

Timeline of Truth – Judges 2:6—3:6 – Spiritual Failure: God Sends Trouble on God-Forsakers

⁶ And when Joshua had dismissed the people, the children of Israel went each to his own inheritance to possess the land. ⁷ So the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD which He had done for Israel.

⁸ Now Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died *when he was* one hundred and ten years old. ⁹ And they buried him within the border of his inheritance at Timnath Heres, in the mountains of Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash.

¹⁰ When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel.

- 1. Israel's Rapid _____ from the LORD**
- a. Generation #1: _____ God**
- 1) Joshua dismissed them to continue their own conquests
 - 2) The people served the LORD
 - All the days of Joshua
 - All the days of the elders who outlived Joshua (witnesses of the great works of the LORD)
 - 3) Joshua, the servant of the LORD, died @ 110
 - 4) Joshua was buried within his inheritance
- b. Generation #2: _____ God**
- 1) After the generation of the elders who outlived Joshua
 - 2) Another generation arose who did not know the LORD (relationally):
 - The LORD
 - The work which He had done for Israel

¹¹ Then the children of Israel **did evil** in the sight of the LORD, and **served** the Baals; ¹² and they **forsook** the LORD God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; and they **followed** other gods from among the gods of the people who were all around them, and they **bowed** down to them; and they **provoked** the LORD to anger. ¹³ They **forsook** the LORD and **served** Baal and the Ashtoreths.

- 2. The _____ of Israel's Departures**
- a. (The) _____ – Rejection of God**
- 1) Apostasy; breaking covenant
 - 2) Children of Israel – general term for the entire nation
 - 3) "The Evil" is not general evil, but it is always the abandonment of the LORD and the worship of other gods.
 - 4) Observe the verbs, the snare, and the focus
 - 5) Baal / Ashtoreth – God / Goddess of the sensual fertility religion. Reflects the present culture driven by the lust of the eyes, flesh, pride of life (e.g. pornography, gender/marriage/LGBTQ, abortion)

¹⁴ And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel. So **He delivered them** into the hands of plunderers who despoiled them; and **He sold them** into the hands of their enemies all around, so that they could no longer stand before their enemies. ¹⁵ Wherever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for calamity, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn to them. And they were greatly distressed.

- b. _____ – Response by God**
- 1) God's Anger (14a)
 - 2) God's Actions (14b-15a)
 - He delivered them into the hands of plunderers
 - He sold them into the hands of their enemies
 - He was against them wherever they went
 - 3) God's Faithfulness to His Word (15b)
 - Lev 26, Deut 28; Joshua 23:12-13
 - 4) Israel's Distress (15c)

¹⁶ Nevertheless, the LORD raised up judges who delivered them out of the hand of those who plundered them. ¹⁷ Yet they would not listen to their judges, but they played the harlot with other gods, and bowed down to them. They turned quickly from the way in which their fathers walked, in obeying the commandments of the LORD; they did not do so. ¹⁸ And when the LORD raised up judges for them, the LORD was with the judge and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for the LORD was moved to pity by their groaning because of those who oppressed them and harassed them.

- c. _____ – Rescuer from God**
- 1) *Nevertheless...* God's grace (not earned by Israel)
 - 2) God raised up judges who delivered them (16)
 - 3) Israel continued on their sinful path (17)
 - 4) God gives peace during the time of the judge (18)
- If the goodness of God will not draw you,
then perhaps the punishment of God will.
– Daniel Block*
- [NOTE: God continues to sustain Israel in the midst of their rebellion. God had made promises to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all Israel, and was keeping those promises even while disciplining Israel.]*

<p>¹⁹ And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they reverted and behaved more corruptly than their fathers, by following other gods, to serve them and bow down to them. They did not cease from their own doings nor from their stubborn way.</p>	<p>d. Repeating _____ Downward (at least 6x)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Judge dies 2) Revert back 3) More corrupt 4) More gods
<p>²⁰ Then the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and He said, "Because this nation has transgressed My covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not heeded My voice, ²¹ "I also will no longer drive out before them any of the nations which Joshua left when he died, ²² "so that through them I may test Israel, whether they will keep the ways of the LORD, to walk in them as their fathers kept <i>them</i>, or not." ²³ Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them out immediately; nor did He deliver them into the hand of Joshua. 3¹ Now these <i>are</i> the nations which the LORD left, that He might test Israel by them, <i>that is</i>, all who had not known any of the wars in Canaan ² (<i>this was</i> 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 <i>namely</i>, five lords of the Philistines, all 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 <i>left</i>, 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.</p>	<p>3. God Chooses Ongoing Disciplinary _____ for Israel</p> <p>a. This passage projects God's own words (20a-22)</p> <p>b. The 2 Part Cause:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Broken God's covenant (20b) 2) Disobeyed God's voice (20c) <p>c. The Restraint from Helping (21)</p> <p>d. The Reason for Testing (22)</p> <p>e. The Resulting Enemy Nations (23)</p> <p>f. The Recipients (3:1-2) – Next generation</p> <p>g. The Remaining Nations (3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All the Canaanites (general inhabitants) 2) Philistines (not native to Canaan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTE: Their migration has been directed by the Lord 3) Sidonians (Phoenicians) 4) Hivites (describes them from the north) <p>h. The Restated Purpose (4)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To test 2) In order to know if they would obey (success possible) <p style="text-align: center;">Key Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>When we allow ourselves to stay in sin or to put up with sin, we fight against God and His protection.</i> • <i>Putting up with sin breaks down our relationship with God.</i> • <i>Sin in us must be rejected and confessed or it will eventually rule us</i>
<p>⁵ 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.</p>	<p>4. Summary of Israel's Ongoing _____ in Judges</p> <p>a. _____ among the enemy (forgot Deut 7:1-5)</p> <p>b. _____ with the enemy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Not an ethnic issue but a spiritual one (Josh 23:12-23) 2) Marriage affects one's beliefs! (Deut 7:3-4) 3) Allegiance to God is at stake 4) E.g. Gideon, Ibzan, Samson... <p>c. _____ the gods of the enemy</p> <p>d. Instead of purging them, they became them</p>

I would say the theme of this chapter, the theme of this second prologue, is habitual sin and generational drift from God can result in God's discipline. Judges is about sin, but it's also about sin's trajectory. Judges unfurls for us a series of case studies, and they're all about sin. They're case studies that are spiraling downward. – Kenneth Way

Deut 7:1-5 "When the LORD your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out 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 mightier than you, ² "and when the LORD your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them *and* utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them. ³ "Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son. ⁴ "For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the LORD will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly. ⁵ "But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their *sacred* pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire.