them as something that would lead to worshipping false gods rather than just peaceful coexistence? (Ex. 19:5-6, Lev.. 20:26, Deut 7:3-4, 12:29-31)
12. How would you characterize the Israelite response to the test? (verse 6) (Josh 23:12; Ex. 34:16; Deut. 7:3)
13. How long were the people under the King of Mesopotamia? Why?
14. In what ways does Othniel resemble Joshua? How is he different as a successor?
15. How was Othniel successful? How did the Israelites benefit?
16. How does the language in Judges 3:10 compare to Spirit language in Numbers 11 (the elders) and Joshua 1? Discuss how the results in Judges are different than Numbers & Joshua.
17. What kind of rest is being described in verse 11? Is this the same concept as Deut. 12:9-10 and Josh. 21:44?
18. Describe the unique qualities of Ehud.

19. How does God's use of deception and weakness here? Have we seen this elsewhere in the Bible?
20. What does this suggest about how God fights for Israel even in their disobedience? Is there a biblical principle we can learn from Ehud?
21. What is the difference between how God decides on Judges versus how leaders were appointed during Moses' and Joshua's tenures? (Ex. 3:1-12, 4:12-16, 18:13-26, Num. 27:15-23, 31:7-8, 34:9, Jos. 1-9, Deut. 1)
22. Does this above imply anything about Israel's relationship to God at this stage? Why or why not?
23. Does what you have seen so far in Judges, suggest a breakdown in family discipleship, leadership accountability, or both?
24. Where exactly does this chapter show Israel reversing progress made earlier, and what does that imply about life in the land without covenant faithfulness?