

THE EARLY JUDGES

Judges 3 - 5

The events recorded in the book of Judges might be summarized as a four-fold cycle of sin, punishment, repentance, and deliverance. Notice how this cycle is repeated over and over again throughout the book:

A. The First Judge: Read Judges 3:1-11

1. What sins were the people of Israel committing at this time? Judges 3:6

2. Into the hand of what enemy were they sold as a punishment? Judges 3:8

3. When they cried out to the Lord in repentance, what judge did He raise up? Judges 3:9

4. What happened as a result of this judges work? Judges 3:10, 11

B. The Second Judge: Read Judges 3:12-30

1. When the Israelites again did evil, what enemy did they have to serve?
Judges 3:12, 14

2. When the people cried to the Lord, what judge did He raise up? Judges 3:15

3. What happened as a result of this judges work? Judges 3:29, 30

C. The Third Judge: Read Judges 3:31

1. Who was the third judge?

2. From what enemy did he deliver Israel?

3. For what act was he especially noted?

D. The Fourth and Fifth Judges: Read Judges 4:1-24

1. When the people of Israel again did evil, to what enemy were they delivered? Judges 4:2

2. Who led the armies of this king? Judges 4:2b

3. What made the oppression of this enemy so terrible? Judges 4:3b

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4. What did the people do as a result? Judges 4:3a

5. Who was the judge of Israel at this time? Judges 4:4, 5

6. What was God's message through this judge to Barak? Judges 4:6, 7

7. On what condition did Barak agree to obey God's command? Judges 4:8

8. What did this judge tell him about the coming conquest? Judges 4:9

9. What was the main strength of Sisera's army? Judges 4:13

10. What was the main strength of Israel's army? Judges 4:15a

11. What was the result of this battle? Judges 4:16

12. What did Sisera do when he saw how the battle was going?
Judges 4:15b, 17

13. What happened to him as a result? Judges 4:21

14. Read Deborah's song of praise for this deliverance in Judges 5. What had the people of Israel done that is mentioned twice? Judges 5:2, 9

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Did Israel deserve to be delivered from any of her enemies?

2. In spite of all my sins and failures, what will God do when I repent and offer myself willingly to Him? (See 2 Chronicles 7:14)
