

Lesson 11:
The Sword of the LORD and of Gideon
Judges 6-8

Outline of the Book of Judges

- I. Introduction to the Time of the Judges
(1:1-3:6)

- II. The Judges' Work
(3:7-16:31)

- III. Moral Decline During the Time of the Judges
Highlighted
(17-21)

II. The Judges' Work (3:7-16:31)

- A. Othniel (3:7-11)
- B. Ehud (3:12-30)
- C. Shamgar (3:31)
- D. Barak (4-5)
- E. Gideon (6-9)

Thesis Statement

During the time of the judges,
the Israelites became like the Canaanites,
but God preserved them as a distinct, surviving
people and nation
by raising up judges who saved them from their
enemies.

Chiastic Structure?

Introduction: Part 1 (1:1–2:5)

Introduction: Part 2 (2:6–3:6)

Othniel (3:7–11)

Ehud, + Shamgar (3:12–21)

Deborah, Barak, Jael (4:1–5:31)

Gideon (6:1–8:32)

Abimelech, + Tola and Jair (8:33–10:5)

Jephthah, + Ibzan, Elon and Abdon (10:6–12:15)

Samson (13:1–16:31)

Epilogue: Part 1 (17:1–18:31)

Epilogue: Part 2 (19:1–21:25)

Deuteronomy 7:1-6

- 1 “When the LORD your God brings you into the land where you are entering to possess it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and stronger than you,
- 2 and when the LORD your God delivers them before you and you defeat them, then you shall utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them and show no favor to them.
- 3 “Furthermore, you shall not intermarry with them; you shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor shall you take their daughters for your sons.

Deuteronomy 7:1-6

- 4 “For they will turn your sons away from following Me to serve other gods; then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you and He will quickly destroy you.
- 5 “But thus you shall do to them: you shall tear down their altars, and smash their *sacred* pillars, and hew down (עֲדַג) their Asherim, and burn their graven images with fire.
- 6 “For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 12:1-3

- 1 “These are the statutes and the judgments which you shall carefully observe in the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess as long as you live on the earth.
- 2 “You shall utterly destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess serve their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree.
- 3 “You shall tear down their altars and smash their *sacred* pillars and burn their Asherim with fire, and you shall cut down (עֲדַע) the engraved images of their gods and obliterate their name from that place.





Miles
0 10 20 30

Asher

Naphtali

East
Manasseh

Kedesh

● Golan

Zebulun

Sea of
Chinnereth

Issachar

●
Ramoth-gilead

Manasseh

Jordan River

● Shechem

Gad

Ephraim

Dan

Benjamin

●
Bezer

Reuben

Judah

● Hebron

Salt Sea

Simeon

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

- 14 “When you enter the land which the LORD your God gives you, and you possess it and live in it, and you say, ‘I will set a king over me like all the nations who are around me,’
- 15 you shall surely set a king over you whom the LORD your God chooses, *one* from among your countrymen you shall set as king over yourselves; you may not put a foreigner over yourselves who is not your countryman.
- 16 “Moreover, he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor shall he cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, since the LORD has said to you, ‘You shall never again return that way.’
- 17 “He shall not multiply wives for himself, or else his heart will turn away; nor shall he greatly increase silver and gold for himself.

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

- 18 “Now it shall come about when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests.
- 19 “It shall be with him and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, by carefully observing all the words of this law and these statutes,
- 20 that his heart may not be lifted up above his countrymen and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, to the right or the left, so that he and his sons may continue long in his kingdom in the midst of Israel.

What Is Gideon's Legacy?

Abimelech
(Judges 9)