

THE 12 JUDGES OF ANCIENT ISRAEL



CAPTIVATING HISTORY

Joshua



Judges 2



⁸ Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten... ¹⁰ After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel. ¹¹ Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals. ¹² They forsook the LORD, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the LORD's anger ¹³ because they forsook him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths. ¹⁴ In his anger against Israel the LORD gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. ¹⁵ Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the LORD was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.



Judges 2

¹⁶ Then the LORD raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders. ¹⁷ Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned from the ways of their ancestors, who had been obedient to the LORD's commands. ¹⁸ Whenever the LORD raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the LORD relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them. ¹⁹ But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.

THE HEAVENLY FAMILY'S

BIG FIGHT



BAAL (SON)



ASHERAH (MOTHER)



EL (FATHER)



Judges





IN THOSE DAYS
THERE WAS NO
KING IN ISRAEL;
EVERYONE DID
WHAT WAS
RIGHT IN HIS
OWN EYES.
JUDGES 21:25

JUDGES OF ISRAEL

Gideon Major Judges
Tola Minor Judges

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Judges

- 6 major judges
 - Othniel
 - Ehud
 - Deborah
 - Gideon
 - Jephthah
 - Samson
- 6 minor judges
 - Shamgar
 - Tola
 - Jair
 - Ibzan
 - Elon
 - Abdon
- *Eli and Samuel are in 1st Samuel*

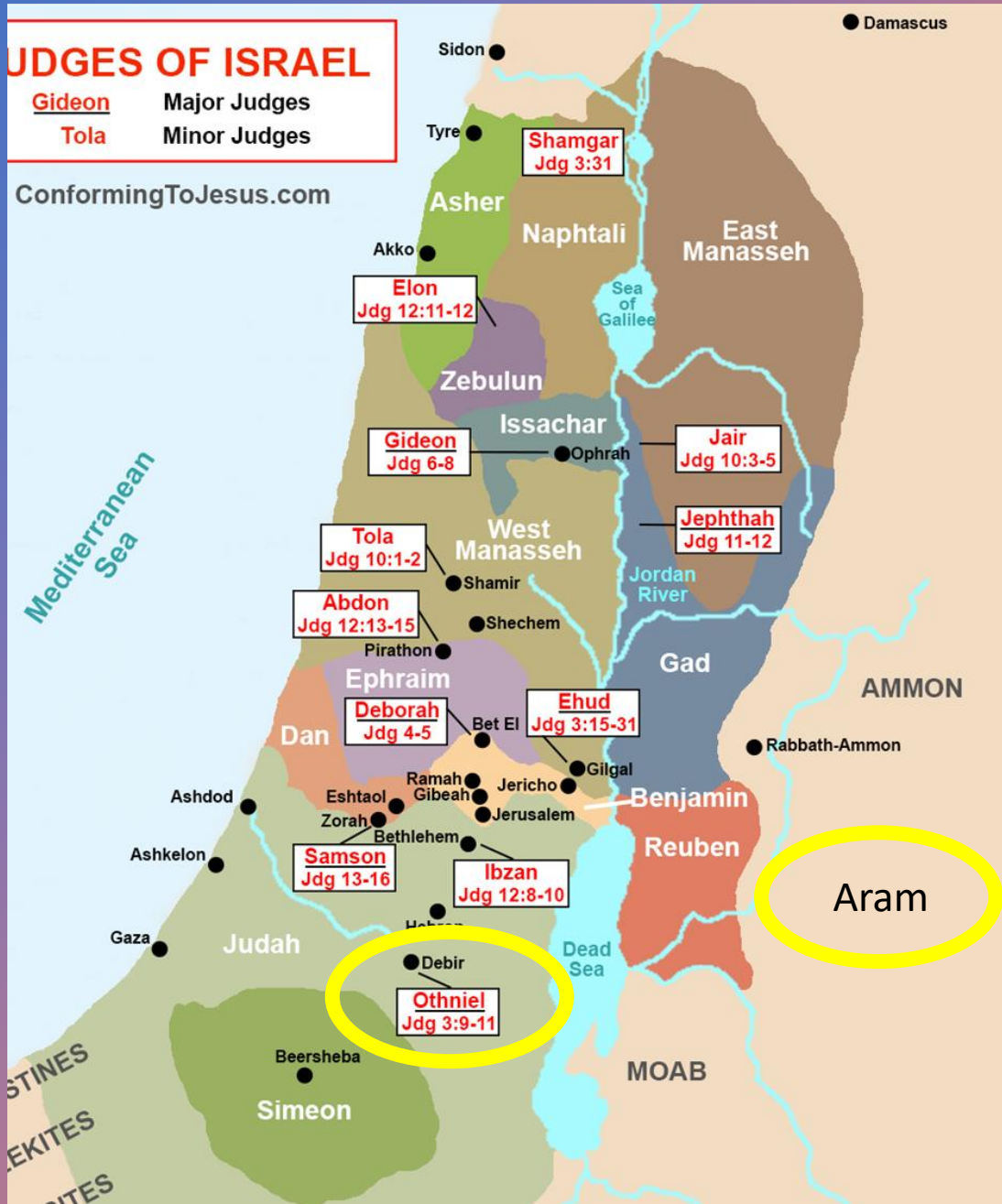
Shamgar

3:31 After Ehud came Shamgar son of Anath, who struck down six hundred Philistines with an oxgoad. He too saved Israel.

JUDGES OF ISRAEL

Gideon Major Judges
Tola Minor Judges

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Hero: Othniel Villain: Cushan-Rishathaim

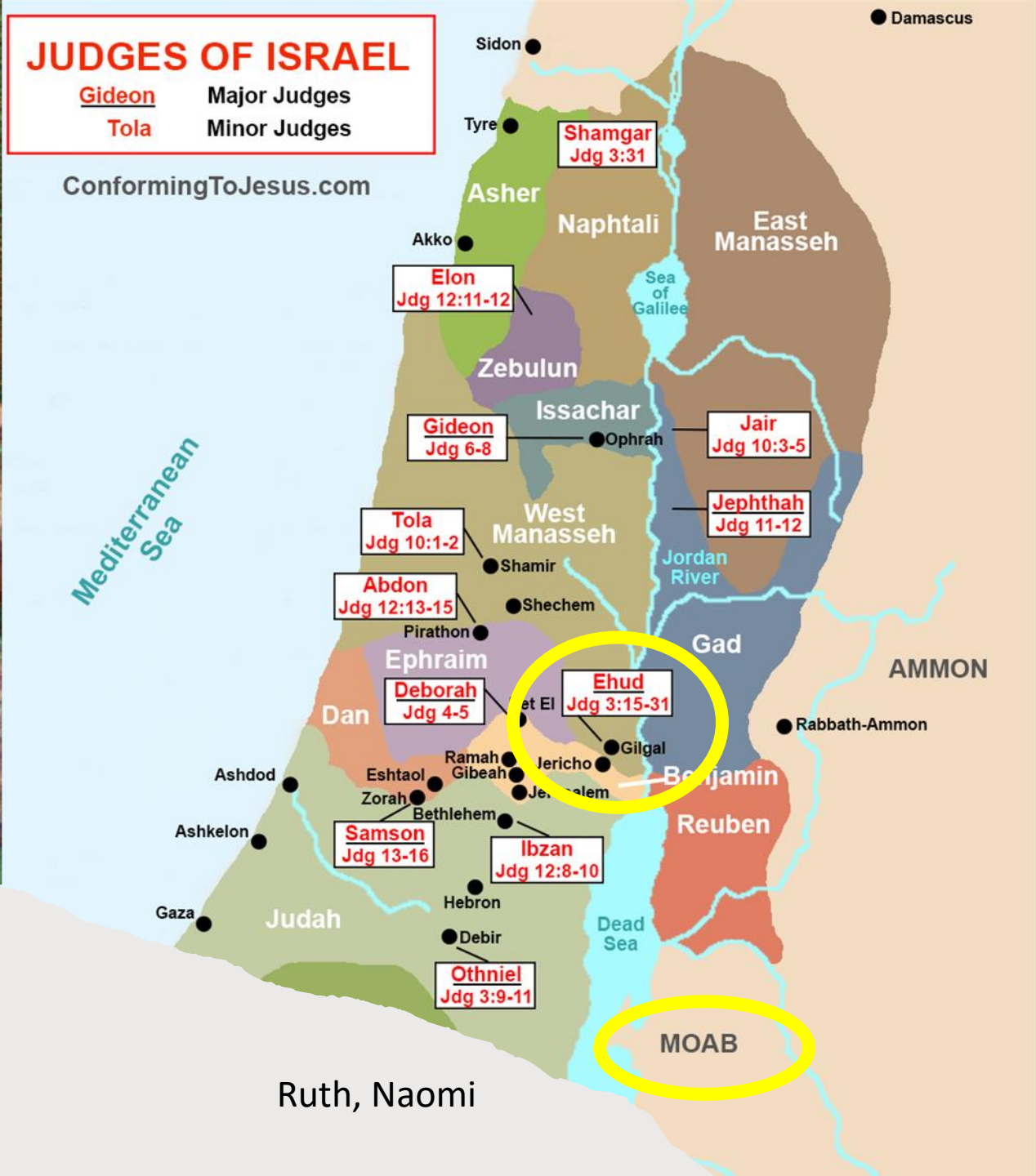
⁷ The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD; they forgot the LORD their God and served the Baals and the Asherahs. ⁸ The anger of the LORD burned against Israel so that he sold them into the hands of Cushan-Rishathaim king of Aram Naharaim, to whom the Israelites were subject for eight years. ⁹ But when they cried out to the LORD, he raised up for them a deliverer, Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, who saved them. ¹⁰ The Spirit of the LORD came on him, so that he became Israel's judge and went to war. The LORD gave Cushan-Rishathaim king of Aram into the hands of Othniel, who overpowered him. ¹¹ So the land had peace for forty years, until Othniel son of Kenaz died. – Judges 3



JUDGES OF ISRAEL

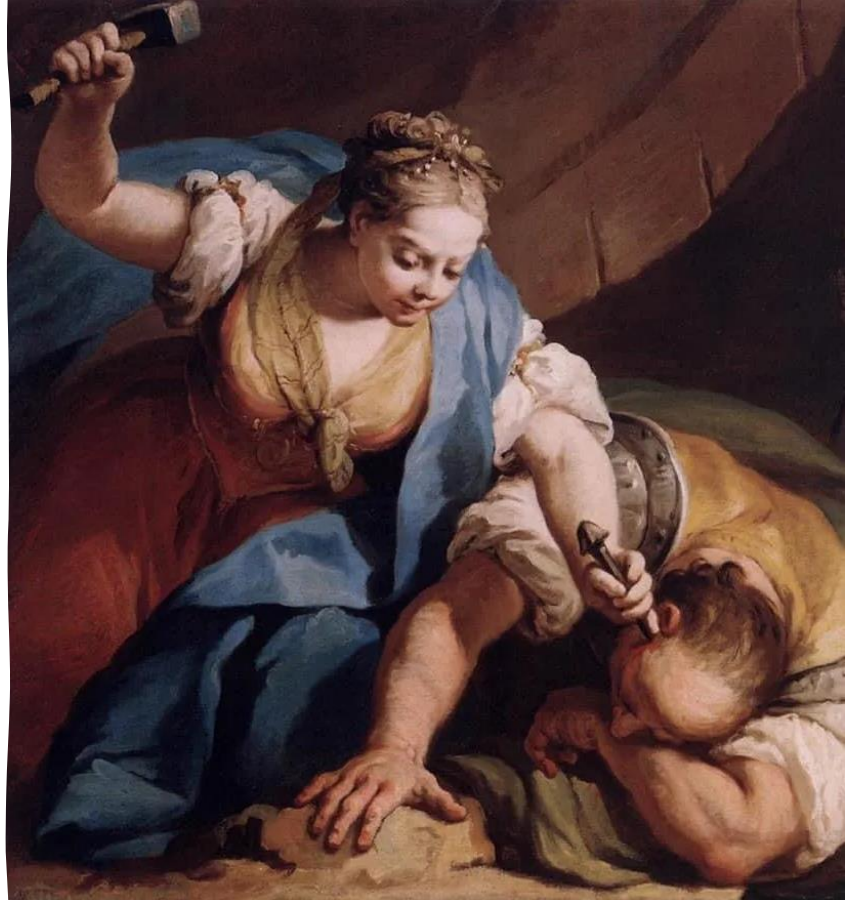
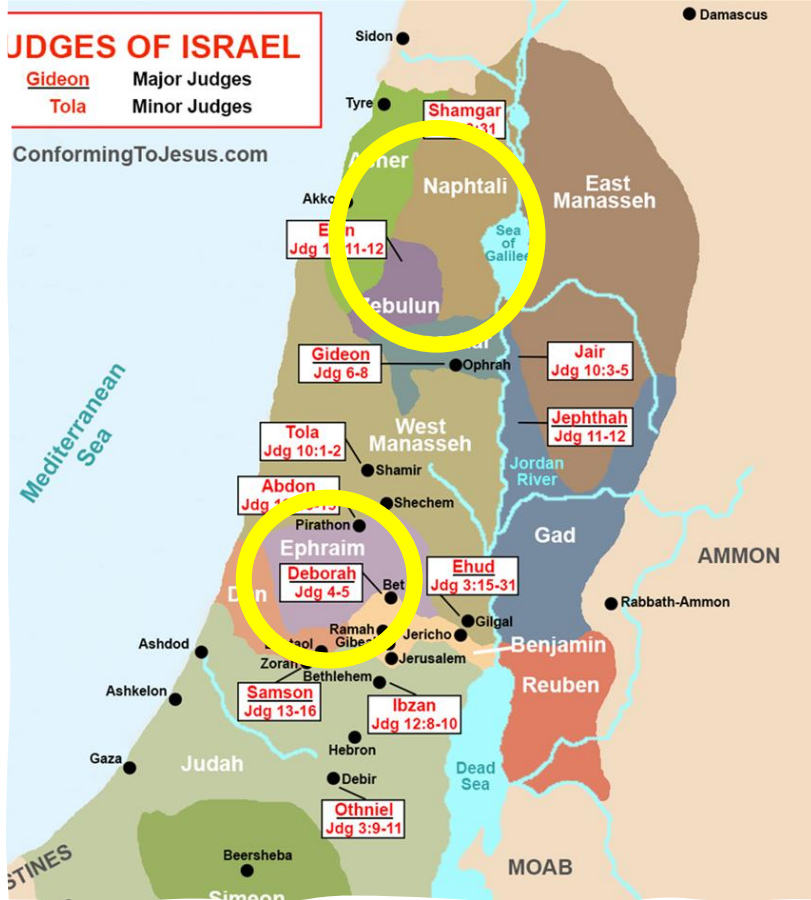
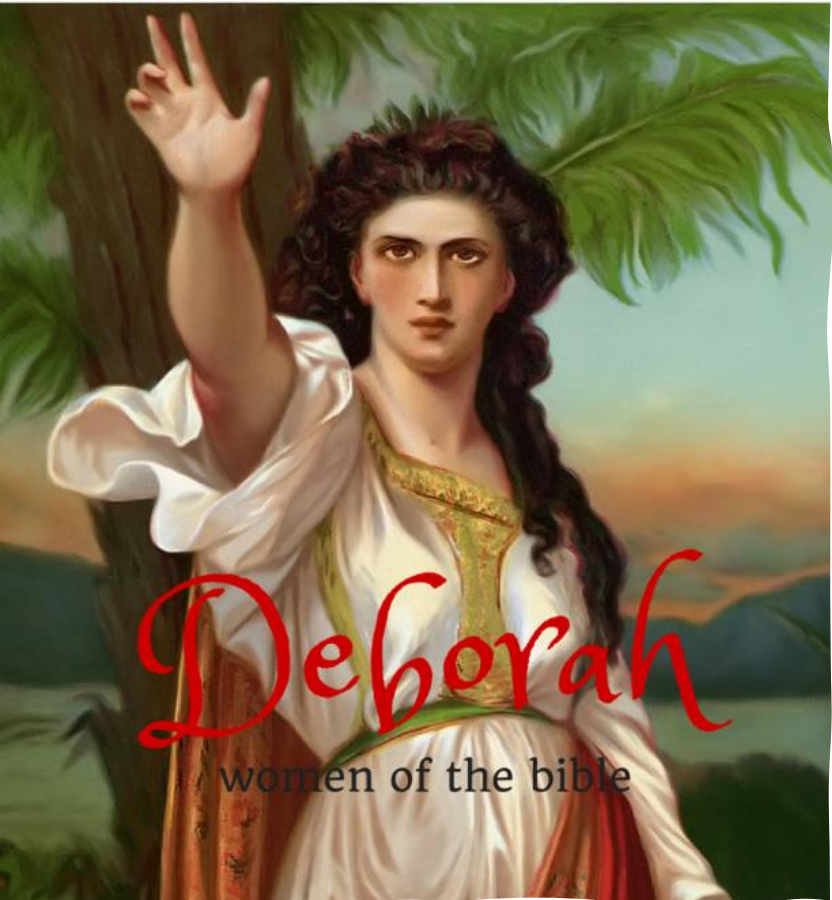
| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| <u>Gideon</u> | Major Judges |
| <u>Tola</u> | Minor Judges |

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Hero: Ehud
 Villain: Eglon, King of Moab

Ruth, Naomi



Heroes:
Deborah,
Barak, Jael

- Villain: Jabin king of Canaan and his commander Sisera
- 900 iron chariots

Hero: Gideon

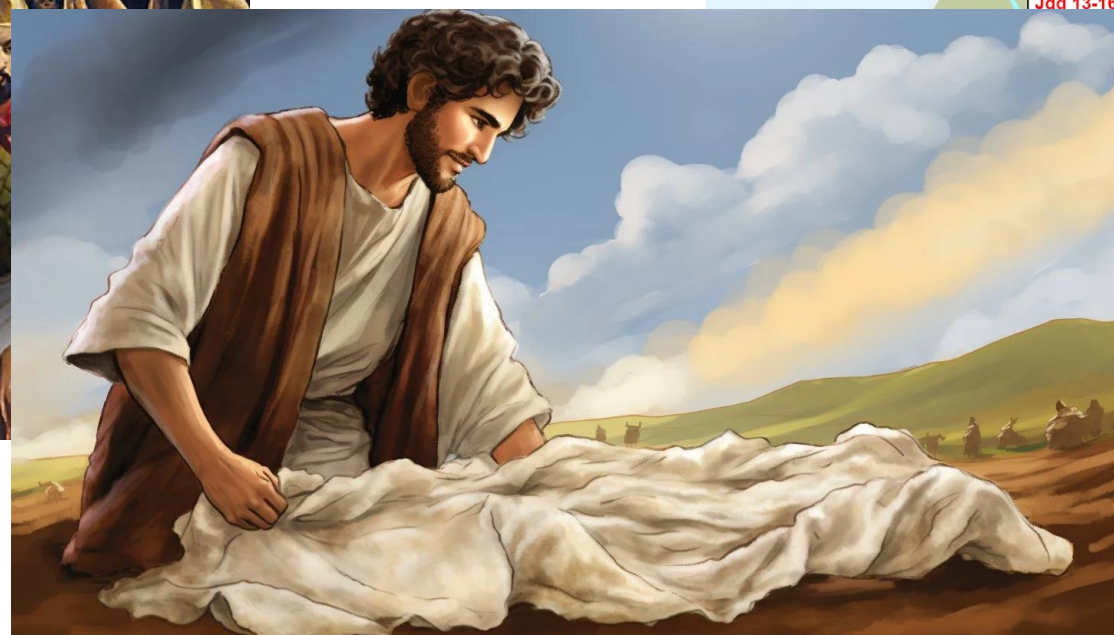
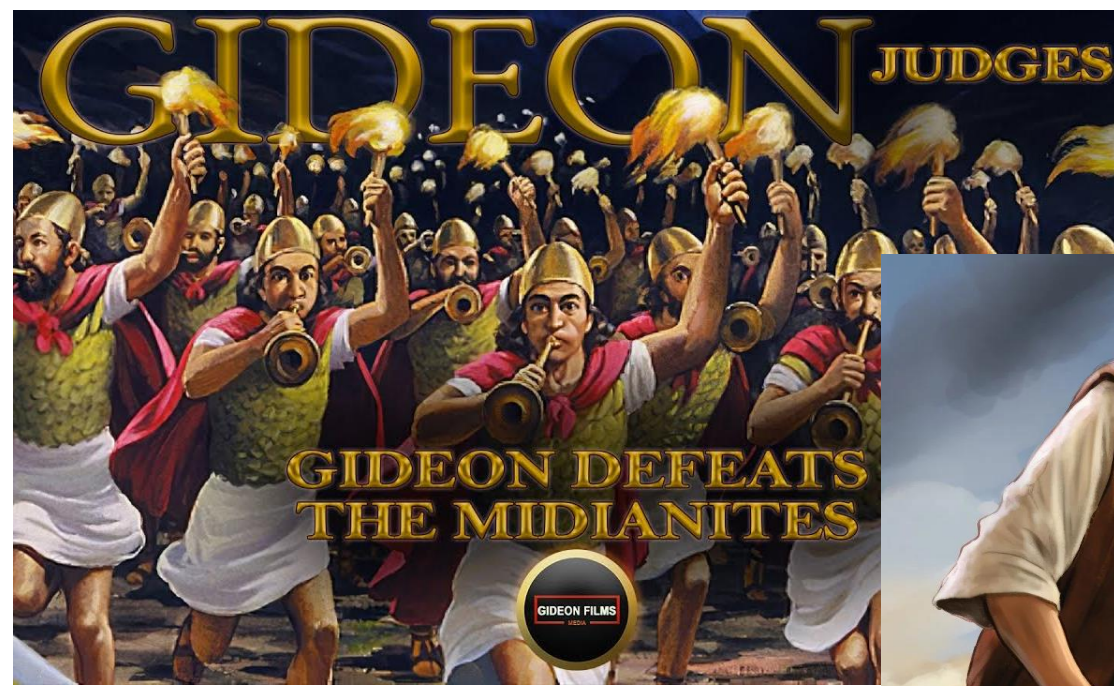
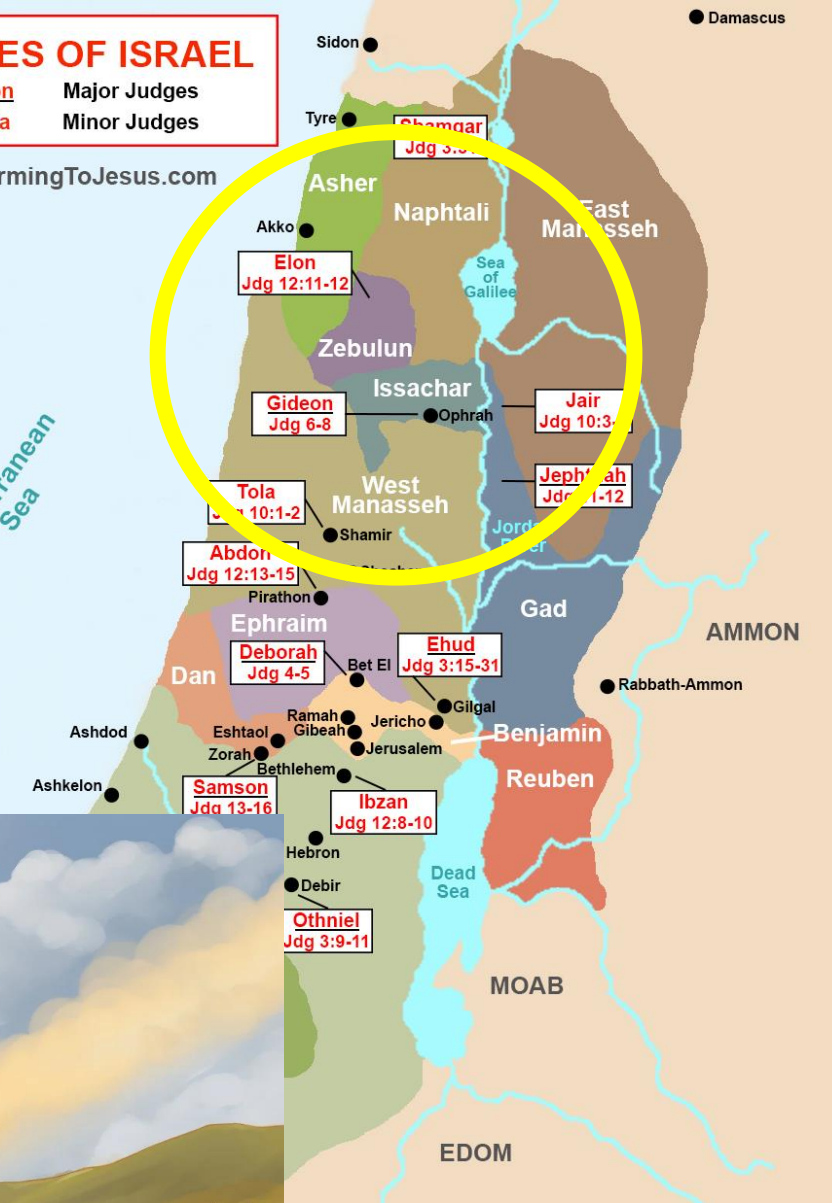
Villains: Midianites,
Amorites, and other
eastern peoples
Abimelek

JUDGES OF ISRAEL

Gideon Major Judges
Tola Minor Judges

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Mediterranean
Sea



Hero: Jephthah

Villains: Ammonites and Philistines

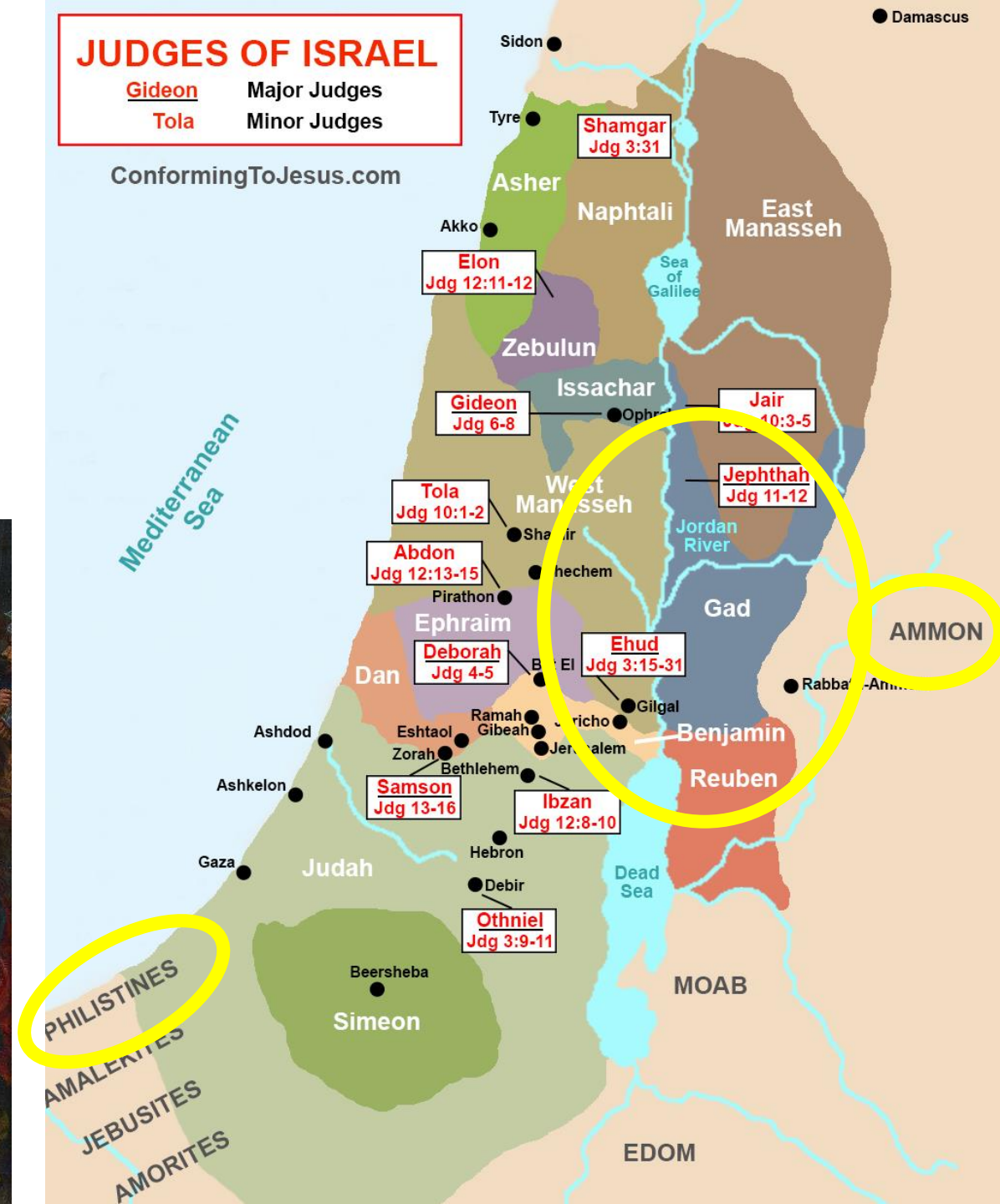
Shibboleth

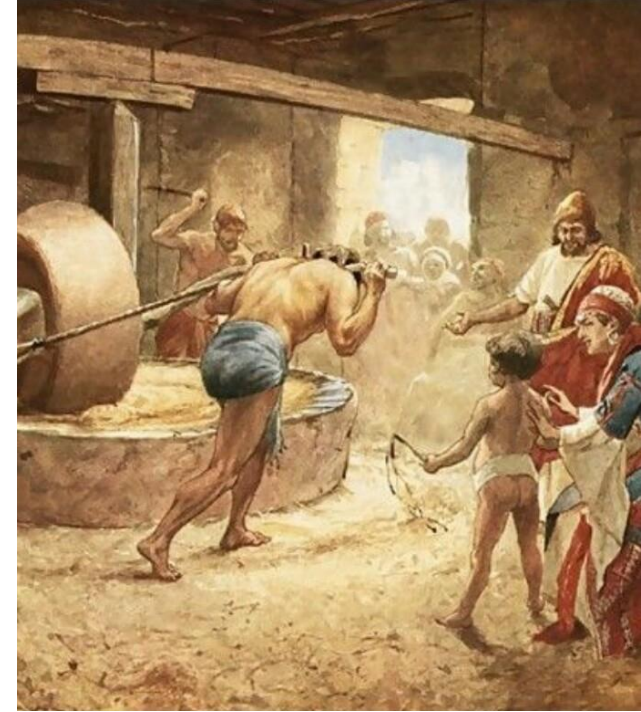
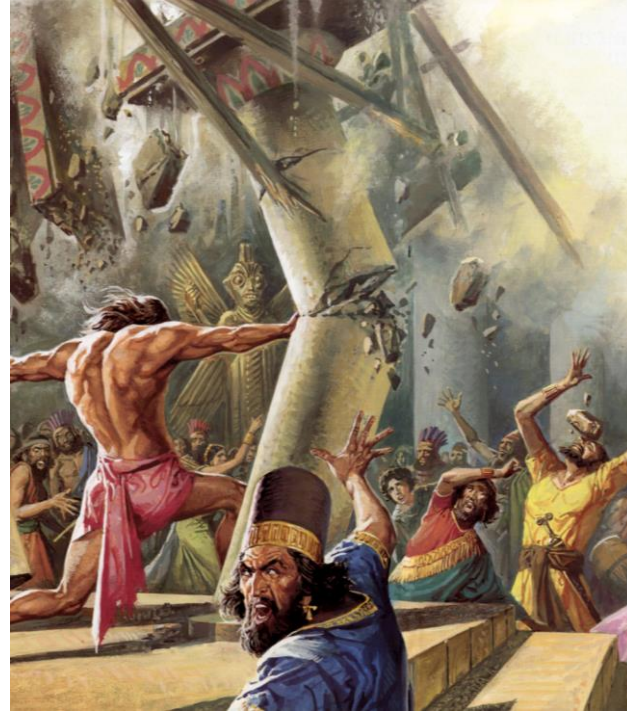
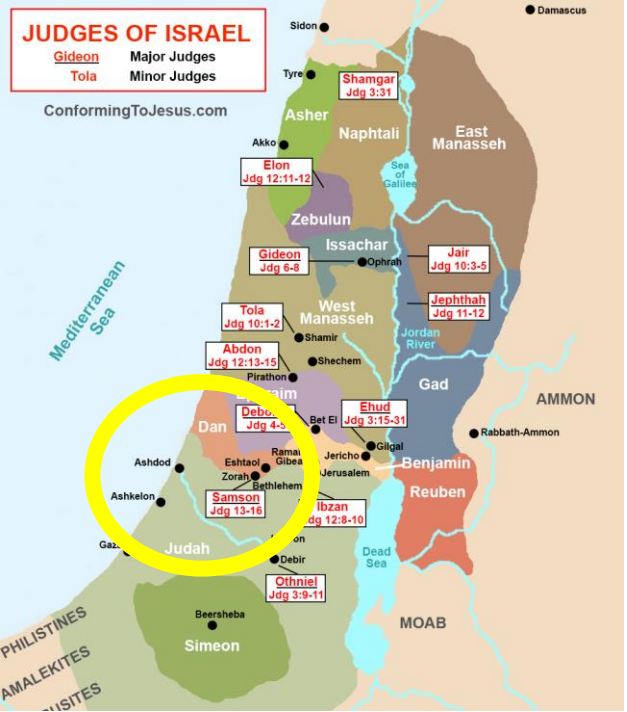


JUDGES OF ISRAEL

Gideon Major Judges
Tola Minor Judges

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Hero: Samson, the Danite Nazirite

Villains: Philistines, Delilah



GIDEON FILMS
MEDIA



MICAH'S IDOLS

JUDGES 17



Danites relocate

- Scouts stop at Micah's house
- Return with 600 soldiers
- Take idols, shrine, and priest
- Rename Laish to Dan



Tel Dan



A bizarre ending...

- Levite, servant, and concubine/wife
- Gibeah in Benjamin
- 400,000 vs 26,000
- Benjamin almost completely wiped out
 - 600 Benjamite men left
- The great oath
 - Death to any clan who doesn't show up at Mizpah
 - No marriage
 - Jabesh-Gilead (400)
 - Festival at Shiloh (200)

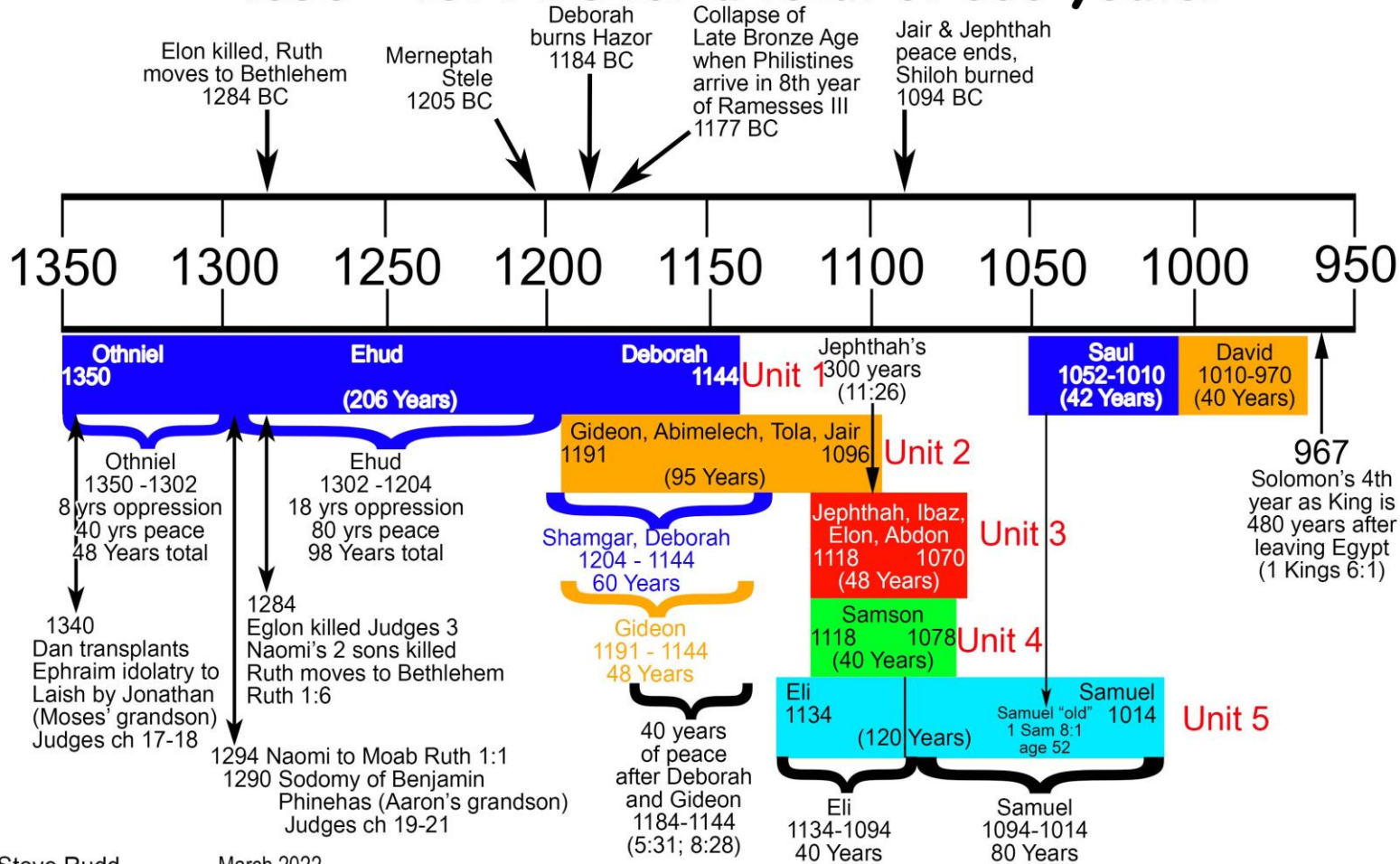


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Chronology of Judges Timeline

THE FIVE INDIVISIBLE UNITS OF CHRONOLOGY

1350 - 1014 BC for a total of 336 years.



Steve Rudd

March 2022

www.bible.ca/chronology

Themes and Key Takeaways





The Nation of Israel

Schedule

1. Overview
2. Israel's Dark Ages: Judges
3. Lights Amid the Darkness: Ruth and Samuel
4. Beginnings of the Monarchy in Israel
 - 1 Sam 8-15
5. Prelude to the reign of David
 - 1 Sam 16 – 2 Sam 5
6. The reign of David
 - 2 Sam 6 - ; 1 Chronicles 28
7. The reign of Solomon
 - 1 Kings 3, 2 Chron 5, 1 Kings 8,11
8. The division of the kingdom and early ministry of Elijah
 - 1 Kings 12-18
9. The divided monarchy in the times of Elijah and Elisha
 - 1 Kings 21-22, 2 Kings 5-7
10. The divided monarch from Jehu to the fall of the northern kingdom
 - 2 Kings 9-17
11. The kingdom of Judah from Hezekiah to the fall of Jerusalem
 - 2 Chron 30, 2 Kings 19-34



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THROUGH-THE-BIBLE COMMENTARY

OLD TESTAMENT VOLUME TWO

The History of Israel

compiled by Douglas Redford

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Bringing The Word to Life
Cincinnati, Ohio

THE JUDGES OF ISRAEL

“THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL DID EVIL IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD” (Judg 2.11)
 “NEVERTHELESS THE LORD RAISED UP JUDGES, WHICH DELIVERED THEM” (Judg 2.16)

| JUDGE | TRIBE | CHAPTER | “DID EVIL IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD” (2.11) | ENEMY | LENGTH OF SERVITUDE | TIMES WHICH FOLLOWED | DATE WHEN COMMENCED | STATED TO HAVE JUDGED <small>2.1-19 would indicate that they were all judges</small> |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------|--|---|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| OTHNIEL | Judah; 1 Chr 4.13 | 3.7-11 | 3.7 | Chushan-rishathaim King of Mesopotamia | 8 years | 40 years rest | 1394 | X |
| EHUD | Benjamin; Judg 3.15 | 3.12-30 | 3.12 | Moab | 18 years | 80 years rest | 1336 | |
| SHAMGAR | ? | 3.31 | | Philistines | _____ | _____ | After 1336 | |
| DEBORAH & BARAK | Ephraim/Naphtali | 4.1-5.31 | 4.1 | Jabin King of Canaan | 20 years | 40 years rest | 1296 | X |
| GIDEON | Manasseh | 6.1-8.35 | 6.1 | Midianites | 7 years | 40 years rest | 1249 | |
| ABIMELECH | Manasseh | 9.1-9.57 | | _____ | _____ | _____ | 1209 | |
| TOLA | Issachar | 10.1-2 | | _____ | _____ | 23 years as judge | 1206 | X |
| JAIR | Gileadite Manasseh | 10.3-5 | | _____ | _____ | 22 years as judge | 1183 | X |
| JEPHTHAH | Manasseh | 10.6-12.7 | 10.6 | Ammonites | _____ | 6 years as judge | 1143 | X |
| IBZAN | Judah or Zebulun | 12.8-10 | | _____ | _____ | 7 years as judge | 1137 | X |
| ELON | Zebulun | 12.11-12 | | _____ | _____ | 10 years as judge | 1130 | X |
| ABDON | Ephraim | 12.13-15 | | _____ | _____ | 8 years as judge | 1120 | X |
| SAMSON | Dan | 13.1-16.31 | 13.1 | Philistines | 40 years | 20 years as judge | 1140 | X |

The Cycle in the Book of Judges



Outline in
Judges 2:11-19