

# Old Testament Introduction

## *The Book of Judges*

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### **The Book of Judges**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1) The Book of Judges gets its name from the \_\_\_\_\_ leaders who delivered and ruled over the twelve tribes of Israel following the death of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) The Judges performed a twofold purpose in Israel's history:
  - a. God used them to \_\_\_\_\_ His people from enemy oppression.
  - b. God used them to \_\_\_\_\_ over His people and administer \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Judges is the divine record of Israel's failure to \_\_\_\_\_ God, the \_\_\_\_\_ from God because of their disobedience, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God as He restores His backslidden people.
- 4) The \_\_\_\_\_ of sin, suffering, sorrow, and salvation runs through the entire book of Judges.
- 5) The Book of Judges is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ parts of the Bible, humanly speaking. Some have called it the "*Book of \_\_\_\_\_*."
- 6) The Book of Judges is a sad \_\_\_\_\_ to the Book of Joshua.

#### **AUTHORSHIP**

- 1) **The Traditional view:** Jewish tradition and internal evidence hold that \_\_\_\_\_ wrote the Book of Judges. The book was written after the death of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ that outlived him (**Judges 2:7**). The book was written after the days of the \_\_\_\_\_ (**Judges 17:6; 18:1; 19:1**, etc.). The book was written before the \_\_\_\_\_ year of David's reign (**Judges 1:21 cf. 2 Samuel 5:6**)

The "*moral tone*" of the book indicates that it was written from a \_\_\_\_\_ point of view (**Judges 3:7; 4:1**). Samuel best fits this time period and was a prophet during the early stages of Israel's history as a monarchy.

2) **The Critical view:** Critics say that the Book of Judges consists of "*old hero tales*" compiled from two different sources. They claim the book is distorted and wrong from a historical point of view, they and allege that it did not reach its present form until about \_\_\_\_\_ B. C.

#### **RECIPIENTS**

The Book of Judges was written to the nation of Israel which had only recently been established as a monarchy under the kings Saul and David.

#### **DATE OF WRITING**

The Book of Judges was written about sometime prior to the seventh year of David's reign which was about \_\_\_\_\_ B. C.

#### **PURPOSE OF BOOK**

To continue the \_\_\_\_\_ of the chosen nation of Israel from the death of Joshua to the time of Samuel. To demonstrate the moral \_\_\_\_\_ of man by showing what happens "*...when every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*" (**17:6; 21:25**)

#### **THEME OF THE BOOK**

The Book of Judges could be summed up in the title: "*God's Grace to \_\_\_\_\_*."

In the Book of Judges there are seven apostasies, seven servitudes, seven cries to God, and seven deliverances. God is seen in this book \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ his backslidden people.

#### **OUTLINE**

- I. Israel's Wars (**1:1-2:5**)
- II. Israel's Woes (**2:6-16:31**)
- III. Israel's Ways (**17:21**)