

16. Why do you think things went sour after only a couple of generations?

17. What must we do to make sure that those who come after us can “know the LORD” and his work?

## Pray

By the time you read this we should have a definite response to our application for funding for for a Families Minister from the Diocese. Pray that as we return to the congregation to seek pledges to support this and as we look for the right person that God would be pleased to bless this endeavour.

Pray for our own work of evangelism in the local area and amongst our personal contacts, and for those we support elsewhere. Pray that we would have a deep concern for others to know Christ, and a concern to obey His command to make disciples.

Give thanks for all that is done in our church, and church school, in teaching children about the Christian faith. Pray that they might truly come to know the Lord. Pray that we would be examples of whole-hearted devotion to God rather than the half-heartedness of the Israelites we have seen in this study.

*David Phillips,  
May 2019*

# Judges

## Study 1 : Judges 1.1-2.10



"To win people for Christ and to build them up in Christ."  
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*These verses are not in simple chronological order. They look first at what happened after Joshua's death, then before, then record his death. Joshua died about 1425BC having been part of the Exodus but long before there was a monarchy in Israel.*

## Background

1. **Read Genesis 15.13-16.** In v16 what did God say about the Amorites? What did He say Abraham's descendants would do in the future? What is implied about what would happen to the Amorites?

2. **Read Deuteronomy 20.16-18** What command did God give the Israelites through Moses? What reason did God give for what they were to do?

3. Given what was said about the Amorites in Genesis 15.16 what does God's command in Deuteronomy imply about the sin of all the nations listed?

## Read Judges 1.1-8

4. Remembering what the Israelites had been told to do (Deut 20) how do we see them obeying God in these verses?

*Israel did not at this point settle in Jerusalem but set it on fire.*

5. The action in Judges 1 took place about 400 years after God spoke to Abraham. How does it demonstrate both the wrath and mercy of God in all this?

### **Read Judges 1.18-21**

6. The Israelites were to bring judgment on the various tribes but what indications do we find in these verses that all was not well with Israel?

7. When was Jerusalem finally captured from the Jebusites? (**See 2 Sam 5.6-9**) Why did it take so long?

### **Read Judges 1.27-29**

*In preparation you might also want to read verses 30 to 36.*

8. How do we see that the failure of the Benjamites, recorded in verse 21, was not an isolated incident but a spiritual problem for the whole nation?

9. What was the problem? (see question 2)

### **Read Judges 2.1-5**

10. God had told the Israelites to drive out and destroy all the nations from the land. How was their failure to obey both the cause and the result of God's judgment on them?

11. Destruction of these nations was God's judgment on them because of their sin. But how were the people also a danger to the Israelites? From what you know of the later history of Israel was this danger real? (Or you can sneak a look forward to verse 11.)

### **Read "the Great Commission" in Matthew 28.18-20**

12. How does this command to God's people compare with what Israel was told to do?

13. In what ways are we as a church (both locally and throughout the world) obeying what Christ said?

14. In what ways are we as a church (both locally and throughout the world) failing to do what Christ has told us.

### **Read Judges 2.6-10**

*These verses are commenting on what happened in the final chapters of the book of Joshua and Judges 1.1-2.5.*

15. Verse 10 talks about two generations but Joshua belonged to the generation before both. What had previously happened to his generation and why? (The answer is not in this passage.)