

# The Book of Judges: Chapters 3 & 4

*Sunday, October 13 – Wednesday, October 16*

## **Chapter 3:** Sunday, October 13

**(1 – 6)** Describe the situation in Israel from this passage. Why did God allow groups of Canaanites to remain among the Israelites? What was the outcome of the fact that the Israelites lived among people who worshipped pagan gods?

**(7 – 11)** Who did God appoint as the first judge of Israel? Describe the situation that necessitated God appointing him as judge. What was the outcome of his leadership? (*Judges 1: 12 – 13*)

**(12 – 14)** What action did Eglon, king of Moab, take against Israel? Why did God allow Eglon to take this action, and what was the outcome?

**(15 – 20)** How did the Israelites react to the situation regarding Eglon, and how did God respond? What actions did Ehud take when he brought tribute to King Eglon, and what was Ehud's intention? What did Ehud say to King Eglon, and how did Eglon respond?

**(21 – 23)** What action did Ehud take against King Eglon? How did Ehud escape Eglon's chamber?

**(24 – 25)** What assumption did King Eglon's servants make when they discovered that the door to his chamber was locked? What did they discover when they unlocked the door?

**(26 – 30)** Describe Ehud's actions when he returned from killing King Eglon. What did Ehud say to the Israelites, and how did they respond? What was the outcome of the subsequent battle?

**(31)** What was Shamgar's accomplishment as a judge of Israel?

## **Chapter 4:** Wednesday, October 16

**(1 – 3)** Describe the attitude and actions of the Israelites following Ehud's death. How did God respond to their faithlessness and lack of obedience, and how did the people react to King Jabin's oppressive rule?

**(4 – 7)** How is Deborah described? From the question that she asks, characterize the instructions that God had previously given to Barak. Based on Deborah's question, what can we infer about Barak's background, and his initial response to God's instructions to prepare for battle against King Jabin's army?

**(8 – 10)** How did Barak respond to Deborah's instructions? What did his response indicate about his trust in Deborah and his faith in God? In Deborah's response to Barak (recorded in verse 9), what was her true meaning, and how did Barak likely interpret her comment? (*Hebrews 11: 1 – 3*)

**(11 – 13)** Who was Heber the Kenite, and what action did he take (foreshadowing events recorded later in the account)? What report did Sisera receive regarding the location of Barak's army, and how did Sisera respond?

**(14 – 16)** What command did Deborah give to Barak, and what was the outcome of the ensuing battle? What action did Sisera take as a result of the fact that his army had been routed by God and the Israelites?

**(17 – 18)** Where did Sisera go when he fled from the battlefield? What action did Jael take toward Sisera, and how did Sisera respond?

**(19 – 20)** What did Jael provide to Sisera? What instructions did Sisera give to Jael if someone came to the tent and asked about his whereabouts? What was the significance of the wording that Sisera used as he conveyed the question that Jael might be asked by someone looking for him, and the answer that he wanted Jael to give?

**(21 – 24)** What decisive action did Jael take against Sisera? What was the strategic outcome of the battle?