

Books of the Bible – Old Testament

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Week 8 – Joshua, Judges & Ruth

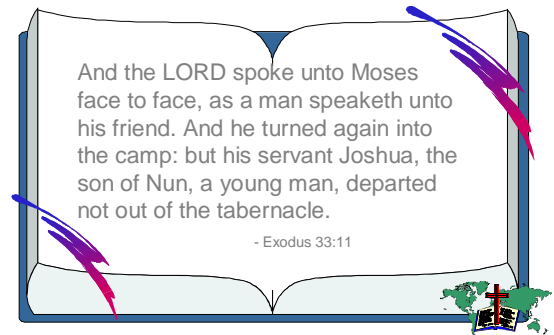
Joshua

- Deals with the life and leadership of Joshua, from the time of Moses' death, until Joshua's death.
 - 1451 B.C. TO 1427 B.C.
 - 24 years
- Written by Joshua himself (his memoirs)
 - Except for the last 5 verses
 - Conquering and inhabiting the Promised Land

Joshua

- The book can be divided into 4 parts:
 - Introduction – preparation to take the land
 - Conquering Canaan
 - Division of the Land
 - Death of Joshua & Eleazar (the High Priest)
- Importance of this book is that it shows God fulfilling His promise to His people

Joshua – Key Events



Joshua – Key Events

- Joshua's training – Exodus 33:11
- Joshua's calling – Joshua 1:1-9
- Rahab and the spies – ch 2
- Crossing the Jordan – ch 3
- Conquest of Jerico – ch 6
- Achan's sin – ch 7
- Conquest of Ai – ch 8
- Dealing with the Gibeonites – ch 9-10
- Joshua's farewell – ch 23-24

Judges

- Nowhere in the book of Judges do we find a judge performing his duties as a "judge" sitting in court as per western definition.
- What is a Judge?
 - Western mentality – established by the Greeks – one who determines who is right and who is wrong
 - Eastern mentality – one who rights wrongs
- The judges righted what was wrong

Judges

- Deals with the time of the Judges, from the time of Joshua's death, through the judgeship of Samuel; until the time that the people wanted a king.
 - 1390 B.C. to 1043 B.C.
 - About 250 years
- According to Jewish tradition, this book was written by the prophet Samuel.
 - Probably handed down by oral tradition

Judges – God's Correction

- Basically, the entire story of Judges can be summed up in Judges 2:7-19
- The people turned from God
- 3 Steps of Correction:
 - His Word
 - His Prophets
 - Turn them over to the "ites"
- People cry out to God

Judges – God's Correction

- God raises up a judge to save the people
- The people serve God (for a while)
- The judge dies
- The people go back to their idolatry
- God turns them over to the "ites"

Judges

- Of the 12 judges mentioned in the book of Judges, only two are mentioned with any degree of detail:
 - Gideon
 - Sampson
- Why were only the lives of these two given any detail?

Ruth

- Deals with some of the events in the life of Ruth, a Moabitess, who lived during the time of the Judge Gideon.
- According to Jewish tradition, this book was written by Samuel.
- If we consider the national failure of Israel, during the time of the Judges, this story gives us a glimpse that there were still a few faithful people (the remnant).

Ruth

- Although the story doesn't directly appear to be a "religious" story, it shows a great parallel with our Lord, as our "kinsman redeemer"
 - When Ruth decided to go with Naomi, she converted to Judaism
- Can break the story in 4 parts:
 - Ruth deciding
 - Ruth Serving
 - Ruth Resting
 - Ruth Rewarded

Ruth

- Ruth became the grandmother of King David.
- Ruth is only one of two women who are mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus written in the New Testament Gospels.