

**BOOK OF JUDGES**  
**WHAT HAPPENED?–PT 2**  
**JUDGES 2:1-23**

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**Introduction**

We said last week that whenever a disaster happens, in the aftermath of that disaster, we often see a variety of investigators swing into action to try and figure out together “*What Happened?*” to cause the tragedy so that **WHATEVER HAPPENED** might be avoided in the future!

We began to look at tragedy that happened to the nation of **ISRAEL** after settling into the **PROMISED LAND!** **One generation after JOSHUA and the ELDERS that served with him died, the nation of ISRAEL was in deep trouble! (vs 10)**

What we see here begs for an examination to the answer to this question: **WHAT HAPPENED?** Who or what “**FAILED**” in this situation to cause this great **TRAGEDY** that we see here?

- I. *THE LORD GOD DID NOT FAIL HIS PEOPLE! (Judges 2:1)*
  - A. *The LORD’S PROMISES Never Fail!*
    - 1. *The LORD GOD Redeemed ISRAEL From Egypt Just As HE Promised ABRAM!*
    - 2. *The LORD GOD Brought Them To Canaan Land Just As HE PROMISED!*
    - 3. *The LORD GOD Kept HIS COVENANT With Them ALL Just As HE PROMISED!*
  - B. *The LORD’S PURPOSE Never Fails!*

*Then we began to see...*

**II. The LORD GOD’S PEOPLE DID FAIL!**

**A. The Grandparents Failed!**

The ones that originally failed to go into the land and consequently died in the wilderness. They could have and should have taught their children and grandchildren some things about obeying the **LORD!**

Now we pick up where there where we left off and we see a second way that the **LORD GOD’S PEOPLE FAILED:**

**B. The Parents Failed!**

**1. They Failed In Their Tasks! (Judges 2:2-3)**

They didn’t do what the **LORD GOD** told them to do! They **DISOBEYED** the known will of **GOD!**

**a. Their First Mistake Was Prayerlessness!**

The **GIBEONITES** came and *Joshua 9:14* declares that **ISRAEL** “. . .*asked not counsel at the mouth of the Lord.*”

**b. Their Second Mistake Was Unholy Alliances!**

*Joshua 9:15–“And Joshua made peace with them, and made a league with them, to let them live: and the princes of the congregation sware unto them.”*

**c. Their Third Mistake Was Continuing In Their Sin! (vs 2-3)**

Rather than drive these inhabitants out, they dwelt with them and made agreements with them.

*Judges 1:21, 27-35*

The **LORD’S** response is. . .“*why have ye done this?*”

There are all kinds of things the **LORD’S WORD** tells us today, not the least of which is:

*Romans 12:2–“Be not conformed to this world. . .”*

How are we doing?

*They Failed In Their Tasks!*

**2. They Failed In Their Teaching! (Vs 10)**

**Turn to Deuteronomy 6,** we’ll be there in a minute.

When we **FAIL** in our **TASKS**, there is a greater possibility that we will **FAIL** in our **TEACHING!**

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When what parents say doesn't line up with what they do that is an inconsistency that children will pick up on! An attitude of *“Don't do as I do, do as I say”* will not work! Because, What parents **DO** speaks so loud that what they **SAY** can't be heard!

- a. **These Parents Were Commanded By GOD To Teach Their Children. (Deut.6:1-3)**  
*Vs. 4-9* are known to the **JEWS** as the *Shema*.
  1. It was the most important of all of the **OLD TESTAMENT!**
  2. Every **JEWISH** child had to memorize it!
  3. The **LORD GOD** warned them what would happen! (*Deuteronomy 6:10-12*)
  4. **JESUS** said this was the **GREATEST COMMANDMENT!** (*Mark 12:28-30*)
- b. **They Were To LOVE The LORD their GOD With All Their Being! (Vs 5)**
- c. **They Were To Have NO OTHER GODS!**  
(*Vs 14-15*)
- d. **They Were Not To Tempt The LORD!(Vs 16)**
- e. **They Were To Keep All The Commandments Of The LORD! (Vs 17)**
- f. **They Were To Do Right And Good In The Sight Of The LORD! (Vs 18-19)**  
Somehow they **FAILED** in their **TEACHING**—They may have **FAILED** with their **LIPS**, but they definitely **FAILED** with their **LIVES!**

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*They Failed In Their TASKS...TEACHING...*

3. **They Failed In Their TESTIMONY! (Judges 2:10)**  
*Deuteronomy 6:20-25*  
A **FAILURE IN TEACHING** is related to **FAILURE IN TESTIMONY!**
  - a. **A TESTIMONY Lives As Long As It Is Told And Shown!** Parents must **TELL** and **SHOW** their kids what **GOD** has done for them!
  - b. **Believing Parents Must Continue To Tell The TESTIMONY OF CHRIST Today!**
    1. **The Eternal Pre-existence Of CHRIST!**
    2. **The DEITY Of CHRIST!**
    3. **The Virgin Birth Of CHRIST!**
    4. **The Sinless Perfection Of CHRIST!**
    5. **The Substitutionary Death Of CHRIST!**
    6. **The Bodily Resurrection Of CHRIST!**
    7. **The Second Coming Of CHRIST!**
  - c. **Parents Must Continue To Tell Their PERSONAL TESTIMONY!**
    1. How We Realized We Were Lost In Sin!
    2. How We Realized Our Hopeless Position!
    3. How We Realized That **CHRIST** Died For Us!

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4. How We Repented Of Our Sin And Trusted **CHRIST** As Our Personal **LORD** And **SAVIOUR**!
5. How **CHRIST** Changed Our Lives!

**d. Parents Must Live Their TESTIMONY!  
(Judges 2:4-5)**

1. We need to **SHOW** Our Children How **CHRIST** Has Made A Difference In Our Lives!
2. We must **SHOW** Them **CHRISTIANITY** Is Real!
3. Again, What We **ARE** Speaks So Loudly That Our Children And Others Can't Hear What We Say!

*The Grandparents Failed...The Parents Failed...*

**C. The Children Failed!**

**1. The Children Failed In Their OBLIGATIONS!  
(Judges 2:11-13)**

**GOD** holds each of us personally responsible though our parents may **FAIL** in their **RESPONSIBILITY**.

**Children Have A Personal Responsibility:**

**To SEEK** The **LORD**!  
**To RECEIVE** The **LORD**!  
**To ACKNOWLEDGE** The **LORD**!  
**To OBEY** The **LORD**!  
**To SERVE** The **LORD**!

**2. The Children FAILED In Their OPPORTUNITIES! (Judges 2:14-17)**

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They did not learn from **GOD'S** dealings in their lives!

*Hebrews 12:5–6–“And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.”*

**3. The Children Failed In Their OBSERVANCE! (Judges 2:17-20)**  
They did more wickedly than their fathers.

**Conclusion**

**So in closing:**

**What Will Become Of This Next Generation Depends Partly Upon What Kind Of Legacy That Grandparents Are Leaving Their Grandchildren!**

Will it be a legacy of obedience or disobedience?

Will it be a legacy of righteousness or unrighteousness?

Will it be a legacy of wisdom or worldliness?

Will it be a legacy of faithfulness or unfaithfulness?

**What Will Become Of This Next Generation Depends Partly Upon Those Who Are Parents Performing Their Responsibilities!**

By being good stewards of the manifold grace of **GOD**!

By not failing in their task—but, being obedient to **GOD**!

By not failing in their teaching—children must be taught what is right in the sight of **GOD**!

By not failing in their testimony—a legacy of right doctrine and right living must be passed on to the children!

**What Will Become Of This Next Generation Also Depends Partly Upon What Children Do About Their Responsibilities Before GOD?**

Their obligations to **SEEK, RECEIVE, ACKNOWLEDGE, OBEY, and SERVE GOD**!

Finding **GOD'S** will for their lives and performing it!

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Not failing in the opportunities **GOD** puts before them!  
(Learning from the mistakes of the past–not repeating them!)  
Not failing in their observance! (Obeying what they know to be  
right–It is what **GOD** requires!)

**What kind of a STEWARDS are we being of what we have been given?**

Our children and grandchildren are a part of our **STEWARDSHIP!** Parents  
are a part of a child's **STEWARDSHIP!**

*1 Corinthians 4:1-2–“Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers  
of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is  
required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”*

*1 Peter 4:10–“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the  
same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*

**What happens when a generation is lost for GOD? We'll come back next  
week LORD willing and look at that!**