

Sacred Heart Bible Study

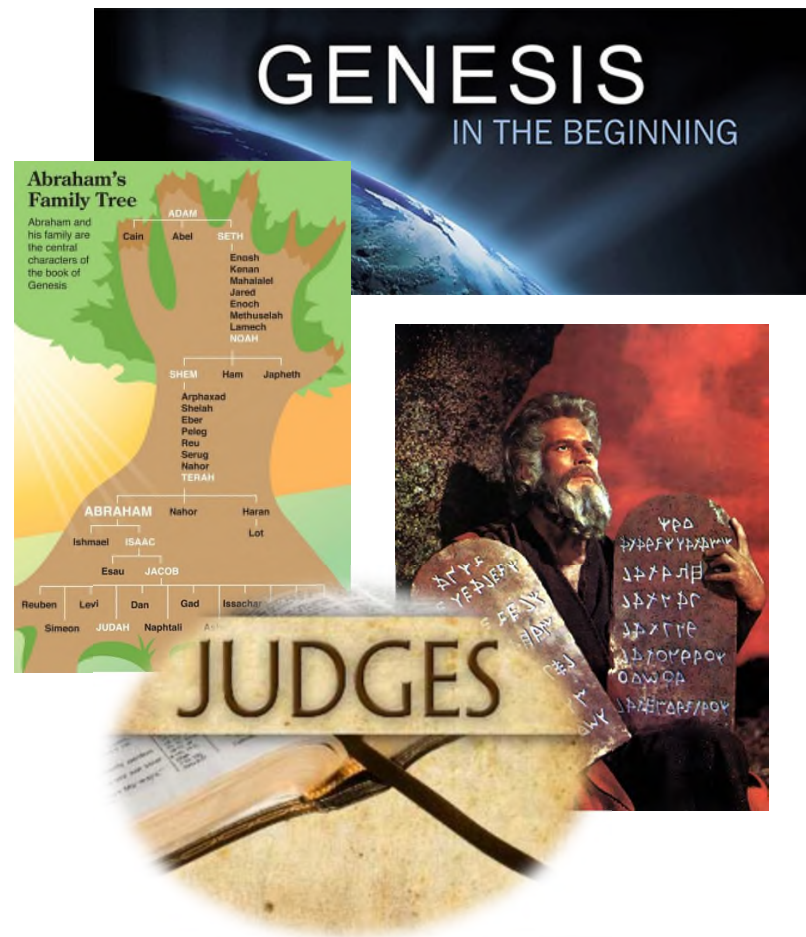
The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

KINGS OF ISRAEL & JUDAH



From Genesis to Kings

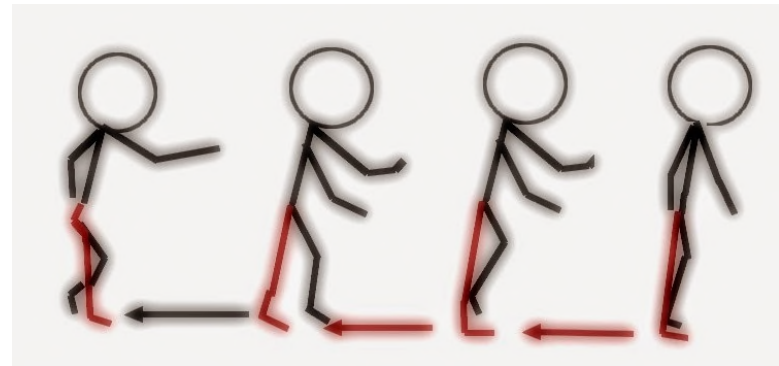
- **Covenant** – the 10 “words” and the “Book of the Covenant”
 - Promise of a land
 - Promise of an eternal relationships of God and his people
- **Exodus** to freedom of worship, life and service
- **Stepping Back**
 - Moses as mediator
 - 72 elders
 - Levites
 - Judges



Stepping Back

From God's Word

- Moses
 - *“who appointed you..?”*
 - golden calf
 - Kadesh
- Book of the Covenant – *holiness code*
- Worship – Levites
now others worship for them
- Common life as one people



The Judges

A Prelude before the Kings

The Pattern in Judges



- Joshua and his generation die
“a later generation arose that did not know the Lord or what he had done for Israel” (Judges 2:10)
- Covenant ignored: failure to worship God and God alone
the Israelites offended the Lord by serving the Baals (Judges 2:11)
- Covenant ignored: curses
[The Lord] allowed them to fall into the power of their enemies (Judges 2:14)

The Judges

A Prelude before the Kings


Judges

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JUDGES

Summarized in 4 verses
Judges 2:16-19

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Samuel

Priest, Prophet, and Judge



Ark of the Covenant

An sign of the power of God, the real king...



The Sign of the presence and power of
God with the people of Israel

...but you know about promises and
resolutions.... And they took a step back

- War with the Philistines
 - Following early defeat, the Ark is brought to the battlefield
 - Captured and taken to Ashrod and its temple
- Ark in captivity
 - Statue of Dagon falls before the Ark
 - Philistine are afflicted and return the ark
- A promised to reform and be covenant people

We want a king!

Turning their backs on the covenant

- *“In his old age, Samuel appointed his sons judges over Israel...”*
 - Samuel was well respected and brought the people back (towards) covenant
 - His sons were a disaster
 - The elders came to Samuel
- *“Now that you are old, and your sons do not follow your example, appoint a king over us, as other nations have, to judge us.” (1 Sam 8:5)*



1st Samuel 8

Another step back

- Let us listen to the Word of God
Reading of 1 Sam 8:1-19
- *“It is not you [Samuel] they reject, they are rejecting me as their king.”*
 - A recurring and constant action by the people
 - Exodus, Numbers, Judges and now
- Dt: *I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. **Choose** life that you may live in the land*



“We have no king but Caesar”
(John 19:5)

The Rights of the King

- Take your sons and daughters
 - Soldiers, house and field servants
 - cooks, bakers, & handmaids
- Take the best of your
 - Fields, vineyards, & groves
 - Servants
 - Oxen and beasts of burden
 - Flocks
- You will become his slave



**GIVE US
A
KING**

We too must be like other nations
with a king to rule us

The Role of the King

- Deuteronomy 17
 - Do not collect horses, gold or wives
 - Always have a copy of Law with him that he might reflect on it....
 - ...to lead the people to covenant with God
- 17:19 *He shall keep it with him and read it all the days of his life that he may learn to fear the LORD, his God, and to heed and fulfill all the words of this law and these statutes*



1st & 2nd Samuel 1st & 2nd Kings

1st Samuel

- Establishing the monarchy
- Saul is anointed king
- Reign and rejection of Saul

2nd Samuel

- David becomes king of
 - Judah, and
 - Israel
- Personal triumphs and failures

1st Kings

- King Solomon (1 Kgs 1-11)
 - Wisdom (1 Kgs 3)
 - Temple (1 Kgs 5-8)
 - His sins (1 Kgs 11)
- The Kingdom divides (1 Kgs 12)

1st and 2nd Kings

- Kings of Judah and Israel
- Elijah and Elisha

The Books of Kings

- Considered part of the Deuteronomistic History
- Final written form during the Babylonian Exile (6th c. BC)
- Explains to an exiled, devastated people why their nation collapsed
- Shows them the consequences of their choice for who would be their king



Are you in covenant with God?

Is the king bringing you back into covenant with God?

How is that “king thing” working out for you?

The Kingdom Divided

Kings of the South (Judah)

- The Good
 - Hezekiah (2 Kgs 18-20)
 - Josiah (2 Kgs 22-23)
- The Bad
 - Manasseh (2 Kgs 21)
 - Jehoram (2 Kgs 8)
 - Athalia (Queen, 2 Kgs 11)
 - Ahaz (2 Kgs 16)

Kings of the North (Israel)

- Nothing but Ugly...
 - Jeroboam I
 - Omri
 - Ahab
 - Jeroboam II
- Not one succession to the throne via natural death
- 722 BC conquered by Assyria

One criteria of judgment: did they draw the people to covenant with God?



BE
CAREFUL
WHAT YOU
WISH
FOR

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