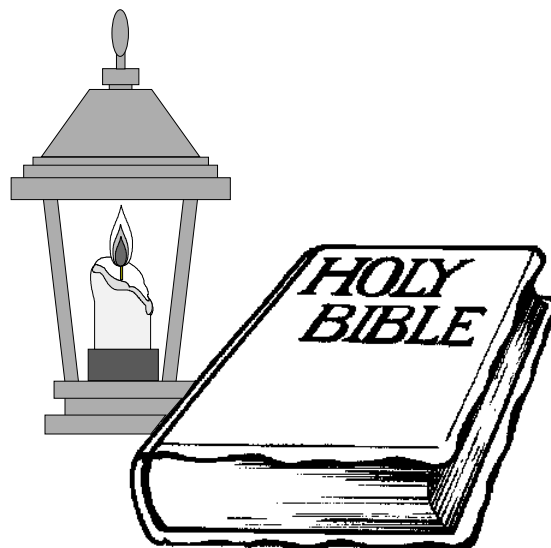


Bible Question Class Books

Bible Study Questions on the Book of Judges

by David E. Pratte

**A workbook suitable for Bible classes,
family studies, or personal Bible study**



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Bible Study Questions on the Book of Judges

Introduction:

This workbook was designed for Bible class study, family study, or personal study. The class book is suitable for teens and up. The questions contain minimal human commentary, but instead urge students to study to understand Scripture.

Enough questions are included for teachers to assign as many questions as they want for each study session. Studies may proceed at whatever speed and depth will best accomplish the needs of the students.

Questions labeled “think” are intended to encourage students to apply what they have learned. When questions refer to a map, students should consult maps in a Bible dictionary or similar reference work or in the back of their Bibles. (Note: My abbreviation “**b/c/v**” means “book, chapter, and verse.”)

For class instruction, I urge teachers to assign the questions as homework so students come to class prepared. Then let class time consist of **discussion** that focuses on the Scriptures themselves. Let the teacher use other Scriptures, questions, applications, and comments to promote productive discussion, not just reading the questions to see whether they were answered “correctly.” Please, do **not** let the class period consist primarily of the following: “Joe, will you answer number 1?” “Sue, what about number 2?” Etc.

I also urge students to emphasize the **Bible** teaching. Please, do not become bogged down over “What did the author mean by question #5?” My meaning is relatively unimportant. The issue is what the Bible says. Concentrate on the meaning and applications of Scripture. If a question helps promote Bible understanding, stay with it. If it becomes unproductive, move on.

The questions are not intended just to help students understand the Scriptures. They are also designed to help students learn good principles of Bible study. Good Bible study requires defining the meaning of keywords, studying parallel passages, explaining the meaning of the text clearly, making applications, and defending the truth as well as exposing religious error. I have included questions to encourage students to practice all these study principles.

Finally, I encourage plain applications of the principles studied. God's word is written so souls may please God and have eternal life. Please study it with the respect and devotion it deserves!

For whatever good this material achieves, to God be the glory.

Note that many of our free online Bible study materials are available for sale in print in a slightly different format at www.lighttomypath.net/sales

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Assignments on Judges 1

Please read the whole book of Judges at least once as we study chapter 1. Answer the following questions on chap. 1

1. Skim the book of Judges, reading as much as you can, and state the theme of the book.

2. **Special Assignment:** As we study we will see a cycle that the Israelites pass through repeatedly in the history of the judges. Watch for this cycle and summarize it when you can.

3. **Special Assignment:** In the book we will read frequently about the gods Baal and Ashtoreth. Consult a Bible dictionary or encyclopedia and summarize information about these gods.

4. After Joshua's death, what question did the Israelites ask the Lord – 1:1,2? What response did the Lord give?

5. Of whom did Judah then make a request, and what agreement was reached – 1:3? (Think: Why would Judah make this request of this particular tribe?)

6. What city did Judah attack first – 1:4 (see a *map*)? What success did they have?

7. Whom did they capture in the city – 1:5-7? How did they punish him?

8. How did this man respond to the treatment he had received – 1:7? What finally happened to him?

9. What city did Judah attack next – 1:8? What was the result? What areas did they fight against next – 1:9?

10. What city did they attack next – 1:10 (see *map*)? What had the city formerly been named? Who died in the attack? Where else do we read about these men, and who were they?

11. What city did they attack next, and what had it been named before – 1:11 (see *map*)? What offer did Caleb make regarding the city, and who accepted the offer – 1:12,13?

12. What request did Caleb's daughter make – 1:14,15? How did he respond?

13. Who were the Kenites – 1:16? Where did they live?

14. What promise had Judah made to Simeon that they fulfilled here – 1:17? What city did they capture, and what name did they give it (see *map*)?

15. What other cities did Judah capture – 1:18? Where are these located (see *map*)?

16. What problem did Judah have in expelling the inhabitants – 1:19?

17. **Special Assignment:** Explain Judah's failure in light of the promises of God. Was the strength of the inhabitants a valid excuse for their failure (see Deuteronomy 20:1)? List and discuss other related verses.

18. What other tribe failed to drive out inhabitants – 1:21? Whom did they fail to drive out (see *map*)?

19. What city did the house of Joseph attack – 1:22,23 (see *map*)? What had it formerly been named?

20. What plan did they follow in attacking the city, and what help did they receive – 1:23-25?

21. What happened to the man who had helped them – 1:25,26? Where did he go, and what did he do there?

22. Describe the failure of Manasseh in driving out inhabitants – 1:27? List the cities that they failed to capture.

23. What reason is given for their failure? What did they do instead of driving them out – 1:27,28?

24. According to 1:29, what other tribe failed to drive out the Canaanites? What city could they not capture (see **map**)?

25. According to 1:30, what other tribe failed to drive out the Canaanites? What cities could they not capture (see **map**)? What did they do instead of driving them out?

26. According to 1:31,32, what other tribe failed to drive out the Canaanites? What cities could they not capture (see **map**)? (Think: What language does the verse use that shows how completely the Israelites failed here?)

27. According to 1:33, what other tribe failed to drive out the Canaanites? What cities could they not capture (see **map**)? What did they do instead of driving them out?

28. How completely did the people of Dan fail in taking their territory – 1:34?

29. What other territories did the Amorites continue to possess – 1:35 (see **map**)? What reason is given why they continued to dwell there? What did the people of Joseph do instead of driving them out?

30. **Application:** Explain the real primary reason why the Israelites were not able to drive out the inhabitants of the land. What lessons should we learn for our own service to God?

Assignments on Judges 2

Please read chapter 2 and answer the following questions.

1. Who spoke to Israel in 2:1? What did God say that He had done for them?
2. What promise had God made to them? When and to whom had He made this promise? (Think: Did this mean the people were guaranteed to receive the blessings of the covenant, or were there conditions that they had to meet?)
3. What commandment had God given to Israel – 2:2? List some *passages* where God had given this commandment to them.
4. What reasons had God given for giving them this commandment? What have we already read in the book of Judges that shows the disobedience of the people?
5. What consequence did God say would come upon Israel for their disobedience – 2:3? (Think: Explain the sense in which this was a punishment for their sins.)
6. How did the people react to God's rebuke – 2:4,5? What did they name that place? What does the name mean?
7. How long had the people served God properly – 2:6,7? Where had similar statements been made in the book of Joshua?
8. How long did Joshua live – 2:8,9? Where was he buried (see *map*)?
9. How did the next generation differ from those that had served with Joshua – 2:10? What lessons can we learn about the importance of teaching our children the word of God?
10. What evil did the people of Israel commit – 2:11-13? How did this relate to their failure to eliminate the people of the land?

11. **Application:** In what sense was this forsaking God? Did the people deny the existence of God or refuse to claim any affiliation with Him? Or did they just worship Him along with worshiping other gods? What lessons should we learn for our own service to God?

12. How did God punish Israel for their sins – 2:14,15? List other **passages** in which God had warned Israel that this is what He would do.

13. After Israel had suffered at the hands of oppressing nations, what would God do – 2:16? What does this tell you about the role of the judges?

14. What would happen soon after a judge would deliver the people – 2:17?

15. What motivated God to send judges to deliver the people – 2:18? What does this show you about the nature of God?

16. What would the people do after the judge died – 2:19? How did this compare to the conduct of their fathers?

17. What consequence did God say would occur because the people transgressed His covenant – 2:20,21? (Think: What different reasons have had we now seen why God would not remove all the inhabitants of the land?)

18. What additional purpose did God say would be accomplished by leaving the Canaanites in the land – 2:22,23?

19. **Special Assignment:** Summarize now the cycle that the nation of Israel repeated throughout the history of the judges.

20. **Application:** What lessons should we learn today from the history of Israel during the period of the judges? How do people of our own society often react to national tragedies? Does national profession of faith in God tend to last very long? Illustrate your answer.

Assignments on Judges 3

Please read chapter 3 and answer the following questions.

1. What reasons are given in 3:1-4 why God left some of the inhabitants in the land? (Note in 3:3 the nations that were left in the land.)
2. List the sins that the Israelites committed – 3:5-7.
3. What did God do because of Israel's sins – 3:8 (see *map*)? How long was Israel oppressed?
4. As a result of the oppression, what did the Israelites do – 3:9? Whom did God send as a judge to deliver them? (Where have we read about this man before?)
5. What did the judge accomplish by God's blessing – 3:10? How long did the land have rest – 3:11? (Think: What is the significance of the fact that the Spirit of God came upon him?)
6. What pattern did Israel again fall into – 3:12? Who oppressed them this time (see *map*)?
7. What other nations joined in the oppression – 3:13,14? How long did Israel serve these oppressors?
8. Whom did God raise up as a deliverer this time – 3:15? What was unusual about him?
9. Describe the weapon that Ehud made for himself – 3:16. How did he hide it?
10. What responsibility did Ehud have – 3:17,15? How is Eglon described?

11. After delivering the tribute, what did Ehud say to the king – 3:18-20? How did the king respond?

12. Describe how Ehud assassinated the king – 3:21,22.

13. How did Ehud escape after the assassination – 3:23?

14. What did Eglon's servants think when they found the room locked – 3:24? What did they eventually do – 3:25?

15. What did Ehud do while Eglon's servants were waiting – 3:26?

16. What did he do in Ephraim – 3:27? How did the Israelites respond?

17. What did Ehud say to the Israelites – 3:28? What did they do as a result?

18. Describe the victory of Israel over Moab – 3:29,30. How long did the land have rest?

19. Who was the next man to deliver Israel – 3:31? Who was the oppressor in this case (see *map*)?

20. What weapon did he use? Describe the success that he had.

Assignments on Judges 4

Please read chapter 4 and answer the following questions.

1. After Ehud died, what pattern did Israel repeat – 4:1-3? Whom did God allow to oppress them this time, and where did he reign (see *map*)? (Think: Where else have we read of a man by this name ruling in this city? How do you harmonize the accounts?)
2. Who was the captain of this army? What special weaponry did he have, and how long did the oppression last?
3. Who was judging Israel at this time – 4:4? What information are we given about her?
4. Where did she do her work – 4:5 (see *map*)? How did the people obtain her judgments?
5. List other *passages* that describe women serving as prophetesses. Were women absolutely forbidden in Scripture to give Biblical information to men (consider other passages)?

6. **Special Assignment:** What limitations do New Testament Scriptures place on women in teaching? Study 1 Corinthians 14:34,35; 1 Timothy 2:11,12. Would the work that Deborah did necessarily have violated these passages? Did she address the public assembly of Israel? Did she lead men authoritatively, or did she just give them the messages that God revealed to her?

7. For whom did Deborah send, and where did he live – 4:6 (see *map*)? What revelation from God did she give him?
8. What did God say He would do with Sisera – 4:7 (see *map*)? What would the result be?
9. How did Barak respond to the revelation that God had given – 4:8? Where do we read about Barak in the New Testament, and what can we learn? (Think: Why might he have given this response to Deborah's revelation?)
10. Did Deborah submit to Barak's decision? How did she respond – 4:9? What prediction did she make about Sisera?
11. Where did Barak obtain the men he needed – 4:10? How many responded to his call?

12. Who was Heber – 4:11? Where did he pitch his tent (see *map*)?
13. What report was given to Sisera – 4:12? What did he do as a result – 4:13?
14. What revelation did Deborah give Barak next – 4:14? How did he respond?
15. What was the outcome of the battle – 4:15,16? How did Sisera attempt to escape? (Note 5:21. How might this verse help explain how Barak's army was able to win the battle?)
16. Where did Sisera go when he fled – 4:17? Why would he go there?
17. What reassurance did Jael give Sisera – 4:18? How did she help hide him?
18. What request did Sisera make in 4:19? What did Jael do for him?
19. What lie did Sisera ask her to tell – 4:20? (Think: Why did Jael do all these acts of hospitality for Sisera?)
20. What did Jael do when Sisera had fallen fast asleep – 4:21? What happened when Barak arrived – 4:22?
21. What was the final outcome of the relationship between Israel and the king of Canaan – 4:23,24?

Assignments on Judges 5

Please read chapter 5 and answer the following questions.

1. Summarize the theme of chapter 5. Who sang the song – 5:1?
2. What groups are praised for their involvement in the victory – 5:2?
3. Who ultimately deserved praise for the outcome – 5:3?
4. How had God proved his power in the past according to 5:4,5? (Think: When might this have happened, and what event might this refer to?)
5. What problems had the people of Israel faced because of oppression – 5:6,7?
6. What had led to these problems – 5:8?
7. What had the rulers of Israel done to deserve praise – 5:9?
8. Who is encouraged to speak, and what should they speak about – 5:10,11? What are Deborah and Barak encouraged to do in 5:12?
9. From what places had people come to help in the conflict – 5:13-15 and 18?
10. What groups did not assist in the conflict – 5:16,17?

11. What was the result when the kings of Canaan came to fight – 5:19? Where did they fight (see *map*)?

12. What forces of nature was God said to have used in the battle – 5:20-22? (Think: What might this mean?)

13. Who is said to be cursed and for what reason – 5:23? What lessons should we learn?

14. In contrast, who is said to be blessed in 5:24,25? What apparent act of kindness had she done for Sisera?

15. But what had she done to Sisera in the end – 5:26,27? What was the end result?

16. Who is said to be concerned about Sisera – 5:28? Why was she concerned?

17. What did she and her friends conclude was the reason for his delay – 5:29,30? What kinds of plunder did they expect?

18. What conclusion does the song reach about the Lord's enemies and about those who love Him – 5:31?

19. How long did the land have rest – 5:31?

Assignments on Judges 6

Please read chapter 6 and answer the following questions.

1. What pattern once again did the Israelites follow – 6:1? Whom did God allow to oppress them this time, and how severe was the oppression – 6:1,2?
2. What did Midianites do to take spoils from the Israelites – 6:3-5? How numerous were they?
3. What did Israel do as a result of their suffering – 6:6,7?
4. Whom did God send to speak to the Israelites – 6:8,9? What blessings did God say that He had given them?
5. What command had God given them, and what accusation did He make against them – 6:10?
6. Who appeared, where did he appear, and to whom did he speak – 6:11? What was this man doing at the time?
7. What greeting did the angel give – 6:12? How did Gideon respond – 6:13? Explain his response.
8. What responsibility did the Lord give Gideon to fulfill – 6:14? What reasons did Gideon give why he could not succeed – 6:15?
9. What did the Lord assure Gideon that he would do – 6:16? What promise did God make to encourage him?
10. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from Gideon's excuses? And what lessons should we learn from the Lord's reassurances?

11. What request did Gideon make of the angel – 6:17? What did he want to do for him – 6:18?

12. What gift did Gideon bring – 6:19,20? What did the angel say to do with it?

13. What sign did the angel do – 6:21?

14. **Special Assignment:** Did God criticize Gideon for seeking a sign? Does God give such signs today? What lessons should we learn?

15. How did Gideon react when he realized that he had seen an angel of the Lord face to face – 6:22? What reassurance did God give him – 6:23?

16. What did Gideon do to honor the Lord – 6:24? What name did he give it?

17. What instructions did God give Gideon regarding the altar of Baal – 6:25,26?

18. When did Gideon obey the Lord's command – 6:27? Why did he do it then?

19. **Special Assignment:** What can we learn from the fact that God wanted Gideon to cleanse his own family of idolatry before beginning his work for the Lord? What can we learn from this event about the depth of involvement of the people in idolatry?

20. How did the men of the city react when they saw the altar of Baal torn down – 6:28,29? What did they ask, and what was the answer?

21. What did the men of the city determine to do to Gideon – 6:30? What response did Joash give – 6:31?

22. Explain the significance of the response that Gideon's father gave. Why was this a good response?

23. What name was given Gideon as a result – 6:32? What does it mean?

24. What did the Midianite oppressors and their allies do then – 6:33? Where did they make their camp (see *map*)?

25. How did Gideon respond to this invasion – 6:34,35? Who came in response to his summons?

26. What sign did Gideon request of the Lord – 6:36,37?

27. What happened in response to Gideon's request for a sign – 6:38?

28. What request did Gideon make of the Lord then – 6:39?

29. What happened in response to this request – 6:40?

30. **Special Assignment:** What would be miraculous about such events? What do we learn from this event about the purpose of miracles?

Assignments on Judges 7

Please read chapter 7 and answer the following questions.

1. Where was Gideon's army camped, and where were the Midianites camped – 7:1 (see *map*)?

2. What did God reveal about the size of Gideon's army – 7:2? What reason did He give for this decision?

3. **Special Assignment:** Did it make sense by human wisdom to reduce the size of Gideon's army? What would be required of Gideon to obey this command (note Hebrews 11:32)? What can we learn from this example?

4. What was the first test that God instructed Gideon to give the people – 7:3? How many people went away, and how many remained? So how big was the army to begin with?

5. What was the second test that God gave – 7:4,5?

6. How many men lapped when they drank, putting their hand to their mouth – 7:6,7? What did God say about these men, and what was done with the other men?

7. **Application:** Who ultimately saved Israel? What lessons should we learn?

8. What did Gideon do in obedience to the command of the Lord – 7:8? What promise did God give Gideon that night – 7:9?

9. In order to help Gideon overcome whatever fear he had, what did God say to do – 7:10,11?

10. How are the numbers of the oppressors described in 7:12?

11. Describe the dream that a man in the Midianite camp was telling his companion – 7:13. What interpretation did the companion give to the dream – 7:14?

12. Having heard the dream, how did Gideon respond – 7:15?

13. How did Gideon arrange his men – 7:16? What provisions did he give each of them?

14. What instructions were the men to follow when they reached the edge of the camp – 7:17,18? Was this a reasonable plan for attacking a huge army? Explain.

15. When did Gideon and his men arrive at the camp – 7:19? What did the three companies do with the provisions that Gideon had given them – 7:19,20?

16. How did the men in the Midianite army respond – 7:21,22? To where did they flee (see *map*)?

17. Explain why the enemy may have so acted.

18. When the enemy army fled, what did other men of Israel do – 7:23? From where did these men come?

19. What did Gideon call upon the men of Ephraim to do – 7:24? What happened as a result – 7:25?

20. Application: What can we learn from the victory of Gideon about faith, obedience, and God's gifts? What lessons can we learn about how these all relate in our salvation?
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Assignments on Judges 8

Please read chapter 8 and answer the following questions.

1. What criticism did the men of Ephraim raise to Gideon – 8:1? (Think: What might have motivated them to raise such a criticism?)
2. How did Gideon respond to them – 8:2,3? Explain his point. How did the men of Ephraim react to his answer?
3. What were Gideon and his men still doing – 8:4,5? What request did he make of the men of Succoth (see *map*)?
4. How did the leaders of Succoth respond to Gideon's request – 8:6? Explain the significance of their answer.
5. What did Gideon promise to do to the men of Succoth – 8:7? What can we learn by contrasting the attitude of the men of Ephraim to that of the men of Succoth?
6. Where did Gideon go next (see *map*), and what happened there – 8:8? What promise did Gideon make to them – 8:9?
7. Where were the kings of the Midianites at this time – 8:10? How large was the army that was left to them? How many had fallen? So how large was their army to begin with?
8. Describe Gideon's attack and its result – 8:11,12.
9. How did Gideon determine who the leaders of Succoth were – 8:13,14? What did he show to those men and what did he say to them – 8:15?
10. What did Gideon do to the elders of the city of Succoth – 8:16? What did he do at Penuel – 8:17?

11. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from Gideon's punishment of the men of the cities? What should be done today when God's people oppose the work of God?

12. What question did Gideon ask the kings of the Midianites – 8:18? What answer did they give? What conclusion did Gideon reach – 8:19?

13. What did Gideon say to his son – 8:20? How did his son respond?

14. What did the Midianite kings say, and what Gideon do as a result – 8:21?

15. What plan did the men of Israel have for Gideon as a result of his victory – 8:22? How did Gideon answer them, and what reason did he give – 8:23?

16. **Special Assignment:** Where do the Scriptures record that the people of Israel later had a similar plan? What happened as result, and how did God respond?

17. What request did Gideon make of the people – 8:24? What did the people do as a result – 8:25,26?

18. What did Gideon do with the plunder that the people had given him – 8:27? What problem did this cause? What should we learn?

19. What was the effect of Gideon's victory on the Midianites – 8:28? How long was the country quiet?

20. How many sons did Gideon have – 8:30? What son is particularly mentioned because he is significant in the later story – 8:31?

21. When Gideon died, where was he buried – 8:32? What did the people of Israel do after his death – 8:33?

22. After Gideon's death, what gratitude did the people show to the Lord for the blessings He had given them – 8:34? What gratitude did they show to the family of Gideon – 8:35?

Assignments on Judges 9

Please read chapter 9 and answer the following questions.

1. To whom did Gideon's son Abimelech make an appeal – 9:1,2? Describe his appeal and explain his intent.

2. How did the men of Shechem respond to Abimelech – 9:3,4? What did Abimelech do with the money they gave him?

3. What did Abimelech do then – 9:5? Who escaped? What did the men of Shechem do then – 9:6?

4. **Application:** How did Abimelech's conduct disagree with Gideon's own intentions? What can we learn from the corruption of Abimelech and of the men of Shechem?

5. From where did Jotham speak to the men of Shechem (see *map*) – 9:7-13? In his parable, what were the trees attempting to do?

6. What three trees/vines refused to rule over the trees? What reason did they give why they would not rule?

7. Then whom did the trees invite to reign over them – 9:14,15? How did that plant respond?

8. Explain the point of the parable and the application to Abimelech and to the men of Shechem.

9. What wrongs did Jotham accuse the men of Shechem of committing – 9:16-18?

10. What did he predict would happen between Abimelech and the men of Shechem – 9:19-21? Explain the point of his prediction.

11. What problem developed between Abimelech and the men of Shechem – 9:22,23? How long had Abimelech been reigning when this occurred?

12. In particular, what did some of the men of Shechem do – 9:24,25? What purpose did God have in allowing this conflict? (Think: Why should such conflict be expected between men such as these men?)

13. What man sought to gain influence among the men of Shechem – 9:26? What were he and the men of Shechem doing according to 9:27?

14. What boast did this man make against Abimelech – 9:28,29? What challenge did he make it to Abimelech?

15. Explain the similarity between the appeal of Gaal to the men of Shechem and the appeal that Abimelech had made.

16. Who was Zebul – 9:30,31? What warning did he send to Abimelech?

17. What advice did he give to Abimelech to deal with the situation – 9:32,33?

18. When Abimelech and his men began their attack, what did Gaal say to Zebul – 9:36? How did Zebul respond? (Think: What was his purpose in such a response?)

19. As Gaal continued to watch, what did he see – 9:37,38? What challenge did Zebul give him this time?

20. How did Gaal respond to the attack of Abimelech – 9:39,40? What was the result of the battle?

21. What did Zebul then do to Gaal – 9:41? What information was given to Abimelech – 9:42?

22. How did Abimelech attack the people of the city – 9:43,44? In the end, what did he do to the people of the city – 9:45?

23. Who heard what Abimelech had done at Shechem – 9:46? What did they do in response?

24. When Abimelech heard, where did he go (see *map*) – 9:47,48? What did he have his men do?

25. What did Abimelech and his men do to the stronghold – 9:49? What was the end result to the people there?

26. What city did Abimelech attack next – 9:50? What did the people of the city do when Abimelech attacked – 9:51?

27. How did Abimelech attempt to attack this tower – 9:52? What happened to him as a result – 9:53?

28. Describe how Abimelech actually died – 9:54. What does this final act of Abimelech show you about him?

29. Explain how this story demonstrates God's justice toward Abimelech – 9:55,56. Explain how the story fulfills the curse of Jotham – 9:57.

30. **Application:** Explain what lessons we should learn from the story of Abimelech and the final outcome of his tragic life.

Assignments on Judges 10

Please read chapter 10 and answer the following questions.

1. Who judged Israel after the time of Abimelech – 10:1,2? Of what tribe was he, and how long did he judge Israel?
2. What judge arose still later – 10:3? Where was he from, and how long did he judge Israel?
3. What interesting facts are noted regarding him – 10:4,5?
4. What sin did the people of Israel once again commit – 10:6? Whom did they worship, and how did they treat the true God?
5. What punishment did God bring upon the people for their sin – 10:7-9? Describe the oppression and how long it lasted.
6. What confession did the children of Israel make – 10:10?
7. What did God say that He had done for the Israelites in the past – 10:11,12?
8. What did God say would be His response to their prayer for deliverance – 10:13? Where did He tell them to go for deliverance – 10:14? Explain His point.
9. What confession and what request did Israel make in 10:15? What did they do to show their sincerity, and how did God respond – 10:16?

10. **Application:** What can we learn from this example about the requirements of true repentance?

11. What did the people of Ammon and the Israelites do in preparation for war – 10:17 (see *map*)? What problem did the people of Israel still have – 10:18?

Assignments on Judges 11

Please read chapter 11 and answer the following questions.

1. What information is given to us about Jephthah in 11:1? How did his brothers treat him – 11:2? (Think: How did the view of illegitimate children under the Old Testament differ from that of the New Testament?)
2. Because of his brothers' opposition, where did Jephthah go – 11:3 (see *map*)? What did he do there?
3. To whom did the elders of Gideon turn when Ammon attacked – 11:4,5? What offer did they make him – 11:6?
4. What concern did Jephthah express to the elders – 11:7? What answer did they give him – 11:8?
5. What assurance did Jephthah want from the elders before he would agree to command their army – 11:9? How did the elders respond this time – 11:10?
6. So what was the outcome of the agreement between Jephthah and the elders – 11:11? (Think: Why might Jephthah have hesitated in accepting the offer of the elders? In the end, why might he have been willing to accept it?)
7. How did Jephthah begin his efforts in the conflict with Ammon – 11:12? What question did he ask? (Think: Why was this a good approach?)
8. What claim did the king of Ammon make against Israel – 11:13? What demand did he make of Jephthah? (Think: Under the circumstances, why was this an unreasonable demand?)
9. What response did Jephthah make to the claim that Israel had taken the land from Ammon – 11:15?
10. What had Israel done to be peaceable with Edom and Moab when they came up from the land of Egypt – 11:16,17? Cite a passage that describes this, and explain why Israel had done this.
11. Instead of fighting with Edom or Moab, what did Israel do 11:18? Study the passage in Deuteronomy that explains this, and explain what this has to do with Ammon.

12. What request did Israel then make of the king of the Amorites – 11:19? How did he respond – 11:20?

13. What was the outcome of the battle with the Amorites – 11:21? What territory did Israel take from them – 11:22?

14. What application did Jephthah make of this historical account – 11:23? Explain the point of his argument. (Hint: Compare the territory that Israel took from the Amorites to the territory that the king of Ammon claimed Israel had taken from Ammon.)

15. Who was Chemosh – 11:24? Explain the argument that Jephthah makes about the God of the Ammonites as compared to the God of Israel.

16. What other king did Jephthah bring up – 11:25? Cite other *passages* that refer to this event. What questions did Jephthah ask about him? Explain his point here.

17. How long did Jephthah claim that Israel had held this territory – 11:26? What question did he ask the king of Ammon about this? Explain his argument.

18. So what conclusion did Jephthah reach to his history lesson to the king of Ammon – 11:27?

19. **Special Assignment:** What do we learn from the fact that all this information was available to Jephthah? Where would he have learned it?

20. How did the king of Ammon respond to the evidence that Jephthah had presented to him – 11:28? What does this show about the way people sometimes respond to truth?

21. Having failed in his attempt to reason with the king of Ammon, what did Jephthah do – 11:29?

22. What vow did Jephthah make – 11:30,31? What does this tell you about Jephthah?
23. Describe the outcome of the battle against the Ammonites – 11:32,33 (see *map*).
24. Who first greeted Jephthah when he returned to his home – 11:34? What does the verse tell us about her?
25. How did Jephthah react when he saw his daughter – 11:35? What did he say about his vow?
26. What did his daughter say about her father's vow – 11:36? What does this show about the daughter?
27. What request did his daughter make of Jephthah – 11:37? What was his response and what did she do – 11:38?
28. After Jephthah's daughter had bewailed her virginity, what do the Scriptures say that Jephthah did – 11:39? What did young Israelite daughters do as a result – 11:40?
29. In order to help answer the question of whether or not Jephthah literally killed and burned his daughter as a sacrifice to God, please consider the following specific questions:
- * What did the law teach about human sacrifices? List *passages*. Would God have been pleased with such a sacrifice by Jephthah? Would priests have cooperated in such a sacrifice?
 - * Did Jephthah's daughter bewail her death or her virginity? Would it make sense to bewail her virginity if she knew she was going to die? (Think: Why might she bewail her virginity even if she was not going to die? Consider other examples of people dedicated to God, such as Samuel.)
 - * What did the law teach about rash, sinful vows – Leviticus 5:4-6?
 - * What did the law teach about redeeming items vowed to God – Leviticus chapter 27?
30. **Special Assignment:** What conclusion do you reach about whether or not Jephthah actually killed and burned his daughter as a sacrifice? Consider: Would such a sacrifice please God? Would Jephthah have been listed as a hero of faith in Hebrews 11 if he had done such? Is the answer to this question essential to our salvation? What should we learn?

Assignments on Judges 12

Please read chapter 12 and answer the following questions.

1. What criticism did the men of Ephraim raise against Jephthah – 12:1? What did they threaten to do? Where else had these men raised a similar criticism?
2. What explanation did Jephthah give for what he had done – 12:2,3?
3. What further insult did the men of Ephraim make against the men of Gilead – 12:4? What happened as a result?
4. What test did the men of Gilead give to determine whether or not a man was from Ephraim – 12:5,6?

5. **Application:** What applications can we learn for unity in the church from this story?

6. How long did Jephthah judge Israel – 12:7? Where was he buried?
7. Who judged Israel according to 12:8-10? Where did he live?
8. How long did he judge? How many sons did he have and how many daughters?
9. Who judged Israel next – 12:11,12? What was his tribe? How long did he judge?
10. Who then judged Israel next – 12:13-15? Where was he from?
11. How many sons and grandsons did he have? How long did he judge Israel?

Assignments on Judges 13

Please read chapter 13 and answer the following questions.

1. Read or at least skim the story of Samson in chapters 13-16. In what ways does Samson's story differ that of other judges?
2. What evidence is there that the story of Samson is intended to be taken as true history?
3. How did the history of the nation of Israel repeat itself according to 13:1? Who oppressed them, and for how long?
4. What man are we introduced to in 13:2? Where was he from (see *map*)? What problem did he and his wife have?
5. Who appeared to this man's wife – 13:3? What promise did he make her?
6. What special rules was she to follow, and what reason was given why she should do so – 13:4,5? What promise was given about what her son would do?

7. **Special Assignment:** Study the Old Testament rules regarding Nazirite vows and explain what they involved. Give Scripture references.

8. How did Manoah's wife describe the one who had appeared to her – 13:6? What did she say he had told her – 13:7?
9. What request did Manoah make of the Lord and what happened as a result – 13:8,9?
10. What did the woman do this time when the angel appeared to her – 13:10? What did Manoah ask the angel – 13:11?
11. What did Manoah ask the angel then – 13:12? What instructions were they given – 13:13,14?

12. What did Manoah offer to do for the angel – 13:15? What did the angel say in response – 13:16? What reason is given why Manoah made these requests?

13. What question did Manoah ask the angel then in 13:17? How did the angel respond to this question – 13:18?

14. What offering did Manoah make and where did he make it – 13:19?

15. What did the angel do as the offering was being made – 13:20? What did Manoah and his wife do when they saw this?

16. After this event, what did Manoah know about the one who had appeared to them – 13:21? What lesson should we learn about the purpose of miracles?

17. What fear did Manoah express after this event – 13:22? Why would he express such a concern?

18. What did his wife conclude about his fears – 13:23? What reason did she give why she was convinced God would spare them?

19. **Application:** What fears do people sometimes have today that they would not have if they would consider more carefully God's promises to them?

20. Describe the fulfillment of the promise the angel gave to Manoah's wife – 13:24. What did they name the son?

21. How is the power of God in the life of Samson described in 13:25?

Assignments on Judges 14

Please read chapter 14 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did Samson go (see *map*) – 14:1? Whom did he meet there?
 2. What request did he make of his parents – 14:2?
 3. What objection did his parents raise – 14:3? What reason did Samson give for his choice?
 4. What reason is given in 14:4 to explain how God was going to use Samson's action? (Think: Does this necessarily mean that God approved of Samson's choice of a marriage companion? Explain.)
5. **Application:** What Old Testament teaching would defend the parents' objections to the marriage? What should we learn about choosing a marriage companion?
6. What happened as Samson approached the vineyards of Timnah – 14:5? What did Samson do in response – 14:6? What does this illustrate about Samson?
 7. When Samson visited the Philistine woman, how did he react to her – 14:7? What did he find when he later saw the carcass of the lion – 14:8?
 8. What did he do with the honey – 14:9? (Think: What is the significance of the fact that the account repeatedly says he did not tell his parents? Notice the story as it proceeds.)
 9. What custom did Samson observe at his wedding – 14:10? How long would this last – note verse 12?
 10. What did the Philistines provide for him – 14:11? (Think: Would these be young men that Samson knew very well? Would he be likely to be on friendly terms with them?)

11. What proposition did Samson make to the companions at his wedding – 14:12,13? How did the companions respond?

12. What riddle did Samson pose – 14:14? Based on what we have known of the story so far, what was the meaning of the riddle?

13. What threat did Samson's companions make when they were having difficulty solving the riddle – 14:15? What does this show you about these companions?

14. What reason did they give to justify their threat? Was this a reasonable justification? Was Samson's wife to blame for the fact they had accepted Samson's proposal and could not solve the riddle? Explain.

15. What did Samson's wife do and say to try to get him to tell the solution to the riddle – 14:16? What reason did he give why he did not feel obligated to tell her?

16. **Application:** What can we learn from the story about proper relationships between husband and wife? Was Samson really guilty of hating his wife? Was she showing proper love for him? What can we learn from the methods she used to try to influence him?

17. What did Samson finally do in response to her pestering – 14:17? What did she do then?

18. What did the men of the city say in solving the riddle – 14:18? How did Samson respond to them? What does this response show about Samson's understanding of what happened?

19. How did Samson pay off the wager – 14:19? Where did he go then? (Think: Was Samson justified in the means that he used to pay off the debt? If he was properly angry in how he had been treated, did the men whom he killed deserve such treatment?)

20. What then happened with Samson's wife – 14:20? Why might this have happened?

Assignments on Judges 15

Please read chapter 15 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did Samson go – 15:1? What request did he make? How did his wife's father respond – 15:2? What alternative did he offer Samson?
2. What did Samson do in vengeance for the loss of his wife – 15:3-5? What was the result?
3. What inquiry did the Philistines make about this event – 15:6? What did they do as punishment? (Think: Comment on the justice of the people involved in these events.)
4. How did Samson respond to the murder of his wife and her family – 15:7,8? Where did he go then?
5. What did the Philistines do in response to the slaughter Samson had caused – 15:9,10? What did they respond when the men of Judah asked why they had come?
6. What question did the 3000 men of Judah ask Samson – 15:11? What answer did he give?
7. What did the men of Judah say they had come to do – 15:12? What request did Samson make of them? (Think: Why would Samson make this request?)
8. What promise did the men of Judah make to Samson – 15:13? How did they bind him? (Think: What does this show you about the men of Judah?)
9. What did Samson do to free himself from his bonds when the Philistines came against him – 15:14? What did he do to the Philistines – 15:15?
10. What did he say after the victory – 15:16? What was the place named as a result – 15:17? What does this mean?
11. What problem did Samson have after his victory – 15:18? To whom did he give credit for the victory?
12. How did God provide water for Samson – 15:19? What was the place named and what does this mean? How long did Samson judge Israel – 15:20?

Assignments on Judges 16

Please read chapter 16 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did Samson go (see *map*), and why did he go there – 16:1? What does this show about the character Samson?

2. What plot did the men of the place make against him – 16:2? What did Samson do to foil the plot – 16:3?

3. What woman next infatuated Samson, and where did she live (see *map*) – 15:4? What deal did the Philistine lords offer her – 15:5?

4. What question did Delilah ask Samson, and what answer did he first give her – 16:6,7?

5. What happened when she bound him accordingly and the Philistines attempted to capture him – 16:8,9?

6. What complaint did Delilah raise, and what request did she repeat – 16:10? What did Samson say this time about how he could be subdued – 16:11?

7. What happened this time when the Philistines attempted to capture him – 16:12?

8. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from Delilah about the means that wicked women use to beguile a man?

9. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from Samson about the way men react to the wiles of wicked women?

10. What did Samson next tell Delilah about how he could be subdued, and what happened when she tried it – 16:13,14?

11. What methods did Delilah use then to try to get him to tell her the truth – 16:15,16? What can we learn from her tricks?

12. What did Samson then tell Delilah about the source of his strength – 16:17? What did she say to the Philistine lords – 16:18?

13. What did Delilah do then, and what happened when the Philistines tried to capture him this time – 16:19,20?

14. **Special Assignment:** What was the real source of Samson's strength? Was it his hair? What can we learn about meeting God's conditions in order to receive his blessings?

15. What did the Philistines do with Samson after they captured him – 16:21? What did they make him do?

16. What happened with Samson's hair after he was imprisoned – 16:22? What can we learn from this about restoring our relationship with God when we have fallen from His favor?

17. For what purpose did the Philistine lords meet in 16:23,24? What did they say about Samson? What can we learn from this about the attitudes of sinful people?

18. What did they want Samson to do for them 16:25? Where was he stationed?

19. What did Samson request to do – 16:26? How many people were watching Samson – 16:27?

20. What request did Samson make of the Lord – 16:28? Describe his death and the results of it – 16:29,30? What happened to his body – 16:31?

Assignments on Judges 17

Please read chapter 17 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did Micah live – 17:1? What confession did he make to his mother – 17:2?

2. What purpose did Micah's mother say that she had in mind for the money – 17:3? What did she do with it after he returned it – 17:4?

3. What did Micah do when his mother gave him the idol – 17:5? Who served as his priest?

4. **Special Assignment:** Based on the story to this point, what can we learn about the character of Micah and his mother?

5. What observation does the author make about Israel in those days in 17:6? Where else is this repeated in the book? What is the significance of the statement?

6. Who came to visit Micah according to 17:7-9? Describe him.

7. Describe the offer that Micah made to this man – 17:10.

8. How did the Levite respond to Micah's offer – 17:11,12? What relationship developed between the Levite and Micah?

9. What conclusion did Micah reach about the benefit he would receive from the Levite – 17:13? According to the Old Law, what was wrong with this whole arrangement?

10. **Application:** List ways that people today sometimes make errors that are similar to the error made here by Micah.

Assignments on Judges 18

Please read chapter 18 and answer the following questions.

1. What problem did the tribe of Dan have – 18:1? What did they do to try to find a place to dwell in – 18:2?
2. Whom did they find at the house of Micah – 18:3,4? What did they ask him, and what answer did he give them?
3. What request did the men of Dan make of the Levite – 18:5,6? What response did he give?
4. What place did the five spies discover – 18:7? Describe the circumstances of the people there.
5. When the spies returned, what question were they asked, and what did they encourage the people of Dan to do – 18:8,9?
6. How did they describe the land – 18:9,10?
7. How many men of Dan went to capture the territory – 18:11? Where did they camp, and what did they name that place – 18:12 (see *map*)?
8. Where did they go from there, and whose home did they visit – 18:13?
9. What did the five spies tell the other men of Dan about Micah – 18:14?
10. What did the people do as a result – 18:15,16?
11. What did the five spies do – 18:17? What did the Levite ask them – 18:18?

12. What did the men of Dan urge the Levite to do – 18:19? What reason did they give to encourage him?

13. How did the Levite react to the request, and what did he do as a result – 18:20? (Think: What did the idols do to prevent being stolen? What does this tell you about idols?)

14. **Application:** What laws of God did the men of Dan violate here? What can we learn?

15. What can we learn from the conduct of the Levite here?

16. When the men of Dan left, how they organize their party – 18:21? What did Micah and his neighbors do then – 18:22?

17. What question did the men of Dan ask Micah, and how did he respond – 18:23,24?

18. How did the men of Dan respond to Micah's appeal – 18:25? What did Micah do in the face of their threats – 18:26?

19. What did the men of Dan do when they arrived at Laish – 18:27,28? Why were able to be so successful?

20. What did they do after they had burned the city – 18:28? What name did they give the city – 18:29?

21. What did the men of Dan do with Micah's image and his priest – 18:30,31? What was the Levite's name?

22. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from the story of the men of Dan in this chapter? What does this show about the people during the period of the judges?

Assignments on Judges 19

Please read chapter 19 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did the Levite in this story live – 19:1? Where had his concubine lived? What is a concubine?
2. What did the concubine do, and where did she go – 19:2? How long was she there?
3. What did the Levite do then, and what was his intent – 19:3? Who went with him? How was he received?
4. How long did they stay and what hospitality were they shown – 19:4? When they prepared to leave on the fourth day, what did the father-in-law say – 19:5?
5. What did the father-in-law then encourage the Levite to do, and what happened as a result – 19:6,7?
6. What happened on the fifth day, and what did the father-in-law say when the Levite got ready to leave – 19:8,9? What did the Levite do this time – 19:10?
7. What did his servant say when they got near Jerusalem – 19:11? What decision did the Levite make instead of spending the night in Jerusalem – 19:12? What was his reason?
8. So where did they try to spend the night, and what problem did they have at first – 19:13-15? (Think: What does this tell you about the people of this city?)
9. Describe the man who showed an interest in them – 19:16. What did he ask them – 19:17?
10. How did the Levite describe the problem that they had – 19:18? What did he explain about the provisions that they had available – 19:19?
11. What offer did the old man make them, and what did he do for them – 19:20,21? What other Old Testament events involve people taking travelers into their home? (Think: What does this show about customs of that day?)

12. What did men of the city do then, and what demand did they make – 19:22? **Define** the meaning of “know him” as used here (check other translations).

13. What response did the old man give to the men of the city – 19:23? List the words he used in verses 23,24 to describe how he viewed the act they wanted to commit.

14. What offer did the old man suggest as an alternative to what the men of the city wanted to do – 19:24? Where else in the Old Testament do we read of a similar event? (Think: What can we learn from the fact the old man made this offer?)

15. **Special Assignment:** List other **passages** that discuss the Bible teaching about homosexuality. **Summarize** in your own words what the Bible teaches.

16. How did the men of the city respond to the old man’s appeal – 19:25? What was done in an attempt to satisfy the lust of the men of the city?

17. Describe the men’s treatment of the concubine and what happened to her – 19:25,26.

18. When the Levite arose to leave in the morning, what did he find – 19:27? What did he say, 19:28? How did the concubine respond, and what did he do then? (Think: What impression does this leave you of the Levite?)

19. What did the Levite do with the concubine’s body – 19:29? What effect did this have on the people of Israel – 19:30? (Think: What would have been the Levite’s purpose here?)

20. **Special Assignment:** What does this event show about how corrupt the nation of Israel had become at this point? How does this in turn demonstrate the influence brought about by the people of the nations that had not been removed from the land?

21. **Application:** Explain the lessons we should learn from the story for our own society.

Assignments on Judges 20

Please read chapter 20 and answer the following questions.

1. How did the children of Israel react when they learned of the death of the Levite's concubine – 20:1,2? How many men came?

2. What did the Israelites ask the Levite – 20:3? Were the Benjamites informed of the meeting at Mizpah? Did they attend? (Think: What can we learn from their reaction?)

3. How did the Levite summarize the death of his concubine – 20:4,5? (Think: What other witnesses could have confirmed the Levite's story? What significant parts of the story did he apparently withhold?)

4. What had he done with the body of his concubine – 20:6,7? Why had he done this? What request did he make of the children of Israel?

5. What did the people of Israel decide to do about the sin of Gibeah – 20:8-10? How did they describe the act that had been committed?

6. Describe the arrangements they made to have provisions for the soldiers who fought – 20:10. How is the unity of the people described – verses 8,11? (Think: What does this show about the attitude of the people?)

7. What did the people of Israel call upon the tribe of Benjamin to do – 20:12,13? Why was this an important step for them to take?

8. How did the tribe of Benjamin react to the challenge from the people of Israel – 20:13,14? What does this show you about the tribe of Benjamin?

9. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from the conduct of the tribe of Benjamin in this story? Give situations in which people today sometimes act in a similar way.

10. How many soldiers did Benjamin have, and how many were from Gibeah – 20:15? What special ability did some of them have – 20:16?

11. How many were in the army of Israel – 20:17? (Think: What does this show about the tribe of Benjamin that they were willing to go to war under such circumstances?)

12. What did Israel do before beginning the battle against Benjamin – 20:18,19? What question did they ask? What answer was given?

13. **Special Assignment:** Why was it important for Israel to do consult the Lord before going to battle? What lessons can we learn from this?

14. Where was the first battle fought – 20:20,21? What was the result?

15. What did Israel prepare to do on the second day 20:22,23? What question did they ask the Lord this time? What was the answer?

16. **Special Assignment:** Describe the second battle and its effects – 20:24,25. What possible reasons can you think of why God may have allowed Israel to face such defeats?

17. Describe the reaction of the people of Israel to the second battle – 20:26. What does this reaction indicate?

18. Who was high priest at that time – 20:27,28? Tell some other things we know about him.

19. What did Israel do before the third battle? What question did they ask the Lord, and what promise did He make?

20. How did the people of Israel approach the next battle differently – 20:29,30?

21. What happened when the Benjamites began to attack the Israelites – 20:31,32? What was the plan of the Israelites, and what did the Benjamites think was happening? (Think: What event in the book of Joshua does this remind you of?)

22. As the battle proceeded, how many men attacked out of ambush – 20:33,34? What or whom did they attack?

23. Why did the men of Israel retreat at first from the Benjamites – 20:35,36? What was the outcome of this battle?

24. Whom did the men in ambush attack – 20:37? What did they do to the city?

25. What was the signal between the Israelites and the men in ambush – 20:38,39? What did the Israelites do when they saw the signal?

26. How did the Benjamites first realize the strategy that was being used against them – 20:40,41? What did they do when they saw what happened?

27. How did the Benjamites try to escape – 20:42-44? What happened to them?

28. To what place did the Benjamites try to flee – 20:45,46 (see *map*)? Describe the numbers who died as given in these verses. (Think: Notice the numbers involved and consider possible ways to reconcile them.)

29. How many Benjamites managed to make it to a place of safety – 20:47? How long did they stay there? (Note that these men will be significant in chapter 21.)

30. What did the people of Israel then do in the area of Benjamin – 20:48? (Think: Consider why they might have done this. Was this response justified? See Deuteronomy 13:12-18. Notice that it will become significant in chapter 21.)

Assignments on Judges 21

Please read chapter 21 and answer the following questions.

1. What oath had the people of Israel sworn – 21:1? What does this oath have to do with the problem that the people of Israel faced in the following verses?

2. Where did the people of Israel go and what did they do there – 21:2 & 4?

3. What problem did the people lament – 21:3? Why would this be a problem, since we already know that there were 600 men who had survived from Benjamin? How does this problem relate to verse 1?

4. **Special Assignment:** Explain why the elimination of a tribe from Israel would be a serious problem. How would this relate to the promise to Abraham? (Think: Does it necessarily follow that Israel had done wrong in their war against Benjamin? Have they now repented that they punished Benjamin so severely?)

5. What other oath had the Israelites taken – 21:5? So what question did the people ask among themselves that related to this oath?

6. How did Israel repeat the problem that concerned them according to 21:6,7?

7. What investigation did they make among the tribes – 21:8,9? What did they discover (see *map*)?

8. In fulfillment of their oath about punishing those who did not come to the battle, what did they determine to do to the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead – 21:10? How many men were sent?

9. What was to be done with the people of the city – 21:11? Who was to be spared, and how many were found that were spared – 21:12?

10. What did the Israelites do with the young women who had been spared – 21:13,14?

11. What problem did the people still have, and what did the people still think about this – 21:14,15?

12. How did the elders of Israel restate the problem that they had – 21:15-18?

13. What event came to their mind at this point – 21:19? Where did this event occur (see *map*)?

14. What instructions did they give to the men of Benjamin who still needed wives – 21:20,21? Explain how this would solve the problem.

15. What explanation would be given when the families of the kidnapped girls complained – 21:22? How did this avoid violating the oath that the Israelites had made?

16. **Special Assignment:** List other *passages* about dancing in worship to God in the Old Testament. Does this authorize the use of dancing in worship to God today? Explain.

17. What did the men of Benjamin do in response to the urging of the Israelites – 21:23?

18. What did the Israelites do now that they had solved their problem – 21:24,25?

19. **Special Assignment:** Once again, why would such stories as this be included in the inspired record of God's word? What lessons can we learn from it?

20. **Summarize** the lessons you have learned from our study of the book of Judges.

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