

Old Testament PowerPoint presentation

Judges

Suggested Bible Reading: Joshua 23: 1-13

Slide1



(Black background) ‡ credits will move up the page. ‡ to open →

Slide 2



– The book of Judges could have written over it - ‡ God ‡ or ‡ gods. ‡ to open →

Slide 3



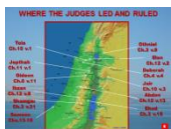
– The cycle of the ups and downs of the book of Judges ‡ 1. Israel serves God ‡ 2. Israel falls into sin and idolatry ‡ 3. Israel is enslaved ‡ 4. Israel cries out to God ‡ 5. God raises up a judge ‡ 6. Israel is delivered ‡ to open →

Slide 4



– God raised up judges ‡ they were ‡ Leaders in battle ‡ Rulers in peace ‡ The Book of judges covers about 300 years ‡ to open →

Slide 5



– Where the judges led and ruled ‡ Tola ‡ Jephthah ‡ Gideon ‡ Ibzan ‡ Shamgar ‡ Samson ‡ Othniel ‡ Elon ‡ Deborah ‡ Jair ‡ Abdon ‡ Ehud. We now look at three of the Judges as representatives of the book. ‡ to open →

Slide 6



– **Judge Deborah** (the only female judge). ‡ The story is found in chapters 4 & 5 - Barak, Deborah's military Commander fought against Sisera, the Commander of Jabin, King of Canaan. Barak fights against Sisera and his army. Sisera leaves his chariot and runs off on foot. He comes to the tent of Heber and his wife Jael; she persuades him to rest. ‡ Jael brings Sisera refreshments – some **milk** and **butter** (or curdled milk) (ch. 4: 19, ch. 25). ‡ Once Sisera is asleep, Jael kills

him with a **hammer** and a **tent peg**. (ch. 4: 21) ≠ The land has rest for 40 years. ≠ to open →

Slide 7



– Judge **Gideon** Chapter 7, God's chosen man - Israel had been under the domination of the Midianites for 7 years. In fear and trembling Gideon is threshing wheat when God calls him to lead the battle against the Midianites. ≠ Scales shown ≠ God's chosen men – under Gideon (on the left) ≠ The Midianites (on the right) ≠ Millions of Midianites as opposed to ≠ Israel's 32,000 ≠ this is **too many** men for God's purposes ≠ Those who are afraid can volunteer to go home = 22,000. That leaves ≠ 10,000 men ≠ this is still **too many** men ≠ tested at the water 9,700 sent home. ≠ to open →

Slide 8



– that leaves = 300 men whom God will use ≠ these are God's chosen men ≠ to open →

Slide 9



– Each of the 300 men were to have ≠ a trumpet and a ≠ pitcher (pot) with a burning torch inside it ≠ Gideon's instructions were simple – watch me, copy me. The men were divided into 3 companies of 100, and were to stand around 3 sides of the camp of the Midianites. When Gideon blew his trumpet, the men would do likewise, and at the same time they were to break the pitchers. The air would make the burning torch ≠ → burst into flames. ≠ to open →

Slide 10



– **Judge Samson** – we read about him in chapters 13-16, when the Philistines were attacking the Israelites ≠ He was to be a Nazarite from birth – chapter 13: 5 ≠ What was the vow that applied to him? ≠ 1. No wine, ≠ 2. No unclean thing to be eaten, and ≠ 3. His hair was not to be cut. You can read about the Nazarite vow in ≠ Numbers chapter 6. ≠ to open →

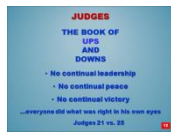
Slide 11



– The secret of his strength - God's Spirit came upon him (ch. 14: 6) ≠ he was able to kill a lion. ≠ he became strong. After many other acts of strength which confounded the Philistines, they used Delilah to entice Samson to tell her the secret of his strength. He eventually tells her that his strength lies in the fact that the Nazarite vow required him to not cut his hair. Eventually she cuts his hair, allowing

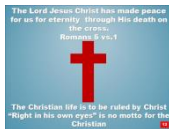
him to be held in the hands of the Philistines. They treated him cruelly, putting out his eyes and used him ‡ to entertain them at a feast held in honour of their god - Dagon. However - ‡ his hair had begun to grow again, and his strength returned. He pushes over the pillars of the place where the feast was being held; this resulted in the death of the Philistines and also himself. ‡ to open →

Slide 12



– Judges, could be called the ‡ book of ups and downs. Why? Because there was ‡ no continual leadership, ‡ no continual peace, ‡ no continual victory. The last verse in the book sums the situation up. ‡ “...everyone did what was right in his own eyes”. Ch.21: 25. ‡ to open →

Slide 13



– The Lord Jesus Christ has made peace for us for eternity, through His death. Romans 5: 1. ‡ Christ and the cross is the centre of our lives. ‡ The Christian is to be ruled by Christ – ‡ “Right in his own eyes” is no motto for the Christian.

‡ → End of slide show (black screen)