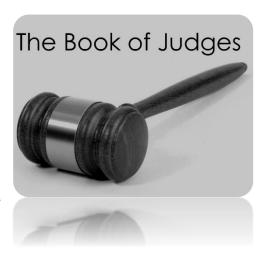


The author of this book is uncertain, some suggest Samuel, the high priest. It was written around 1050-1000bc. The events in the book cover the stormy period of the history of Israel between their return from Egypt until the time a monarchy was set in place. The judges were military and civil leaders during the confederacy of the 12 tribes plus Ephraim and Manasseh who occupied the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The son of a whore comes in handy for Israel,

¹ Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he was the son of a whore: and Gilead begat Jephthah.



- ² And Gilead's wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and they threw out Jephthah, and said to him, You have no inheritance in the house of our father; for you are the son of a whore.
- ³ Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and sisters, and lived in the land of Tob: and there, worthless men gathered around Jephthah, and went with him.
- ⁴ And after a while it happened, those of Ammon fought against Israel.
- ⁵ And when those of Ammon fought against <mark>Israel</mark>, the elders of Gilead went to get Jephthah from the land of Tob:
- ⁶ and they said to Jephthah, Come, and be our chief, that we may fight against those of **Ammon** / and they sound like the globalist elites, who seek the patriots to fight their endless wars; and after fighting, and their enemy is dead; will take away their guns in effort to rule over them.
- ⁷ And Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, Did you not hate me, and expel me from the house of my father? So why have you come to me now when you are in trouble?
- ⁸ And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, for this reason, we turn to you, that you may go with us, and fight against those of Ammon, and be head over all those living in Gilead.
- ⁹ So Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, If you take me home again to fight against those of Ammon, and the LORD delivers them over to me, I will be your head?
- 10 And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, The LORD is witness between us, we will do as you have said.
- ¹¹ Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and chief over them: and Jephthah spoke all his words before the LORD at Mizpah.



- ¹² Now Jephthah sent messengers to the king of Ammon, saying, What do you have to do with me, that you come against me to fight in my land?
- ¹³ And the king of Ammon answered to the messengers of Jephthah, Because Israel took away my land, when they came up from Egypt, from the Arnon as far as the Jabbok, and to the Jordan: so now, restore them peaceably.
- ¹⁴ But again Jephthah sent messengers to the king of Ammon:
- ¹⁵ and said to him, Thus says Jephthah, Israel did not take away the land of Moab, nor the land of those of Ammon:
- ¹⁶ for when Israel came up from Egypt, and through the wilderness to the Red Sea, and came to Kadesh;
- ¹⁷ then **Israel** sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, Please let me pass through your land: but the king of Edom would not listen. And in like manner they also sent to the king of Moab: but he would not agree: and **Israel** remained in Kadesh.
- ¹⁸ Then they went through the wilderness, and crossed around the land of Edom, and of Moab, and came to the east side of the land of Moab, and camped on the other side of Arnon, but did not enter the border of Moab: for the Arnon was the border of Moab.
- ¹⁹ And **Israel** sent messengers to King Sihon of the Amorites, the king of Heshbon; and **Israel** said to him, Let us please pass through your land to our place.
- ²⁰ But Sihon did not trust **Israel** to pass through his territory: so Sihon gathered all his troops, camped at Jahaz, and fought against **Israel**.
- ²¹ Then the LORD God of **Israel** delivered Sihon and all his troops into the hand of **Israel**, and they defeated them. So **Israel** possessed all the land of the Amorites living in that country.
- ²² They possessed all the areas of the Amorites from the Arnon to the Jabbok, and from the wilderness to the Jordan.
- Since the LORD God of Israel drove out the Amorites from before His people Israel, should you possess it?
- ²⁴ Do you not possess what your god Chemosh gives you to possess?

whatever the LORD our God drives out from before us, we will possess it.



- ²⁵ Now are you any better than Balak son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever struggle with Israel, or fight against them?
- ²⁶ While Israel lived 300 years in Heshbon and its towns, and in Aroer and its towns, and in all the cities that are along the banks of the Arnon? why did you not recapture them?
- ²⁷ I have not sinned against you, but you do me wrong to war against me: may the LORD, the Judge, judge today between those of Israel and those of Ammon.
- ²⁸ But the king of Ammon did not listen to the message Jephthah sent him.
- ²⁹ The Spirit of the LORD came on Jephthah, who went through Gilead and Manasseh, then through Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he went to those of Ammon.
- ³⁰ And Jephthah vowed to the LORD: If You will indeed give those of Ammon into my hand,
- ³¹ then whatever comes out the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from those of Ammon, will surely be the LORD'S, and I will offer that one as a burnt offering.
- ³² Jephthah crossed over to those of Ammon to fight against them; and the LORD handed them to him.
- ³³ He defeated 20 of their cities with a great slaughter from Aroer, to the entrance of Minnith and to the plain of the vineyards. Thus Ammon was subdued before all Israel.
- ³⁴ When Jephthah went home to Mizpah, indeed, his daughter came out to meet him with tambourines and dancing! She was his only child; beside her he had no son or daughter.
- ³⁵ And when he saw her, he tore his clothes, and said, No! my daughter! you devasted me, and great misery to me: for I have given my word to the LORD, and I cannot take it back.
- ³⁶ Then she said to him, My father, if you have given your word to the LORD, Do to me as you said; for the LORD has avenged you of your enemies, those of Ammon / and so Jephthah told his daughter of the freely given offering he made to the Lord.
- ³⁷ And she also said to her father: let me do this one thing, let me with my friends go and shed tears for two months on the mountains, because she was a virgin / and so she was not able to carry on the name of her father whom she obviously loved; and NO Jephthah did not sacrifice her; but probably did sacrifice, giving thanks to God, the little lamb that came out following her.
- ³⁸ So he said, Go; and sent her away for two months: and she went with her friends, and shed tears upon the mountain because she was a virgin.



³⁹ And at the end of two months, she returned to her father, who kept the vow he made: and she knew no man / which is the biblical way to modestly say, she did not have sex with any man. And it became a custom in Israel,

⁴⁰ that the young women of **Israel** went each year for four days, to remember when the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite shed tears / as an offering to the Lord.

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On Sexual Morality – CSLewisDoodle

Making & Begetting - CSLewisDoodle

Christian Marriage – Bk 3, Chp5; CSLewisDoodle

Man or Rabbit? -- CSLewisDoodle

The Rival Conceptions of God— Bk 2,Chp1; CSLewisDoodle

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