

CLASS 5: *The Promised Land: Is This What You Dreamed Of? (Joshua-Samuel)*

Jax Church OT Survey Series Fall 2023

| Words/People to Know | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-------|------------|---------|----------|
| Jordan | Joshua/Yeshua | Rahab | Ai / Achan | Deborah | Gideon |
| Samuel | Ruth/Boaz | Naomi | Judges | Samson | Jephthah |

Judges 21:25 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

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| EMBRACE THE WILDERNESS 1. Read playfully and joyfully 2. Get caught up in the story 3. Let it capture your heart | EMBRACE THE RULES 1. Consider the context 2. Let Scripture interpret Scripture 3. Take it on its own terms |
| EMBRACE THE PUZZLE 1. Read them over & over again 2. Find patterns and connections 3. Dig out their many secrets | EMBRACE THE BROTHER /SISTER 1. Share them w/ friends 2. Kick around ideas & insights 3. Invite new people in |

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

Joshua

- Matthew 1:20-21; Deuteronomy 20:16-18, 31:23; Joshua 5:13-15; Genesis 12:6-7, 15:16; Hebrews 11:10

The JUDGES CYCLE (Judges 2:6-23 Hebrews 11:32-39)

1. The people rebel against God
2. God hands them over to their enemies
3. The people cry out to God in their oppression
4. God raises up a judge to deliver them
5. The people repent and follow God during the reign of the judge
6. The judge dies
7. The people rebel against God [again]

6 Major Judges: Othniel, Ehud, Deborah/Barak, Gideon, Jephthah, Samson [there were also 6 minor Judges!]

- Judge was Israel's leader who God chose to use to deliver them to restore the covenant relationship

Consider the Judges as positive examples of faith in God's covenant. How does that change things?

- Deborah: was Barak humble or too timid?
- Gideon: "God is your king"; maybe asking God for a sign wasn't such a bad thing to build his faith?
- Jephthah: Did he sacrifice his daughter or did she just never marry (text doesn't quite say)
- Samson: Is the typical assessment of Samson as too lustful missing the balance of recognizing his willingness to uphold the Covenant and even die for God's glory?
- Judges 19-21 After the deplorable activities of 19, Benjamites were devastated; Saul was a Benjamite!

Take Aways

1. Let scripture interpret scripture
2. Look for patterns and connections
3. Invite people to share scripture together
4. Recognize the spiritual war—it was messy for them; it is messy for us!