

## The Period of the Judges (c.a. 1375-1050 B.C.)

	Judge and Tribe	Scripture Reference	Major Events	Oppressors	Period of Oppression	Period of Rest
1	Othniel (Judah), son of Kenaz, younger brother of Caleb	Judge 1:11-15; 3:1-11; Joshua 15:16-19; 1 Chronicles 4:13	(1) Othniel was the nephew of Caleb and became his son-in-law after the capture of Kirjath Sepher (1:12-13) (2) Defeated Cushan-Rishathaim, king of Mesopotamia (3:10)	Cushan-Rishathaim, king of Mesopotamia (3:6)	8 years (3:8)	40 years (3:11)
2	Ehud (Benjamin), son of Gera	Judges 3:12-4:1	(1) Ehud, the left-handed Benjamite, personally slew Eglon, the king of Moab (3:21, 22) (2) Led in the slaying of 10,000 Moabites	Eglon, king of Moab (3:12) Ammonites (3:13) Amelekites (3:13)	18 years (3:14)	80 years (3:30)
3	Shamgar (Perhaps foreign) Son of Anath	Judges 3:31; 5:6	(1) Slew 600 Philistines with an oxgoad (3:31)	Philistines (3:31)	Not given	Not given

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4	Deborah (Ephraim) and Barak (Naphtali)	Judges 4:1-5:31; Hebrews 11:32	<p>(1) Deborah, a prophetess and judge, was the wife of Lapidoth (4:4; 5:7)f</p> <p>(2) Deborah and Barak defeated Sisera (with his 900 iron chariots) at the Battle of Kishon (4:13-16)</p> <p>(3) Sisera killed by Jael, the wife of Heber, with a tent peg (4:21)</p> <p>(4) The Song of Deborah (ch. 5) recounts the victory of Deborah and Barak over Sisera.</p> <p>(5) Barak is listed among the “heros of faith” in Hebrews 11:32</p>	Jabin, king of Canaan (4:2) Sisera was the commander of his army (4:2)	20 years (4:3)	40 years (5:31)

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5	Gideon (Manasseh), son of Joash. Also called Jerubbaal (6:32; 7:1) and Jerubbesheth (2 Samuel 11:21)	Judges 6:1-8:32 Hebrews 11:32	<p>(1) The Angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon at Ophrah as he was beating out wheat in the winepress (6:11-18)</p> <p>(2) Gideon's offer consumed by fire (6:19-24)</p> <p>(3) Gideon destroys the altar of Baal by night (6:25-27)</p> <p>(4) Gideon "put out the fleece" twice for a "sign" (6:36-40)</p> <p>(5) Gideon reduced his army from 32,000 to 10,000 to 300 (7:2-8); he routed out the Moabites with trumpets, pitchers, and torches (7:16-22)</p> <p>(6) Oreb and Zeeb killed by Ephramites (7:24-8:3)</p> <p>(7) Gideon took revenge on the men of Succoth and Peruel for not giving his army bread (8:5-9, 14-17)</p> <p>(8) Gideon killed Zebah and Zalmunna (Midianite kings) in revenge for the death of his brothers at Tabor (8:18-21)</p> <p>(9) Gideon made a gold ephod which lead the people into idolatry. (8:24-27)</p>	<p>Midianites (6:1, 3, 33: 7:12)</p> <p>Amalekites (6:3, 33; 7:12)</p> <p>"People of the East" (6:3, 33; 7:12)</p>	7 years (6:1)	40 years (8:28)

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6	Abimelech (Manasseh) Son of Gideon by a concubine.	Judges 8:33-9:57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Abimelech slew all his half brothers (70) except Jotham, the youngest (9:5)</li> <li>(2) Abimelech defeated Gaal, who conspired against him (9:26-41)</li> <li>(3) Abimelech captured Shechem and razed the city (9:42-49)</li> <li>(4) At Thebez a woman threw a milestone which hit Abimelech on the head; Abimelech then had his armor bearer kill him with a sword (9:50-54)</li> </ul>	Civil War		Abimelech ruled over Israel 3 years (9:22)
7	Tola (Issachar)	Judges 10:1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Tola was probably from one of the leading families of Issachar (Gen. 46:13; Num. 26:33)</li> </ul>			Judged Israel 23 years (10:2)
8	Jair (Gilead-Manasseh)	Judges 10:3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Jair was probably a descendant of the Jair who distinguished himself during the days of Moses and Joshua (Num 32:41; Deut 3:14; Josh 13:30; 1 Kings 4:13; 1 Chron. 2:21)</li> <li>(2) Jair had 30 sons who were itinerant judges (10:4)</li> </ul>			Judged Israel 22 years (10:3)

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9	Jephthah (Gilead-Manasseh), Son of Gilead by a harlot (11:1)	Judges 10:6-12:7 Hebrews 11:32	<p>(1) Jephthah was the son of Gilead by a harlot (11:1); he was driven off by his vengeful half brothers and fled to the land of Tob (11:2-3)</p> <p>(2) Elders of Gilead brought Jephthah back and made him their chief at Mizpah (11:4-11)</p> <p>(3) Jephthah sent a message to the King of Ammon saying that the Israelites had been in possession of Gilead for 300 years – too long for the Ammonites to challenge their right to it (11:26)</p> <p>(4) Jephthah subdued the Ammonites, conquering some 20 cities (11:32, 33)</p> <p>(5) Jephthah devoted his daughter to the service of the LORD for the rest of her life, in fulfillment of his foolish vow (11:31-40).</p> <p>(6) Jephthah defeated the Ephraimites, who were offended because they had not been asked to join in the battle against the Ammonites (12:1-6)</p>	Philistines (10:7) Ammorties (10:7) Civil War with the Ephraimites (12:4)	18 years (10:8)	Judged Israel 6 years (12:7)

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10	Ibzan (Judah or Zebulun) (Bethlehem-Zebulun; Josh. 19:15)	Judges 12:8-10	(1) Ibzan had 30 sons and 30 daughters, for whom he arranged marriages; this indicates his wealth and social prominence (12:9) (2) A Jewish tradition identifies Ibzan with Boaz of Bethlehem-Judah.			Judged Israel 7 years (12:9)
11	Elon (Zebulun)	Judges 12:11, 12	(1) The only information given concerning Elon is that he was buried at the Ajjalon in Zebulun, distinguishing it from the better known Ajjalon in Danite territory (12:12)			Judged Israel 10 years (12:11)
12	Abdon (Ephraim)	Judges 12:13-15	(1) The wealth and prominence of Abdon is revealed by the fact that he had 40 sons and 30 grandsons, who all rode on mounts (12:14) (2) Abdon was a native of Pirathon and was later buried there (12:13, 15)			Judged Israel 8 years (12:14)

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13	Samson (Dan)	Judges 13:1-16:31 Hebrews 11:32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Samson's birth was announced by the Angel of the LORD; he was consecrated a Nazarite (Numbers 6) from birth (ch. 13)</li> <li>(2) Samson slew a lion barehanded (14:5-6)</li> <li>(3) Samson slew 30 Philistines at Ashkelon (14:19)</li> <li>(4) Samson caught 300 foxes, tied them in pairs with a torch between their tails, and turned them into the grain fields of the Philistines (15:1-8)</li> <li>(5) Samson slew a thousand Philistines with the jawbone of an ass (15:14-19).</li> <li>(6) Samson carried off the gate of Gaza (16:1-3)</li> <li>(7) Samson was conquered by Delilah, blinded, and imprisoned at Gaza (16:4-22)</li> <li>(8) Samson pulled down the Temple of Dagon, killing himself and about 3,000 Philistines (16:23-31)</li> </ul>	Philistines (13:1)	40 years (13:1)	Judged Israel 20 years (15:20; 16:31)

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