

# THE BOOK OF JUDGES

ISRAEL IN THE TIME OF THE JUDGES  
1380-1050 B.C.

JUDGES CHAPTER 3:1-22

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**"HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER;  
THANK YOU JESUS!"**

*ISRAEL DURING THE PERIOD OF THE JUDGES  
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATION*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Judgment, Discipline, Obedience, Faithfulness**

**Introduction to the Text;**

**Judges 3:1-22**

**Statement of Textual Summation and Theme**

## Why is The Old Testament Important to Know?

*You can never understand the New Testament fully without the Old.*

*You will never understand why Israel is all important to us today.*

*You will not fully understand yourself until you see the total of scripture.*

**Romans 15:4**

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

**1 Chronicles 16:34**

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!*  
For His mercy *endures forever.*

**Psalm 107:1**

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!*  
For His mercy *endures forever.*

**Psalm 136:1-26**

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good! For His mercy endures forever. :2* Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! *For His mercy endures forever :3* Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! *For His mercy endures forever:4* To Him who alone does great wonders, *For His mercy endures forever :5* To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, *For His mercy endures forever :6* To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, *For His mercy endures forever :7* To Him who made great lights, *For His mercy endures forever :8* The sun to rule by day, *For His mercy endures forever :9* The moon and stars to rule by night, *For His mercy endures forever :10* To Him who struck Egypt in their firstborn, *For His mercy endures forever :11* And brought out Israel from among them, *For His mercy endures forever :12* With a strong hand, and with an outstretched arm, *For His mercy endures forever :13* To Him who divided the Red Sea in two, *For His mercy endures forever :14* And made Israel pass through the midst of it, *For His mercy endures forever:15* But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, *For His mercy endures forever:16* To Him who led His people through the wilderness, *For His mercy endures forever: 17* To Him who struck down great kings, *For His mercy endures forever :18* And slew famous kings, *For His mercy endures forever:19* Sihon king of the Amorites, *For His mercy endures forever:20* And Og king of Bashan, *For His mercy endures forever :21* And gave their land as a heritage, *For His mercy endures forever :22* A heritage to Israel His servant, *For His mercy endures forever :23* Who remembered us in our lowly state, *For His mercy endures forever :24* And rescued us from our enemies, *For His mercy endures forever :25* Who gives food to all flesh, *For His mercy endures forever :26* Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven!  
*For His mercy endures forever*

**"HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER;  
THANK YOU JESUS!"**

**1.) *By preparing a people in this world***

**v.1-4**

**PREPARING A PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD**

**1a.) *He fortified their hearts and minds***

**v. 1-4**

### Judges 3:1-4

Now these *are* the nations which the LORD left, that He might **test** (assay) Israel **by them**, *that is*, all who had not known any of the wars in Canaan :**2** (*this was* only so that the generations of the children of Israel might be taught to know war, at least those who had not formerly known it), :**3** *namely*, the five lords among the **Philistines**, the **Canaanites**, the **Sidonians**, and the **Hivites** who dwelt in Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal Hermon to the entrance of Hamath. :**4** And they were *left*, *that He might test* Israel by them, **to know whether they would obey the commandments of the LORD**, which He had commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses.

**"HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER;  
THANK YOU JESUS!"**

**2.) *By putting up with their sins***

**v.5-7**

### PUTTING UP WITH THEIR SINS

**2a.) *He gave them what they asked for***

**v. 5-7**

### Judges 3:5-7

Thus the children of Israel **dwelt among the** Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. :**6** **And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons; and they served their gods. (foreign gods)** :**7** **So the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD.** They forgot the LORD their God, and served the Baals and Asherahs.

### Israel was in a State of Decline.

Because It Allowed Foreign Practices  
to Become Part of Its Culture.

**Protecting a Heritage, a Culture, Is a Valuable Asset  
for The Next Generation.**

**Because of Israel's Disobedience to The Lord**

## **The Nation Began to Suffer**

Morally, Socially, Economically, Militarily.

That's Always The Cycle.

*moral **decay**, spreads to social **division** which leads to economic **hardship** which results in military **weakness**.*

## **Israel's Neighbors Began**

To Understand That Israel was Growing Weaker.  
So They Waited and They Watched for Indicators.

**EVERY NATION HAS IT'S ENEMIES  
THAT WATCH FOR WEAKNESSES.**

America Has It's Enemies.

**According to the Bible.**

The Lord is the One Who Defends a Nation  
That Cries Out to Him.

**America is in The State of Decline.**

Morally, Socially, Economically, Militarily,

**America's Influence**

**Because America is a Post-Christian Nation.**

**Because America is a Post-Christian Nation.**

**Because America is a Post-Christian Nation.**

**Because America is a Post-Christian Nation.**

**Because America is a Post-Christian Nation.**

And In The Words of Vladimir Putin,  
“The United States has Lost Its Place in the World.”

**When a Christian Backslides,**  
That believer suffers from the elements of this world.

The Prophet Jonah backslid, and brought upon himself great difficulty.

Once Great Britain,  
Today's England is an Empty Hallow of What It Once Was.

Once the Greatest Christian Nation in The World,  
England, Today is Being Conquered from Within.

**Our America of Today;**

It's serving other gods, prays to other gods, worships other gods.

**The America of Today;**

Is a government that worships another god

**The America of Today;**

Cannot **pray** to Lord,  
It Cannot **Quote** The Bible,  
It Cannot **Teach** The Scriptures,  
It Cannot **Celebrate** Jesus' Birth,  
It Cannot Have **Christmas** Plays in School.

**The America of Today;**

*It allows everything else.*

It can Barely Have “In God We Trust” on Its Currency.  
(the new one dollar coin)

**“IN GOD WE TRUST”**

It's out of sight, and in the place where it  
wears off first

## WHERE?

America is Not Interested in the God of the Bible Anymore.  
America wants a **new** strange, **foreign**, **unpredictable** kinda god,  
One that's different from what our fathers knew.

**Tonight the United States sits atop a mountain of  
blessings from earlier generations; a spoiled, indulgent,  
out of shape, out of control little child with a temper...**

**Saying, " Give Me Something New ,  
I Want Something Different, I'm  
Tired of All This .**

### **Psalm 106:13-15**

But they soon forgot what he had done and did not wait for his counsel. :14 In the  
desert they gave in to their craving; in the wasteland they put God to the test. :15 So  
he gave them what they asked for, but sent a wasting disease upon them.

**"HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER;  
THANK YOU JESUS!"**

**3.) *By punishing His people in love* v.8-14**

### **PUNISHING HIS PEOPLE IN LOVE**

**3a.) *He sent them to their room* v. 8-14**

### Judges 3:8-14

Therefore the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, ((and He sold them into the hand of Cushan-risha-tha-im king of Mesopotamia; and the children of Israel served Cushan-risha-tha-im eight years.)) :9 **When the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer** for the children of Israel, who delivered them: Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother. :10 The Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the LORD delivered Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim. :11 So the land had rest for forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died. :12 And **the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD**. So the LORD strengthened Eglon king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD. :13 Then he gathered to himself the people of Ammon and Amalek, went and defeated Israel, and took possession of the City of Palms. :14 So the children of Israel served Eglon king of Moab eighteen years.

I s r a e l ,   G o   T o   Y o u r   R o o m   a n d   S t a y  
T h e r e .

**"HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER;  
THANK YOU JESUS!"**

**4.) *By providing another deliverer***

**v.15-31**

### PROVIDING ANOTHER DELIVERER

**4a.) *He uses events to His purposes***

**v. 15-31**

### Judges 3:15-31

**But when the children of Israel cried out to the LORD**, the LORD raised up a deliverer for them: **Ehud** the son of Ge'ra, the Benjamite, a left-handed man. By him the children of Israel sent tribute to Eglon king of Moab. :16 Now Ehud made himself a dagger (it was double-edged and a cubit in length) and fastened it under his clothes on his right thigh. :17 So he brought the tribute to Eglon king of Moab. (Now Eglon was a very fat man.) :18 And when he had finished presenting the tribute, he sent away the people who had carried the tribute. :19 **But he himself turned back from the stone images that were at Gilgal**, and said, "I have a secret message for you, O king." He said, "Keep silence!" And all who attended him went out from him. :20 So Ehud came to him (now he was sitting upstairs in his cool private chamber). Then Ehud said, "I

have a message from God for you.” So he arose from *his* seat. **:21** Then Ehud reached with his left hand, took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly. **:22** Even the hilt went in after the blade, and the fat closed over the blade, for he did not draw the dagger out of his belly; and his entrails came out. **:23** Then Ehud went out through the porch and shut the doors of the upper room behind him and locked them. **:24** When he had gone out, *Eglon’s* servants came to look, and *to their* surprise, the doors of the upper room were locked. So they said, “He is probably attending to his needs in the cool chamber.”.... **:25** So they waited till they were embarrassed, and still he had not opened the doors of the upper room. Therefore they took the key and opened *them*. And there was their master, fallen dead on the floor. **:26** But Ehud had escaped while they delayed, and passed beyond the stone images and escaped to Seirah. **:27** And it happened, when he arrived, that he blew the trumpet in the mountains of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mountains; and he led them. **:28** Then he said to them, “Follow *me*, for the LORD has delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand.” So they went down after him, seized the fords of the Jordan leading to Moab, and did not allow anyone to cross over. **:29** And at that time they killed about ten thousand men of Moab, all stout (buffed) men of valor; not a man escaped. **:30** So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest for eighty years. **:31** After him was Shamgar the son of A’nath, who killed six hundred men of the Philistines with an ox goad; and he also delivered Israel.

## WAS THERE HOPE FOR ISRAEL? IS THERE HOPE FOR AMERICA?

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*End of Study*

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