

Sunday Night Message

September 16, 2018

Judges 10

Series – *Judges*

Text – Judges 10

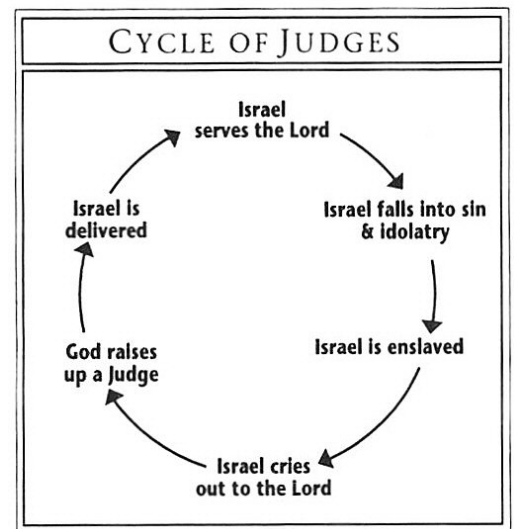
Introduction

In chapter ten, we will see what happens to Israel after the time of Gideon and Abimelech. There are two judges introduced to us with very little information given about them. Then, we will see the declining spiritual condition that brings us to the next judge, but we will not meet him until chapter eleven.

Keep in mind the repeating cycle of judges:

Throughout the Book of Judges we see a repeated cycle:

1. Israel in a right relationship with God receiving God's blessing of provision and protection.
2. Israel moves away from God and begins to worship idols and fall into sin.
3. God drops the hedge of protection that was placed around them, and Israel's enemies begin to conquer them.
4. Israel cries out to the Lord.
5. The Lord raises up a judge.
6. Israel is delivered.



I Tola (vs. 1 – 2)

Nothing is mentioned of Tola except for the fact that he served for twenty-three years and that he lived and was buried in Shamir in Mt. Ephraim. Maybe, it is a good thing that nothing remarkable is mentioned regarding him. Perhaps, it is because that during his reign, it was a quiet time in Israel's history, and though nothing great is recorded, nothing terrible is recorded either.

II Jair (vs. 3 – 5)

Jair judged Israel for twenty-two years, and lived in Gilead, on the east side of the Jordan River. McArthur believes that Jair was a judge during the time period of Ruth¹ Jair was obviously married to several women, and was very affluent. The donkey was a symbol of affluence at this time. Jair provided each one of his sons with a donkey and a city. "Havothjair" means "villages or hamlets of Jair."

Jair is mentioned in Numbers:

¹ MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed., p. 350). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

*"And Jair the son of Manasseh went and took the small towns thereof, and called them Havothjair."
(Numbers 32:41)*

During the period of these two judges, forty-five years goes by with relative peace and prosperity. Unfortunately, Israel fails to appreciate the blessing that God had given them.

III Downward Spiral (vs. 6 – 18)

A Israel Becomes Idolatrous (v. 6)

Prosperity and Peace often lead to apathy and apostasy. Israel failed to appreciate the Lord's blessing, and began to worship other gods.

See Romans 1:18 – 32 – all of the sins mentioned in Romans 1 began with a lack of appreciation for the manifold blessings that God had given them.

B God Become Irate (v. 7)

God's anger was "hot." God was "ticked off."

C The Enemies Invade (vs. 7 – 9)

Because God is angry, He is no longer protecting His people from the invasion of their enemies.

D Israel Remembers (v. 10)

E God Refuses (vs. 11 – 14) See Proverbs 1:22 - 33

F Israel Repents (vs. 15 – 16)

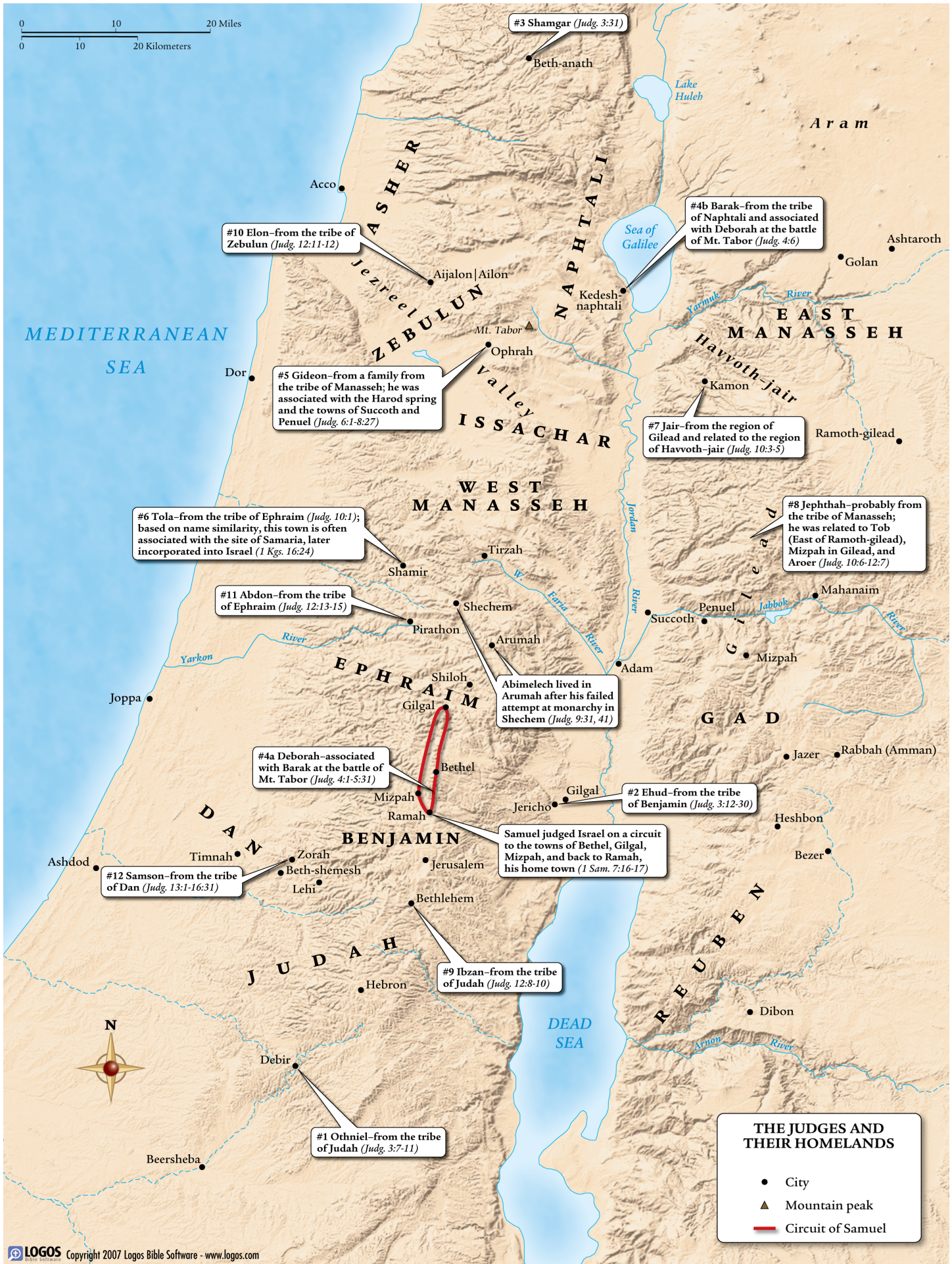
Conclusion

In vs. 17 – 18, the Israelites are preparing for battle against the Ammonites, and they are looking for a deliverer. In chapter 11, we will meet their next judge and deliverer, Jephthah.

Practical Truths

- 1 We are living in a time of unprecedented prosperity. The Israelites of old have never experience the pleasures and prosperity that we are living in today.
- 2 We need to remember that it is God who has blessed us with what we have, and it is also God who could allow it to be taken away.
- 3 Christians need to be very thankful and appreciative for what we have by:
 - Praising Him
 - Serving Him
 - Standing for Him

0 10 20 Miles
0 10 20 Kilometers



#3 Shamgar (Judg. 3:31)
Beth-anath

#10 Elon—from the tribe of Zebulun (Judg. 12:11-12)
Aijalon|Ailon

#4b Barak—from the tribe of Naphtali and associated with Deborah at the battle of Mt. Tabor (Judg. 4:6)
Mt. Tabor

#5 Gideon—from a family from the tribe of Manasseh; he was associated with the Harod spring and the towns of Succoth and Penuel (Judg. 6:1-8:27)
Succoth, Penuel

#7 Jair—from the region of Gilead and related to the region of Havvoth-jair (Judg. 10:3-5)
Havvoth-jair

#6 Tola—from the tribe of Ephraim (Judg. 10:1); based on name similarity, this town is often associated with the site of Samaria, later incorporated into Israel (1 Kgs. 16:24)
Shamir

#8 Jephthah—probably from the tribe of Manasseh; he was related to Tob (East of Ramoth-gilead), Mizpah in Gilead, and Aroer (Judg. 10:6-12:7)
Mizpah, Ramoth-gilead

#11 Abdon—from the tribe of Ephraim (Judg. 12:13-15)
Pirathon

Abimelech lived in Arumah after his failed attempt at monarchy in Shechem (Judg. 9:31, 41)
Arumah, Shechem

#4a Deborah—associated with Barak at the battle of Mt. Tabor (Judg. 4:1-5:31)
Mt. Tabor

#2 Ehud—from the tribe of Benjamin (Judg. 3:12-30)
Jericho

Samuel judged Israel on a circuit to the towns of Bethel, Gilgal, Mizpah, and back to Ramah, his home town (1 Sam. 7:16-17)
Bethel, Gilgal, Mizpah, Ramah

#12 Samson—from the tribe of Dan (Judg. 13:1-16:31)
Timnah

#9 Ibzan—from the tribe of Judah (Judg. 12:8-10)
Bethlehem

#1 Othniel—from the tribe of Judah (Judg. 3:7-11)
Bethlehem

THE JUDGES AND THEIR HOMELANDS

- City
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Circuit of Samuel