

JUDGES 2 vs 1

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 Spiritual background,

The Book of Judges



¹ And an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I brought you from Egypt, and to the land which I pledged to your fathers; and I said, I will never break My covenant with you.

² As for you, you will make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you will throw down their altars: but you have not obeyed My voice: what it this you have done?

³ Therefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they will become as thorns in your sides, and their gods will be a snare to you.

⁴ And it happened, when the angel of the LORD spoke these words to all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voices, and wept.

⁵ So they named that place Bochim: and there they sacrificed to the LORD.

⁶ When Joshua had dismissed the people, the children of Israel each went to his inheritance to possess the land.

⁷ And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD, what He did for Israel.

⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being 110 years old.

⁹ And they buried him in the territory of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.

¹⁰ And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, who did not know the LORD, nor the works He had done for Israel.

¹¹ And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baals:

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12 And they forsook the LORD the God of their fathers, who brought them from the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, the gods of the people that were around them, and bowed themselves to them, and provoked the LORD to anger.

13 And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth / they served demons.

14 And the anger of the LORD burned against Israel, and He delivered them into the hands of looters who looted them, and He sold them into the hands of their enemies around them, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

15 Wherever they went, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had pledged to them: and they were greatly distressed.

16 Then the LORD raised up judges, who delivered them from the hand of those who looted them.

17 And yet they would not listen to their judges, but they went whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves to them: they quickly turned from the way their fathers walked, obeying the instructions of the LORD; but they did not so.

18 And when the LORD raised them up judges, then the LORD was with the judge, and delivered them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for the LORD reconsidered by reason of their groanings because those who oppressed and troubled them.

19 But it happened, when the judge died, that they turned acted more corruptly than their fathers, following other gods to serve them, and bow down to them; they did not abandon their own doings, nor their stubborn ways.

20 And the anger of the LORD burned against Israel; and He said, Because this people has transgressed My covenant which I instructed their fathers, and have not listened to My voice;

21 I also will not from now on drive out before them any of the nations which Joshua left when he died:

22 in order by them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk in it, as their fathers did, or did not / the Lord proves in each generation – including ours what we are really made of; those who will walk with Him, and those who will not.

23 So the LORD allowed those nations to remain, not driving them out quickly; and He did not delivered them into the hand of Joshua.

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