



Wednesday
December 16, 2020

Judges

1

Transition from Joshua to the time of the Judges 1:1-2:15

- Note that God did not raise up another leader for Israel after Joshua
 - The priests and Levites had the responsibility to teach the people the law of God. Leviticus 10:8-11; Deuteronomy 33:8-10
 - The parents and grandparents were to model and teach God's law to each new generation. Deuteronomy 4:9; 6:4-9
 - Local judges and officers were to be appointed. Deuteronomy 16:18-20
 - The Levitical priests were to judge in matters that could not be resolved at the local level. Deuteronomy 17:8-13

2

Transition from Joshua to the time of the Judges 1:1-2:15

- Description of the later phase of the conquest with some historical notes from the past. 1:1-36
 - The people would have inquired of the LORD through the high priest. Numbers 27:21
 - Judah is chosen and enlisted Simeon to help.
 - They defeated Adoni-bezek (ruler or lord of Bezek) who had defeated 70 other kings. Cutting off the thumbs and big toes of a person would make them incapable of engaging in hand-to-hand combat and make most kinds of manual labor difficult.

3

Transition from Joshua to the time of the Judges 1:1-2:15

- Description of the later phase of the conquest with some historical notes from the past. 1:1-36
 - This account also includes some of the conquest that had already taken place as recorded in the Book of Joshua.
 - A pattern begins to emerge of the neglect of the tribes to secure their land.
 - The compromise was to subjugate the people.
 - As mentioned before, Dan abandoned their inheritance and moved north.

4

Transition from Joshua to the time of the Judges 1:1-2:15

- A rebuke and pronouncement of judgment from a physical appearance (theophany) of Yahweh. 2:1-5 (see Genesis 16:7-11; 22:11,15; Exodus 3:2)
 - A reminder of His faithfulness.
 - A reminder of the unbreakable covenant God has made with them.
 - A reminder of His command to make no covenant with the people of the land.

5

Transition from Joshua to the time of the Judges 1:1-2:15

- A rebuke and pronouncement of judgment from a physical appearance (theophany) of Yahweh. 2:1-5
 - A rebuke that they have not driven out the people.
 - The judgment is that God would no longer give them the power to drive them out and these people would become a point of stumbling for them leading to more judgment.
 - The people react with mourning and worship.

6

Transition from Joshua to the time of the Judges 1:1-2:15

- Joshua's death recounted with the stark reminder of how quickly a new generation can turn away from the LORD.
- The people delved headlong into the culture and practices of the people that had sinned so egregiously against God that they had incurred God's wrath. Now they would incur God's judgment as His protection was withdrawn from them. 2:11-15 (see Leviticus 18:24-29)

7

The era of the judges. 2:16-16:31

- Characteristics of this era 2:16-3:6
 - The people egregiously sinned against God by intermixing with the people with the resulting worship of their gods and abominable practices.
 - God allowed the nations around them to conquer and oppress them.
 - God would not abandon them because of His covenant and moved by His compassion for them would raise up judges to deliver them.

8

The era of the judges. 2:16-16:31

- Characteristics of this era 2:16-3:6
 - After the death of the judge the people would return to their sinful ways and the cycle would repeat.
 - God stopped giving the people the ability to drive out the people from the land for two reasons:
 - In order to test the loyalty of the Israelites.
 - In order to give them training for war.

9
