

RECURRING CYCLE IN JUDGES

By Wil Pounds

The theme of Judges is a cycle of apostasy, oppression, penitence and deliverance that is seen repeatedly throughout the book. It is a vicious cycle of sin, servitude, supplication and salvation that repeats itself over a period of about 350 years from 1370 to 1050 B.C. The title of the book is taken from the outstanding characters and prominent figures who deliver God's people. These Judges were actually "Saviors," or "Deliverers" who led the people during the turbulent years in Israel's history. The Key Verses are 2:11-23.

I. SIN	II. SERVITUDE	III. SUPPLICATION	IV. SALVATION
The people go into apostasy. They rebel against God.	God sends an enemy nation to conquer and chastise them.	The people pray for deliverance.	God answers their prayers by raising up a deliverer to free them and give them peace. These deliverers are the Judges.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:7 • 3:12 • 4:1 • 6:1a, 10 • 8:33–35 • 10:6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:8 • 3:13 • 4:2 • 6:1b • Ch. 9 • 10:7–9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:15a • 4:3 • 6:6 No reference • 10:10 • 13:8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:10–11 Othniel • 3:15b Ehud & Shamgar • 4:4 Deborah & Barak • 6:7ff Gideon • 10:1–5 Tola & Jair • 11:1 Jephthah & others • 13:24; 14:1

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Series: A Look at the Book

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