GOD'S MASTERWORK, VOLUME TWO

THE STORY OF GOD'S PEOPLE—A SURVEY OF JOSHUA–ESTHER

Judges: Recycled Misery

A Survey of Judges



3

It's rough for a nation to pull itself out of the swamp of political scandal and public distrust . . . but to do so *several times in a row* is unheard of. Or is it? If your nation had a hard time recovering from its latest bout with scandal, consider the nation of Israel after entering the land of Canaan under Joshua's leadership. Although clearly and forcefully instructed to drive out the godless inhabitants who still remained in the land, the Hebrews compromised and dragged their feet, ultimately ignoring God's direct command. This initiated a cycle that was, in fact, repeated several times during the years recorded in the book. God heard their cry for deliverance and graciously sent a deliverer (a "judge"). Once victory came, the judge died. After the judge's death, the nation again compromised and fell under the rule of godless people . . . resulting in another cry for deliverance. A study of the book of Judges reveals the struggle people have today with the sinful nature.



1. Several Introductory Facts

The name of the book refers to main figures of God's deliverance that crop up throughout the work, while the book as a whole records humanity's proneness to wander from God.

2. Analysis of the Book

The book of Judges makes clear the reasons for the Israelites' failure, the repetitious cycles of misery brought on by disobedience, and the resulting disgrace in society.



Starting Your Journey

Judges offers three key truths that live on beyond the circumstances it portrays. First, depravity results in permissiveness when righteousness is ignored. Second, permissiveness leads to rationalization when holiness is ignored. And third, rationalization encourages rebellion and wickedness when repentance is ignored.





God's Masterwork Volume Two The Story of God's People—A Survey of Joshua–Esther by Charles R. Swindoll CD series



Insight's Bible Reading Guide: Old Testament by Insight for Living spiral bound book



Insight's Old Testament Handbook: A Practical Look at Each Book by Insight for Living paperback book

To order any of these related resources, call 0800-915-9364 or visit www.insightforliving.org.uk



Original outline copyright © 1979 and Message Mate copyright © 2011 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide. Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited. *Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application*

JUDGES

vi HSOF	Causes Failure Incomplete obedience (1:1-2:5) Idolatry (2:6-3:4) Intermarriage 3:5-6	MESOPOTAMIA 20 years 3 years 40 years 40 years 20 years 2	Anarchy Samuel and a state of the state of t
	Defeat (1) Review (2) <i>CHAPTERS</i> 1–2	Disobedience Bondage Misery Liberation and Rest Compromises CHAPTERS 3–16	Micah (family) (17) Danites (tribe) (18) Levite and concubine (19) Civil war (20) Mourning (21) CHAPTERS 17–21
	DEFEAT	DISOBEDIENCE	DISGRACE
Theme	Compromise brings failure.		
Key Verses	17:6; 21:25		
Christ in Judges	Prefigured as the ultimate judge and deliverer		

Copyright © 1979, 1996, 2009 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights reserved worldwide.

