

Judges 7**Key Verse:** v.2**Key Word:** *too many* – v.2**X-Ref:** *Hebrews 11:32***Paraphrase:** *Gideon battles against Midian after God reduces the size of the army to 300 men.***Examining the Text:**

- 1) Why is Gideon called Jerubbaal? *Because Gideon had destroyed the altar of Baal. The name means “let Baal contend against him.” – 6:32.*
- 2) God wants...
 - a. Prepared Men – v.3
 - b. To Fight God’s Battles
 - c. With God’s Weapons
 - d. In God’s Way.
- 3) How did God give Gideon a boost of courage? *He allowed him to overhear the interpretation of a dream of one of the Midianites that assured him Gideon would win – vs.10-14.*

Judges 8**Key Verse:** v.21; v.33**Key Word:** *snare* – v.27**X-Ref:** *Psalms 60:6; Psalm 83:11***Paraphrase:** *The conclusion of the battle against the Midianites.***Examining the Text:**

- 1) How did Gideon turn away the anger of the men of Ephraim? *He pointed out that God had given them the prize of capturing the princes – vs.3.*
- 2) How many men were in the army that the 300 defeated? *135,000 men, 100,000 died – v.10.*
- 3) How soon after Gideon’s death did Israel turn away from God? *As soon as he died – v.33*
- 4) Where was Abimelech’s mother from? *Shechem – v.31.*

Judges 9**Key Verse:** vs.2-3**Key Word:** *integrity* – v.19**X-Ref:** *1Samuel 19:9; Psalm 7:16; Proverbs 1:11***Paraphrase:** *Abimelech becomes king by killing his brothers.***Examining the Text:**

- 1) What argument did Abimelech use to convince the people of Shechem to choose him over his brothers? *Better to be ruled by one than by 70 and he was related to them – vs.2–3.*
- 2) What did Abimelech have to do to secure the throne? *Kill his brothers – v.5.*
- 3) Which brother escaped? *The youngest, Jotham – v.5.*
- 4) How did Abimelech die? *A woman cast a millstone on his head from a tower, then his servant ran him through with a sword – vs.53-54.*

Judges 10**Key Verse:** v.13**Key Word:** *evil* – v.6**X-Ref:** *Judges 11:1; Psalm 106:42-43***Paraphrase:** *Tola and Jair are listed as judges. After they die, Israel does evil and end up oppressed by the Philistines and the Ammonites.***Examining the Text:**

- 1) Who are the judges listed in this chapter and how long did they serve? *Tola – 23 years. Jair – 22 years – vs.2-3.*
- 2) Who oppressed Israel after Israel turned from God? *Philistines and Ammonites – v. 7.*
- 3) What terrifying statement did God make in this chapter? *“Therefore I will save you no more” – v.13.*

Judges 11**Key Verse:** vs.30-31**Key Word:** *vow* – v.30**X-Ref:** *Numbers 20-21***Paraphrase:** *Jephthah delivers Israel and makes a vow he later regrets.*

Examining the Text:

- 1) Why was Jephthah despised initially? *He was the son of a prostitute, not the son of his father's wife – vs.2-3.*
- 2) What is the basis for Jephthah's argument to the king of the Ammonites? *God gave Israel this land. What did the god of the Ammonites give them? – vs.23-24.*
- 3) Did Jephthah offer his daughter as a burnt sacrifice? *I do not believe that he did, but if he did, we can be certain that God did not accept it. Consider the following article – apologeticspress.org/jephthahs-daughter-4709/*

Judges 12

Key Verse: v.3

Key Word: *Shibboleth – v.6*

X-Ref: *Ruth 1:1-2*

Paraphrase: *Ephraim attacks his own people and loses.*

Examining the Text:

- 1) Why did Ephraim attack Gilead? *They were angry that Jephthah did not call on Ephraim when he went to war with the Ammonites – v.1.*
- 2) Which side of the Jordan was Gilead on? *East*
- 3) List the judges mentioned in this chapter and how long they served. *Jephthah – 6 years, Ibzan – 7 years, Elon – 10 years, Abdon – 8 years.*

Judges 13

Key Verse: v.3

Key Word: *Nazarite – vs.4 & 7.*

X-Ref: *Luke 1:15*

Paraphrase: *The events leading up to Samson's birth.*

Examining the Text:

- 1) From which tribe did Samson originate? *Dan – v.2.*
- 2) List the restrictions the angel of the Lord gave to Manoah's wife. *Eat nothing from the vine, no wine or strong drink, nothing unclean, don't shave his head – vs.4 & 14.*
- 3) What conclusion did Manoah come to after he realized he had met an angel? *That he would die – v.22.*