

Judges



Background

- How is the book of Judges compared with the book of Joshua? What does this tell us about Judges? What does this tell us about God's people at that time?
- What does the Lecture suggest about the author and date of the book of Judges? What does this tell us about this book?
- What introductory point was made about the content of Judges?

Outline

- What are the three main sections of the book of Judges? What does each section generally cover? What does this tell us about the overall content of this book? How does this help us to read, understand, and apply Judges?
- What is meant by the "cycles of Judges"? Describe each part of this repeated cycle. What does this tell us about the content of this section? What does this tell us about God's people at that time? What difference does this make?

Content

- What are the key verses of Judges? What does each highlight? What does each tell us about the overall content and message of Judges? What does each tell us about how God relates to His people? What does each say about how God's people should relate to Him?
- What does the intro of Judges say about the conquest? How does this set the stage for all of Judges?
- Describe the contrast between Joshua's generation and the generation(s) that followed? What point does the Lecture make about this? How does it apply today?
- What is the meaning of the term "Judges" in this book? What does this tell us about the function of these men? How does this help us understand this book?
- Who were the Judges in Israel covered in this book? What is the difference between a major Judge and a minor Judge?
- How are the various Judges related in location? How does this help us understand the book of Judges?
- What are the possible ways that the various Judges are related in time? What implications does this have for the overall dating of the Old Testament?
- How do the stories of the Judges follow the cycle of Judges mentioned earlier? Describe the overall progression of Judges throughout the entire book. How do the various Judges compare with each other?
- What did you learn about the few Judges that were highlighted? What lessons did these stories intend to teach? How do they apply?
- What does the story of Samson imply about the rest of Israel? Why is this important?
- What do the last stories in this book teach about the state of the nation of Israel at that time? What comparisons were made with earlier Bible stories? What does this tell us about Israel? What point was the author making about the people of God and their relationship with God? What lessons should we learn and apply from this?

Themes

- Explain each of the theological themes in your own words. What does each tell about the content, message and significance of Judges? How should each idea be applied in current life?
- What does this book teach about the character of God? What difference should this make for us today?
- What are the implications and current applications of the theme of completing the conquest? How should we respond?
- What does this book teach about the need for a king? What kind of king does this imply that Israel needs? Why? How does this idea apply to your life and ministry?

Review

Review the cycles of Judges and work toward committing this to memory.

Review the key themes of Judges and work toward committing them to memory.