

# LIGHT FOR LIFE

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EXPLORING GOD-BREATHED GLORY

*The*  
HOLY

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For with you is the fountain of **life**;  
in your light do we see **light**.

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Psalm 36:9

**LIGHT FOR LIFE**  
EXPLORING GOD-BREATHED GLORY



# JUDGES

Author: Samuel\*

Date: c. 1025 - 1004 B.C.

Canon: 2<sup>nd</sup> of the Prophets  
(Historical Books)

The cry of man's unrighteousness  
and the need for a righteous King



## TITLE

|        |         |        |
|--------|---------|--------|
| Hebrew | שפטים   | Judges |
| Greek  | KPITAI  | Judges |
| Latin  | IUDICUM | Judges |

# CONTINUITY

| JOSHUA  | JUDGES   |
|---|--|
| Freedom   | Oppression   |
| Progress  | Decline  |
| Victory through Belief  | Defeat through Unbelief  |
| “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods”<br>(Joshua 24:16) | “And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. They forgot the LORD their God and served the Baals and the Asheroth” (Judges 3:7) |
| Served God (Joshua 24:31)   | Served Self (Judges 21:25)   |

## PURPOSE

Highlight God's gracious steadfast love and appeal to His covenant people to abandon all forms of pagan influence and cling to YHWH as their King



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Then the LORD raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them. Yet they did not listen to their judges, for they whored after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their fathers had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the LORD, and they did not do so.

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Judges 2:16–17

# STRUCTURE

| DISOBEDIENCE |          | DELIVERANCE       |      |                   |        |           |          |        | DISASTER    |            |
|--------------|----------|-------------------|------|-------------------|--------|-----------|----------|--------|-------------|------------|
| Prologue     |          | Historical Cycles |      |                   |        |           |          |        | Epilogue    |            |
| Incomplete   | Idolatry | Othniel           | Ehud | Deborah,<br>Barak | Gideon | Abimelech | Jephthah | Samson | Idolatry    | Immorality |
| 1            | 2        | 3 – 16            |      |                   |        |           |          |        | 17 – 19     | 20 – 21    |
| Causes       |          | Consequences      |      |                   |        |           |          |        | Conditions  |            |
| Living With  |          | Waring With       |      |                   |        |           |          |        | Living Like |            |



# JUDGES

- Othniel (3:1-11) – *Mesopotamians*
- Ehud (3:12-31) – *Moabites*
- Deborah & Barak (4:1-5:31) – *Canaanites*
- Gideon (6:1-8:32) – *Midianites***
- Abimelech, Tola, Jair (8:33-10:5) – *Abimelech*
- Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon (10:6-12:15) – *Ammonites*
- Samson (13:1-16:31) – *Philistines*



In those days there was no king in Israel.  
Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.



Judges 21:25

# SIN-SALVATION CYCLE



# SIN-SALVATION CYCLE

| SIN         | SERVITUDE      | SUPPLICATION | SALVATION  | SECURITY |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|------------|----------|
| 2:11-13, 17 | 2:14-15, 20-23 | 2:18         | 2:16       | 2:18     |
| 3:7, 12     | 3:8, 12-14     | 3:9, 15      | 3:9-10, 15 | 3:11, 30 |
| 4:1         | 4:2            | 4:3          | 4:6-7      | 5:31     |
| 6:1; 8:33   | 6:1-6          | 6:7          | 6:14       | 8:28     |
| 10:6        | 10:7-9         | 10:10        | 10:18      | 12:7     |
| 13:1        | 13:1           |              | 13:5       | 16:31    |