

THE STORY of the BIBLE



... choose today whom you will serve... But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.”

The people replied, “We would never abandon the Lord and serve other gods. For the Lord our God is the one who rescued us...



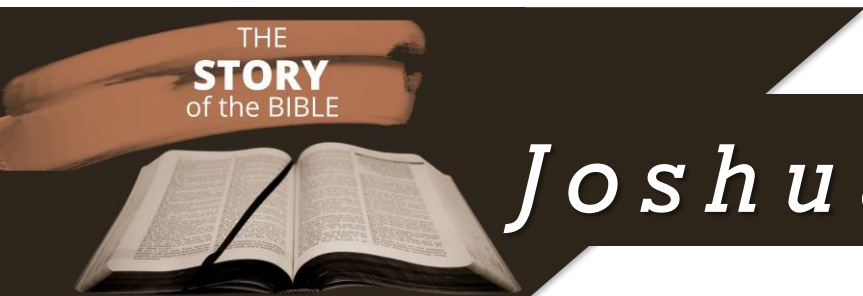
Joshua 24:12-21 (NLT)

After that generation died, another generation grew up who did not acknowledge the Lord or remember the mighty things he had done for Israel. The Israelites did evil in the Lord's sight and served the images of Baal.



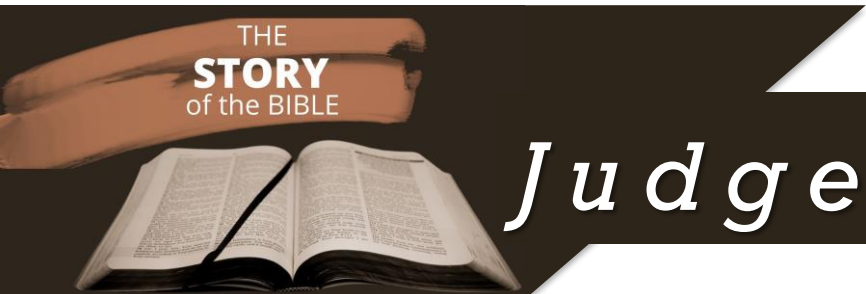
Joshua 24:12-21 (NLT)

They abandoned the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They went after other gods, worshiping the gods of the people around them. And they angered the Lord.



Joshua 24:12-21 (NLT)

In those days Israel had no king; **all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.**



Judges 21:25 (NLT)

THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



❖ My problem may not be what I think it is

Israel's real problem wasn't the enemy that was making their lives miserable.

Israel's problem was that they weren't following God.

Is it possible that you may have some problems like that in your life???



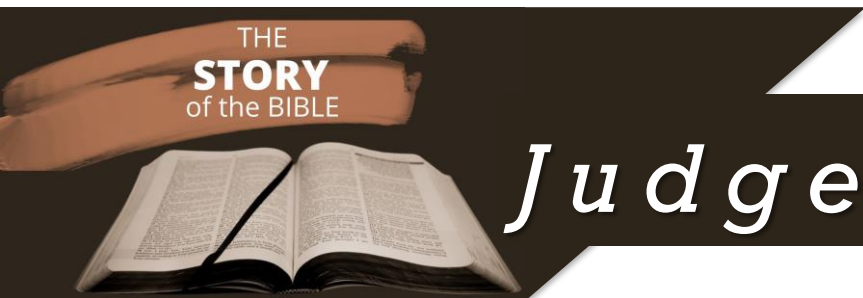
THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



- My problem may not be what I think it is

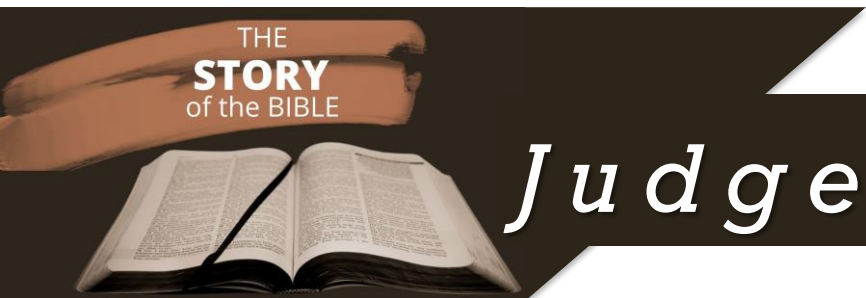
❖ We tend to follow God until we don't need Him

Then the Lord raised up judges to rescue the Israelites from their attackers. Yet Israel did not listen to the judges but prostituted themselves by worshiping other gods. **How quickly they turned away from the path of their ancestors, who had walked in obedience to the Lord's commands.**



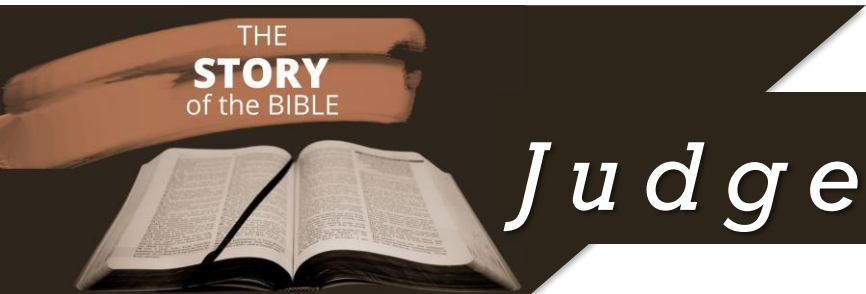
Judges 2:16–19 (NLT)

Whenever the Lord raised up a judge over Israel, he was with that judge and rescued the people from their enemies throughout the judge's life time. For the Lord took pity on his people, who were burdened by oppression and suffering.



Judges 2:16–19 (NLT)

But when the judge died, the people returned to their corrupt ways, behaving worse than those who had lived before them. They went after other gods, serving and worshiping them. And they refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.



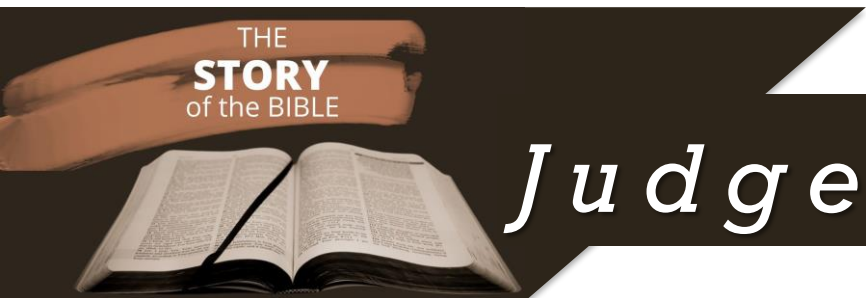
Judges 2:16–19 (NLT)

Adversity in our lives can be a gift from God reminding us that we need Him every day.

THE
STORY
of the BIBLE

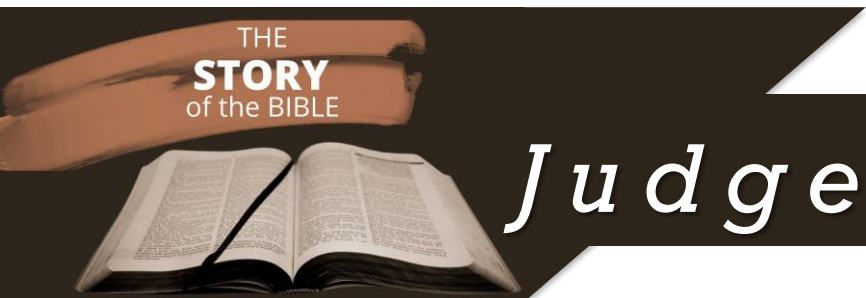


The Israelites did evil in the Lord's sight. So the Lord handed them over to the Midianites for seven years. The Midianites were so cruel that the Israelites made hiding places for themselves in the mountains, caves, and strongholds.



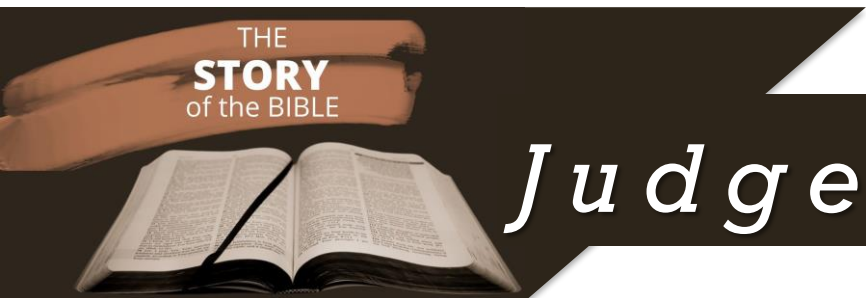
Judges 6:1–6 (NLT)

Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, marauders from Midian, Amalek, and the people of the east would attack Israel, camping in the land and destroying crops as far away as Gaza. They left the Israelites with nothing to eat, taking all the sheep, goats, cattle, and donkeys.



Judges 6:1–6 (NLT)

These enemy hordes, coming with their livestock and tents, were as thick as locusts; they arrived on droves of camels too numerous to count. And they stayed until the land was stripped bare. So Israel was reduced to starvation by the Midianites. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help.



Judges 6:1–6 (NLT)

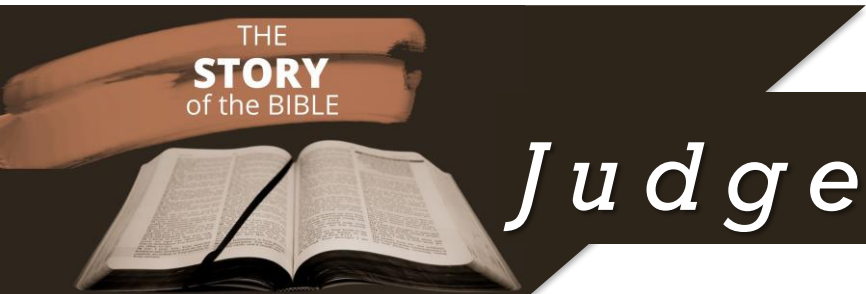
THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



- My problem may not be what I think it
- We tend to follow God until we don't need Him

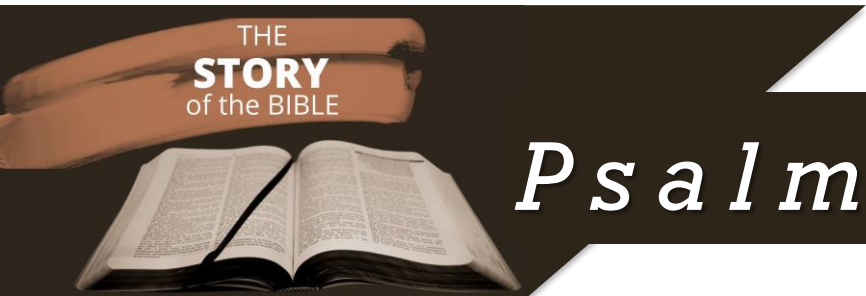
❖ God helps us when we acknowledge our need for Him

So Israel was reduced to starvation by the Midianites. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help.



Judges 6:1–6 (NLT)

and call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver
you, and you will honor me.”



Psalm 50:15 (NIV)

THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



- My problem may not be what I think it
- We tend to follow God until we don't need Him
- God helps us when we acknowledge our need for Him

❖ God uses people who see problems to solve problems

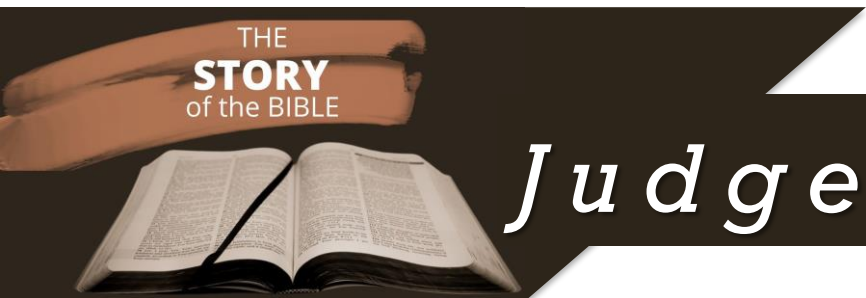
THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



- My problem may not be what I think it
- We tend to follow God until we don't need Him
- God helps us when we acknowledge our need for Him
- God uses people who see problems

❖ God likes working from weakness

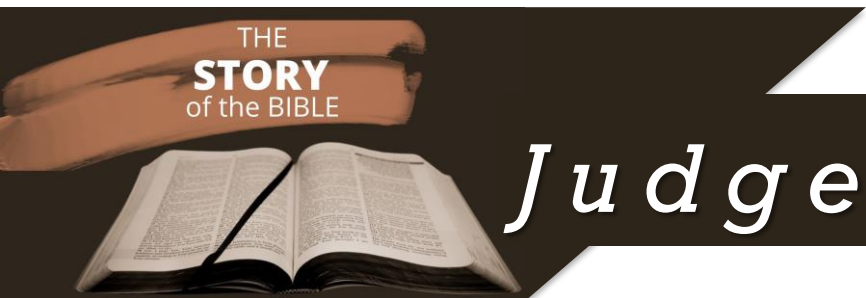
Then the angel of the Lord came and sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites.



Judges 6:11–17 (NLT)

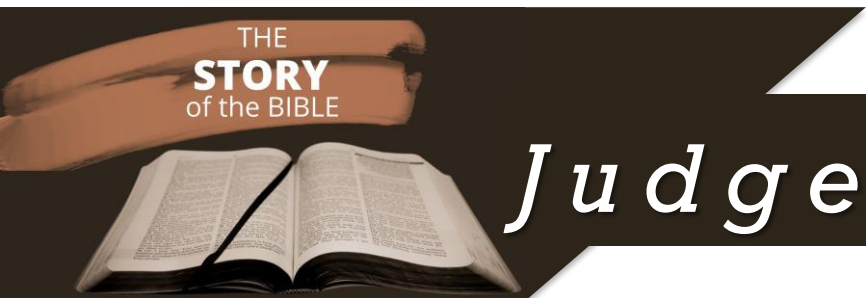


The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, “Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!” “Sir,” Gideon replied, “if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about?”



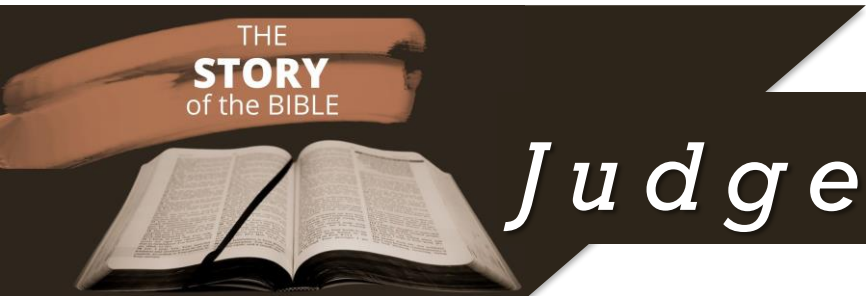
Judges 6:11–17 (NLT)

Didn't they say, 'The Lord brought us up out of Egypt'? But now the Lord has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites." Then the Lord turned to him and said, "Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!"



Judges 6:11-17 (NLT)

“But Lord,” Gideon replied, “how can I rescue Israel? **My clan is the weakest** in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and **I am the least** in my entire family!” The Lord said to him, “**I will be with you.** And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man.”



Judges 6:11–17 (NLT)

God doesn't call the brave;
He makes brave those He calls.

THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



The Lord said to Gideon, “You have too many warriors with you. If I let all of you fight the Midianites, the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength.



THE
STORY
of the BIBLE

Judges 7:2 (NLT)

Awareness of our need for God is the key that opens the door for God to enter your circumstances and meet your needs.

THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



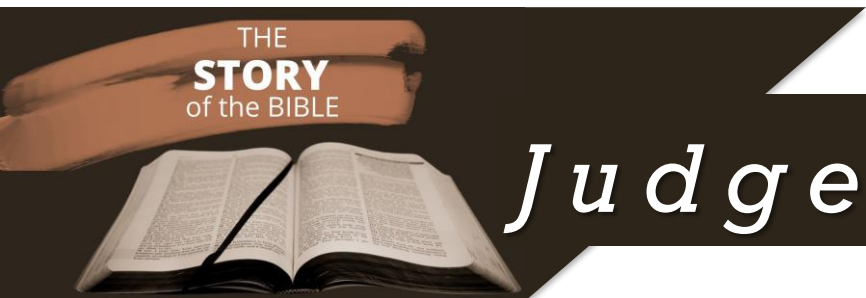
THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



- My problem may not be what I think it
- We tend to follow God until we don't need Him
- God helps us when we acknowledge our need for Him
- God uses people who see problems
- God likes working from weakness

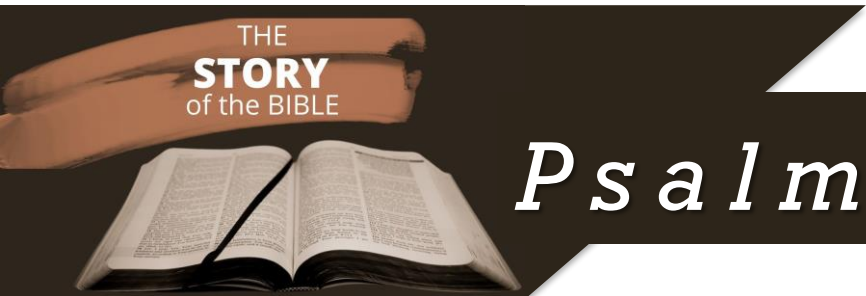
❖ God reassures you when you follow Him

The Lord said to him, “I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man.” Gideon replied, “If you are truly going to help me, show me a sign to prove that it is really the Lord speaking to me.



Judges 6:11–17 (NLT)

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light
for my path.



Psalm 119:105 (NLT)

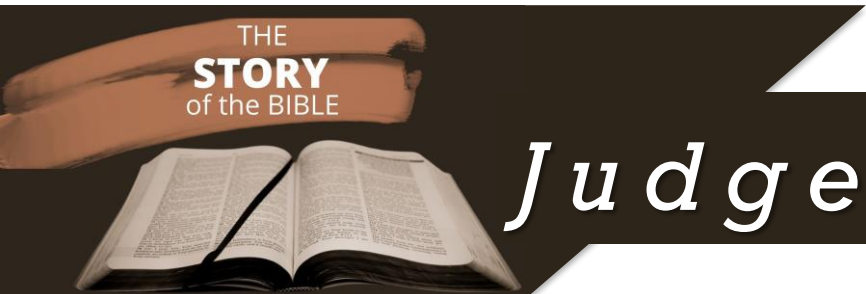
THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



- My problem may not be what I think it
- We tend to follow God until we don't need Him
- God helps us when we acknowledge our need for Him
- God uses people who see problems
- God likes working from weakness
- God reassures you as you follow Him

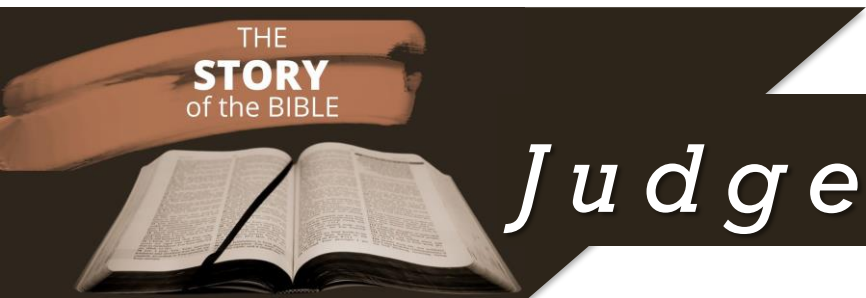
❖ It's not our fight; it's God's fight

It was just after midnight, after the changing of the guard, when Gideon and the 100 men with him reached the edge of the Midianite camp. Suddenly, they blew the rams' horns and broke their clay jars. Then all three groups blew their horns and broke their jars.



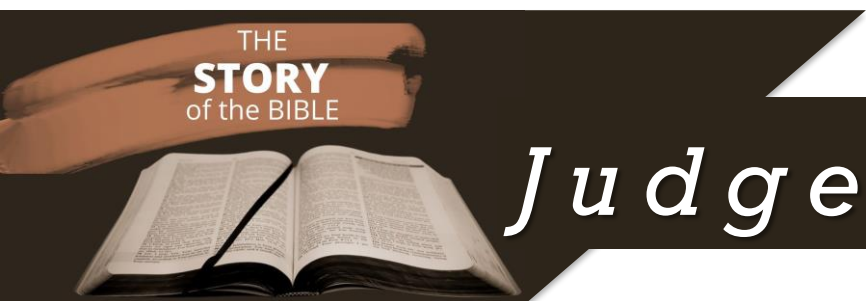
Judges 7:19–22 (NLT)

They held the blazing torches in their left hands and the horns in their right hands, and they all shouted, “A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!” Each man stood at his position around the camp and watched as all the Midianites rushed around in a panic, shouting as they ran to escape.



Judges 7:19–22 (NLT)

When the 300 Israelites blew their rams' horns, the Lord caused the warriors in the camp to fight against each other with their swords. Those who were not killed fled to places as far away as Bethshittah near Zererah and to the border of Abel-meholah near Tabbath.



Judges 7:19–22 (NLT)

This is how it happens. We humbly obey; God brings power.

THE
STORY
of the BIBLE



- My problem may not be what I think it is
- We tend to follow God until we don't need Him
- God helps us when we acknowledge our need for Him
- God uses people who see problems to solve problems
- God likes working from weakness
- It's not our fight; it's God's fight



THE STORY of the BIBLE

