

UNIT SEVEN

THE PERIOD OF THE JUDGES, PART 2

&

PRELUDE TO THE KINGDOM

A series of white, parallel diagonal lines on the right side of the slide, extending from the top right towards the bottom right.

IBZAN, ELON, ABDON (12.8-15)

9. Ibzán (12.8-10)

- ▶ Bethlehememite (**Judah**: southern)
- ▶ Judged Israel seven years

10. Elon (12.11, 12)

- ▶ From Aijalon (**Zebulunite**: northern)
- ▶ Judged ten years

11. Abdon (12.13-15)

- ▶ Of **Ephraim** (central)
- ▶ Judged for eight years



| Judge | Oppressor | Reference |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Othniel | Mesopotamians | 3.7-11 (17-21) |
| 2. Ehud | Moabites | 3.12-30 |
| 3. Shamgar | Philistines? | 3.31 |
| 4. Deborah (with Barak) | Canaanites | 4 – 5 |
| 5. Gideon | Midianites | 6 – 8 |
| 6. Tola | | 10.1, 2 |
| 7. Jair | | 10.3-5 |
| 8. Jephthah | Ammonites | 10.6 – 12.7 |
| 9. Ibzan | | 12.8-10 |
| 10. Elon | | 12.11, 12 |
| 11. Abdon | | 12.13-15 |
| 12. Samson | Philistines | 13 – 16 |
| 13. Samuel | Philistines | 1 Samuel |

40-year Philistine Oppression

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1390 BC ↑ | Ruth Judges – | Judges |
| 1200 BC | | |
| 1050 BC ↑ | 1 Samuel – 1 Kings 11 | United |
| 931 BC ↑ | 1 Kings 12 – 2 Kings 17 | Divided Kingdom |
| 722 BC ↑ | 2 Kings 18 – 25 | Southern Kingdom |

Circa 1100 - 1060 BC

PHILISTINE OPPRESSION



12. Samson

- ▶ circa 1100 BC
- ▶ Danite
- ▶ birth announced by angel of the LORD

SAMSON

▶ Spirit of the LORD came upon him on at least four occasions



1. killing of **lion**

2. killing of 30 Philistines

3. Burning of crops;

slaughter of Philistines

4. killing of 1000 Philistines

LAST FEATS OF SAMSON



- ▶ 20-year judgeship (probably contemporary with Samuel)
- ▶ Fall of Samson
 - ❖ lust for harlot
 - ❖ lust for Delilah
 - ❖ killed over 3,000 at his death

EVALUATION OF SAMSON

The Good

- Announcement of birth by “Angel of the LORD”
- Holy Spirit came upon him at least four times
- Supernatural power
- Included in “hall of faith” along with Gideon, *Barak* and *Jephthah*
- Twenty years of service as a judge

The Bad & Ugly

- Always expected to get what he wanted
- Lust toward end of career
- Only *began* the deliverance from the Philistines; it continued into times of Samuel, Saul, David

FINAL DEBAUCHERY

1. MICAH AND THE MIGRATION OF THE DANITES (JUDGES 17-18)

- ▶ Final only in the narrative, not chronologically
 - These incidents are held to have occurred during the time of Mesopotamian oppression and Othniel's judgeship

1. MICAH AND THE MIGRATION OF THE DANITES

1. Micah: stole money from his mother (17.3-6)
 - ▶ Set up a silver idol in a private sanctuary with one of his sons as a *priest* → replaced him with a wandering Levite



1. MICAH AND THE MIGRATION OF THE DANITES

▶ Danites

- ▶ five scouts discover Micah and his “priest”
- ▶ 600 Danite warriors on way to conquer land in north persuade the Levite to join them as their priest
- ▶ They destroy and take possession of a peaceful city of Sidonians



FINAL DEBAUCHERY

2. THE BENJAMITE WAR (19 – 21)

- ▶ A Levite travels to Gibeah of Benjamin
- ▶ Townspeople want to ravage him
 - ▶ Compare to Sodom / Gomorrah
 - ▶ His concubine given to them
 - ▶ Concubine returned dead
- ▶ Other tribes demand Benjamin to hand over guilty parties
- ▶ War between Israel and Benjamin
- ▶ Only 600 men survive



Samuel: Last of the Judges

Transition to a Kingdom

Samuel

- Last of the Judges (1 Samuel 7.15-17)
 - Also served as prophet (1 Samuel 3.20)
- More 'national' than other judges
 - Known from Dan (in the north) to Beersheba (in the south)
 - Nevertheless, more active locally
- Contemporary of Samson

he used to go annually on circuit to Bethel and **Gilgal** and **Mizpah**, and he judged Israel in all these places. Then his return was to **Ramah**



| 1 Chronicles 6.22-28 | 1 Chronicles 6.33-38 | 1 Samuel 1.1 |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Levi | Levi | Joseph (?) |
| Kohath | | Ephraim (?) |
| Aminadab | Izhar | |
| Korah | Korah | |
| Assir | | |
| Elkanah | | |
| Ebiasaph | Ebiasaph | |
| Assir | Assir | |
| Tahath | Tahath | |
| Uriel | Zephaniah | |
| Uzziah | Azariah | |
| Shaul | Joel | |
| Elkanah | Elkanah | |
| Amasai | Amasai | |
| | Mahath | |
| Elkanah | Elkanah | |
| Zophai (= Zuph) | Zuph | Zuph |
| Nahath | Toah | Tohu |
| Eliab | Eliel | Elihu |
| Jeroham | Jeroham | Jeroham |
| Elkanah | Elkanah | Elkanah |
| Samuel | Samuel | Samuel |

(1 Sam 1.1)

EXPLANATION

1. Harmonistic: Of the tribe of **Ephraim** by birth; attached to the tabernacle, drawn into the tribe of Levi by Levitical tradition
2. Nonhistorical: the Chronicler tried to link the **Ephraimite** Samuel to a Levitical ancestry, which would have been necessary and proper in the Chronicler's time
3. Levitical: Elkanah of the Levitical line had lived among the Ephraimites and in that sense was an Ephraimite; he was of the tribe of Levi by heritage