

# JUDGES 1 vs 1

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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 Book of Judges



The political background,

**<sup>1</sup> Now after the death of Joshua it happened, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who will go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?**

**<sup>2</sup> And the LORD said, Judah will go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand / in Judges, the tribes are referred to according to their ancestors.**

**<sup>3</sup> Then Judah said to Simeon his brother, Come up with me into the territory allotted me, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I will in turn go with you into your allotted territory. So Simeon went with him.**

**<sup>4</sup> And Judah went up; and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hands: and they defeated ten thousand men at Bezek.**

**<sup>5</sup> And they found Adoni-bezek in Bezek: and fought against him, and they defeated the Canaanites and the Perizzites.**

**<sup>6</sup> But Adoni-bezek fled; and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his big toes.**

**<sup>7</sup> And Adoni-bezek said, seventy kings, with their thumbs and their big toes cut off, gathered up scraps under my table: as I have done, so God has repaid me. So they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died there.**

**<sup>8</sup> Then the children of Judah had fought against Jerusalem, and captured it, and struck it with the edge of the sword, and set the city on fire.**

**<sup>9</sup> And afterward the children of Judah went down to fight against the Canaanites, who lived in the hill country, and in the south / the Negev, and in the lowlands.**

**<sup>10</sup> So Judah went against the Canaanites who lived in Hebron: (now the name of Hebron before was Kiriath-arba:) and they defeated Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmi.**

# JUDGES 1 vs 1

**11 Then from there he went against those living in Debir: and the previous name of Debir was Kiriath-sepher:**

**12 And Caleb said, He who strikes Kiriath-sepher, and seizes it, to him I will give my daughter Achsah for a wife.**

**13 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, younger brother of Caleb, seized it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter for a wife.**

**14 And it happened, when she came to him, that she persuaded him to ask her father for a field: and she alighted from her ass; and Caleb said to her, What do you want?**

**15 And she said to him, Give me a blessing: since you have given me the land of the Negev; give me also springs of water. So Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.**

**16 And the children of the Kenite, the father-in-law of Moses, went up from the city of palm trees with the children of Judah into the wilderness of Judah, which is in the south of Arad; and they went and lived among the people.**

**17 Then Judah went with Simeon his brother, and they defeated the Canaanites who lived in Zephath, and utterly destroyed it. So the name of the city was called Hormah.**

**18 And Judah took Gaza with its coast, and Askelon with its coast, and Ekron with its coast.**

**19 And the LORD was with Judah; and he disposed those living in the hill country; but could not drive out the inhabitants in the lowlands, because they had iron chariots.**

**20 Then they gave Hebron to Caleb, as Moses promised: and he expelled from there the three sons of Anak.**

**21 But the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites who lived in Jerusalem; so the Jebusites live with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem to this day.**

**22 And the house of Joseph, they also went up against Bethel: and the LORD was with them.**

**23 And the house of Joseph spied out Bethel. (Now the name of the city before was Luz.)**

**24 And the spies saw a man coming from the city, and said to him, Please show us the entrance to the city, and we will show you mercy.**

**25 And when he showed them the entrance into the city, they stuck the city with the edge of the sword; but they let the man and all his family go free.**

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<sup>26</sup> And the man went into the land of the Hittites, and built a city, and named it Luz: which is its name to this day.

<sup>27</sup> But **Manasseh** did not dispossess those living in Beth-shean and its towns, nor Taanach and its towns, nor those living in Dor and its towns, nor those living in Ibleam and its towns, nor those living in Megiddo and its towns: so the Canaanites continued to live in that land.

<sup>28</sup> And it happened, when Israel became strong, that they put the Canaanites forced labor, but did not drive them out completely.

<sup>29</sup> Nor did **Ephraim** drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer; so the Canaanites lived in Gezer among them.

<sup>30</sup> Zebulun did not drive out those living in Kitron, or those living in Nahalol; so the Canaanites lived among them, and were force labor.

<sup>31</sup> Asher did not drive out those living in Acco, or those living in Sidon, or in Ahlab, or in Achzib, or in Helbah, or in Aphik, or in Rehob:

<sup>32</sup> so the Asherites lived among the Canaanites, those living in the land: for they did not drive them out.

<sup>33</sup> Naphtali did not drive out those living in Beth-shemesh, or those living in Beth-anath; but he lived among the Canaanites, those living in the land: nevertheless those living in Beth-shemesh and in Beth-anath became forced labor to them.

<sup>34</sup> And the Amorites forced the children of Dan into the mountain: for they would not allow them to come down to the valley:

<sup>35</sup> yet the Amorites lived in Mount Heres in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim: but when the power of the house of Joseph prevailed, they became forced labor.

<sup>36</sup> And the border of the Amorites went from the ascent of Akrabbim, from the rock, and upward.

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**Men Without Chests** – The Abolition of Man,<sup>1</sup> CSLewisDoodle

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