

Judges 1

- ¹ Now *after* the death of **Joshua** it came to pass, that the children of **Israel** asked the **LORD**, saying, Who shall go *up* for us against the **Canaanites** first, to fight against them?
- ² And the **LORD** said, **Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.**
- ³ And **Judah** said unto **Simeon** his brother, Come *up* with me into my lot, that we may fight against the **Canaanites**; and I likewise will go with thee into thy lot. So **Simeon** went with him.
- ⁴ And **Judah** went *up*; and the **LORD** delivered the **Canaanites** and the **Perizzites** into their hand: and they slew of them in **Bezek** ten thousand men.
- ⁵ And they found **Adonibezek** in **Bezek**: and they fought against him, and they slew the **Canaanites** and the **Perizzites**.
- ⁶ But **Adonibezek** fled; and they pursued *after* him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes.
- ⁷ And **Adonibezek** said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat *under* my table: as I have done, so **God** hath requited me. And they brought him to **Jerusalem**, and there he died.
- ⁸ **Now the children of Judah had fought against Jerusalem, and had taken it, and smitten it with the edge of the sword, and set the city on fire.**
- ⁹ And *afterward* the children of **Judah** went *down* to fight against the **Canaanites**, that dwelt in the mountain, and in the *south*, and in the valley.
- ¹⁰ And **Judah** went against the **Canaanites** that dwelt in **Hebron**: (now the name of **Hebron** before was **Kirjatharba**;) and they slew **Sheshai**, and **Ahiman**, and **Talmi**.
- ¹¹ And from thence he went against the inhabitants of **Debir**: and the name of **Debir** *before* was **Kirjathsepher**:
- ¹² And **Caleb** said, He that smiteth **Kirjathsepher**, and taketh it, to him will I give **Achsah** my daughter to wife.
- ¹³ And **Othniel** the son of **Kenaz**, **Caleb's younger** brother, took it: and he gave him **Achsah** his daughter to wife.
- ¹⁴ And it came to pass, when she came to him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted from *off* her ass; and **Caleb** said unto her, What wilt thou?

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- ¹⁵ And she said unto him, Give me a **blessing** : for thou hast given me a *south* land ; give me also springs of water . And **Caleb** gave her the *upper* springs and the *nether* springs.
- ¹⁶ And the children of the **Kenite** , **Moses** ' *father in law* , went *up out* of the city of palm trees with the children of **Judah** into the wilderness of **Judah** , which lieth in the *south* of **Arad** ; and they went and dwelt among the people.
- ¹⁷ And **Judah** went with **Simeon** his brother, and they slew the **Canaanites** that inhabited **Zephath** , and utterly destroyed it. And the name of the city was called **Hormah** .
- ¹⁸ Also **Judah** took **Gaza** with the coast thereof, and **Askelon** with the coast thereof, and **Ekron** with the coast thereof.
- ¹⁹ And the **LORD** was with **Judah** ; and he drave out the inhabitants of the mountain ; but could not drive *out* the inhabitants of the valley , because they had chariots of iron .
- ²⁰ And they gave **Hebron** unto **Caleb** , as **Moses** said: and he expelled thence the three sons of **Anak** .
- ²¹ **And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited **Jerusalem** ; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of **Benjamin** in **Jerusalem** unto this day .**
- ²² And the house of **Joseph** , they also went *up against* **Bethel** : and the **LORD** was with them.
- ²³ And the house of **Joseph** sent to descry **Bethel** . (Now the name of the city *before* was **Luz** .)
- ²⁴ And the spies saw a man come forth *out* of the city , and they said unto him, Shew us, we pray thee, the entrance into the city , and we will shew thee mercy .
- ²⁵ And when he shewed them the entrance into the city , they smote the city with the edge of the sword ; but they let go the man and *all* his family .
- ²⁶ And the man went into the land of the **Hittites** , and built a city , and called the name thereof **Luz** : which is the name thereof unto this day .
- ²⁷ **Neither** did **Manasseh** drive out the inhabitants of **Bethshean** and her towns , **nor** **Taanach** and her towns, **nor** the inhabitants of **Dor** and her towns, **nor** the inhabitants of **Ibleam** and her towns, **nor** the inhabitants of **Megiddo** and her towns: but the **Canaanites** would dwell in that land .
- ²⁸ And it came to pass , when **Israel** was strong , that they put the **Canaanites** to tribute , and **did not** utterly drive them *out* .

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- ²⁹ **Neither** did Ephraim **drive out** the **Canaanites** that **dwelt** in **Gezer**; but the **Canaanites** dwelt in **Gezer** among them.
- ³⁰ **Neither** did Zebulun **drive out** the **inhabitants** of **Kitron**, **nor** the inhabitants of **Nahalol**; but the **Canaanites** **dwelt** among them, and became **tributaries**.
- ³¹ **Neither** did Asher **drive out** the **inhabitants** of **Accho**, **nor** the inhabitants of **Zidon**, **nor** of **Ahlab**, **nor** of **Achzib**, **nor** of **Helbah**, **nor** of **Aphik**, **nor** of **Rehob**:
- ³² But the **Asherites** **dwelt** among the **Canaanites**, the **inhabitants** of the **land**: for they did **not drive** them **out**.
- ³³ **Neither** did Naphtali **drive out** the **inhabitants** of **Bethshemesh**, **nor** the inhabitants of **Bethanath**; but he **dwelt** among the **Canaanites**, the inhabitants of the **land**: *nevertheless* the inhabitants of **Bethshemesh** and of **Bethanath** became **tributaries** unto them.
- ³⁴ **And the Amorites forced** the children of **Dan** into the **mountain**: for they would **not suffer** them to come **down to the valley**:
- ³⁵ But the **Amorites** would **dwell** in **mount Heres** in **Aijalon**, and in **Shaalbim**: yet the **hand** of the **house** of **Joseph prevailed**, so that they became **tributaries**.
- ³⁶ **And the coast** of the **Amorites** was from the going *up* to **Akrabbim**, from the **rock**, and *upward*.

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- ¹ And an **angel** of the **LORD** came *up* from **Gilgal** to **Bochim**, and said, I made you to go *up out* of **Egypt**, and have brought you unto the land which I sware unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you.
- ² **And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this?**
- ³ **Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them *out* from *before* you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.**
- ⁴ And it came to pass, when the **angel** of the **LORD** spake these words unto *all* the children of **Israel**, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.
- ⁵ And they called the name of that place **Bochim**: and they sacrificed there unto the **LORD**.
- ⁶ And when **Joshua** had let the people go, the children of **Israel** went every man unto his inheritance to possess the land.
- ⁷ **And the people served the **LORD** *all* the days of **Joshua**, and *all* the days of the elders that outlived **Joshua**, who had seen *all* the great works of the **LORD**, that he did for **Israel**.**
- ⁸ And **Joshua** the son of **Nun**, the servant of the **LORD**, died, being an hundred and ten years old.
- ⁹ And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in **Timnathheres**, in the mount of **Ephraim**, on the *north* side of the hill **Gaash**.
- ¹⁰ **And also *all* that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation *after* them, which knew not the **LORD**, nor yet the works which he had done for **Israel**.**
- ¹¹ **And the children of **Israel** did evil in the sight of the **LORD**, and served **Baalim**:**
- ¹² And they forsook the **LORD God** of their fathers, which brought them *out* of the land of **Egypt**, and followed other gods, of the gods of the *people* that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the **LORD** to anger.
- ¹³ **And they forsook the **LORD**, and served **Baal** and **Ashtaroth**.**
- ¹⁴ **And the anger of the **LORD** was hot against **Israel**, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand *before* their enemies.**

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- ¹⁵ Whithersoever they went *out*, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed.
- ¹⁶ Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them *out* of the hand of those that spoiled them.
- ¹⁷ And yet they would not *hearken* unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the LORD; but they did not so.
- ¹⁸ And when the LORD raised them *up judges*, then the LORD was *with* the judge, and delivered them *out* of the hand of their enemies *all* the days of the judge: for it repented the LORD because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them.
- ¹⁹ And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves *more* than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their *own doings*, nor from their stubborn way.
- ²⁰ And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice;
- ²¹ I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died:
- ²² That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk therein, as their fathers did keep it, or not.
- ²³ Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them *out hastily*; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

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- ¹ Now these are the **nations** which the **LORD** left, to **prove Israel** by them, even as *many* of **Israel** as had **not known** *all* the **wars** of **Canaan**;
- ² **Only that the generations** of the children of **Israel** might **know**, to **teach** them **war**, at the **least such as before knew nothing** thereof;
- ³ *Namely*, **five lords** of the **Philistines**, and *all* the **Canaanites**, and the **Sidonians**, and the **Hivites** that **dwelt** in **mount Lebanon**, from **mount Baalhermon** unto the entering in of **Hamath**.
- ⁴ **And they were to prove Israel** by them, to **know** whether they would *hearken* unto the **commandments** of the **LORD**, which he commanded their **fathers** by the **hand** of **Moses**.
- ⁵ And the children of **Israel** **dwelt** among the **Canaanites**, **Hittites**, and **Amorites**, and **Perizzites**, and **Hivites**, and **Jebusites**:
- ⁶ **And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods.**
- ⁷ **And the children of Israel did evil in the sight** of the **LORD**, and **forgat** the **LORD** their **God**, and **served Baalim** and the **groves**.
- ⁸ Therefore the **anger** of the **LORD** was *hot* against **Israel**, and he **sold** them into the **hand** of **Chushanrishathaim** king of **Mesopotamia**: and the children of **Israel** served **Chushanrishathaim** **eight years**.
- ⁹ **And when the children of Israel cried** unto the **LORD**, the **LORD** **raised up** a **deliverer** to the children of **Israel**, who delivered them, even **Othniel** the son of **Kenaz**, **Caleb's younger** brother.
- ¹⁰ And the **Spirit** of the **LORD** *came upon him*, and he **judged Israel**, and went *out* to **war**: and the **LORD** **delivered Chushanrishathaim** king of **Mesopotamia** into his **hand**; and his hand **prevailed** against **Chushanrishathaim**.
- ¹¹ And the **land** had **rest forty years**. And **Othniel** the son of **Kenaz** **died**.
- ¹² And the children of **Israel** did **evil again** in the **sight** of the **LORD**: and the **LORD** **strengthened Eglon** the king of **Moab** **against Israel**, because they had done *evil* in the sight of the **LORD**.
- ¹³ And he **gathered** unto him the children of **Ammon** and **Amalek**, and went and **smote Israel**, and **possessed** the **city** of **palm trees**.
- ¹⁴ So the children of **Israel** **served Eglon** the king of **Moab** **eighteen years**.

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- ¹⁵ But when the children of **Israel** cried unto the **LORD**, the **LORD** raised them *up* a deliverer, **Ehud** the son of **Gera**, a **Benjamite**, a man lefthanded: and by him the children of **Israel** sent a present unto **Eglon** the king of **Moab**.
- ¹⁶ But **Ehud** made him a dagger which had two edges, of a cubit *length*; and he did gird it *under* his raiment upon his right thigh.
- ¹⁷ And he brought the present unto **Eglon** king of **Moab**: and **Eglon** was a very fat man.
- ¹⁸ And when he had made an end to offer the present, he sent away the people that bare the present.
- ¹⁹ But he himself turned again from the quarries that were by **Gilgal**, and said, I have a secret errand unto thee, O king: who said, Keep silence. And *all* that stood by him went *out* from him.
- ²⁰ And **Ehud** came unto him; and he was sitting in a summer parlour, which he had for himself *alone*. And **Ehud** said, I have a message from **God** unto thee. And he arose out of his seat.
- ²¹ And **Ehud** put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly:
- ²² And the haft also went in *after* the blade; and the fat closed upon the blade, so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly; and the dirt came *out*.
- ²³ Then **Ehud** went forth through the porch, and shut the doors of the parlour upon him, and locked them.
- ²⁴ When he was gone *out*, his servants came; and when they saw that, behold, the doors of the parlour were locked, they said, *Surely* he covereth his feet in his summer chamber.
- ²⁵ And they tarried till they were ashamed: and, behold, he opened not the doors of the parlour; therefore they took a key, and opened them: and, behold, their lord was fallen down dead on the earth.
- ²⁶ And **Ehud** escaped while they tarried, and passed beyond the quarries, and escaped unto **Seirath**.
- ²⁷ And it came to pass, when he was come, that he blew a trumpet in the mountain of **Ephraim**, and the children of **Israel** went down with him from the mount, and he *before* them.
- ²⁸ And he said unto them, **Follow after me: for the LORD hath delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand**. And they went *down after* him, and took the fords of **Jordan** *toward* **Moab**, and suffered not a man to pass over.
- ²⁹ And they slew of **Moab** at that time about ten thousand men, *all* lusty, and *all* men of valour; and there escaped not a man.

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- ³⁰ So **Moab** was subdued that day *under* the hand of **Israel**. And the land had rest fourscore years.
- ³¹ **And after** him was **Shamgar** the son of **Anath**, which slew of the **Philistines** six hundred men with an ox goad: and he also delivered **Israel**.

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- ¹ And the children of **Israel** again did **evil** in the sight of the **LORD**, when **Ehud** was dead.
- ² And the **LORD** sold them into the hand of **Jabin** king of **Canaan**, that reigned in **Hazor**; the captain of whose host was **Sisera**, which dwelt in **Harosheth** of the **Gentiles**.
- ³ And the children of **Israel** cried unto the **LORD**: for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and twenty years he mightily oppressed the children of **Israel**.
- ⁴ **And Deborah**, a prophetess, the wife of **Lapidoth**, she judged Israel at that time.
- ⁵ And she dwelt under the palm tree of **Deborah** between **Ramah** and **Bethel** in mount Ephraim: and the children of **Israel** came up to her for judgment.
- ⁶ **And she sent** and called **Barak** the son of **Abinoam** out of **Kedeshnaphtali**, and said unto him, **Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded**, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of **Naphtali** and of the children of **Zebulun**?
- ⁷ And I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon **Sisera**, the captain of **Jabin's army**, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand.
- ⁸ And **Barak** said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go.
- ⁹ And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the **LORD** shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman. And **Deborah** arose, and went with **Barak** to **Kedesh**.
- ¹⁰ And **Barak** called **Zebulun** and **Naphtali** to **Kedesh**; and he went up with ten thousand men at his feet: and **Deborah** went up with him.
- ¹¹ Now **Heber** the **Kenite**, which was of the children of **Hobab** the father in law of **Moses**, had severed himself from the **Kenites**, and pitched his tent unto the plain of **Zaanaim**, which is by **Kedesh**.
- ¹² And they shewed **Sisera** that **Barak** the son of **Abinoam** was gone up to mount Tabor.
- ¹³ And **Sisera** gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that were with him, from **Harosheth** of the **Gentiles** unto the river of **Kishon**.
- ¹⁴ And **Deborah** said unto **Barak**, Up; for this is the day in which the **LORD** hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the **LORD** gone out before thee? So **Barak** went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him.

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- ¹⁵ And the **LORD** discomfited **Sisera**, and *all* his chariots, and *all* his host, with the edge of the sword *before* **Barak**; so that **Sisera** lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet.
- ¹⁶ But **Barak** pursued *after* the chariots, and *after* the host, unto **Harosheth** of the **Gentiles**: and *all* the host of **Sisera** fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left.
- ¹⁷ **Howbeit** **Sisera** fled away on his feet to the tent of **Jael** the wife of **Heber** the **Kenite**: for there was peace between **Jabin** the king of **Hazor** and the house of **Heber** the **Kenite**.
- ¹⁸ And **Jael** went *out* to meet **Sisera**, and said unto him, Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.
- ¹⁹ And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a *little* water to drink; for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him.
- ²⁰ Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be, when *any* man doth come and enquire of thee, and say, Is there *any* man here? that thou shalt say, **No**.
- ²¹ Then **Jael Heber's** wife took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went *softly* unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was *fast asleep* and weary. So he died.
- ²² And, behold, as **Barak** pursued **Sisera**, **Jael** came *out* to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her tent, behold, **Sisera** lay dead, and the nail was in his temples.
- ²³ So **God** subdued on that day **Jabin** the king of **Canaan** *before* the children of **Israel**.
- ²⁴ And the hand of the children of **Israel** prospered, and prevailed against **Jabin** the king of **Canaan**, until they had destroyed **Jabin** king of **Canaan**.

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- ¹ Then sang Deborah and **Barak** the son of **Abinoam** on that day, saying,
- ² Praise ye the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.
- ³ Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, even I, will sing unto the LORD; I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel.
- ⁴ **LORD**, when thou wentest *out* of **Seir**, when thou marchedst out of the field of **Edom**, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water.
- ⁵ The mountains melted from *before* the **LORD**, even that **Sinai** from *before* the **LORD God of Israel**.
- ⁶ In the days of **Shamgar** the son of **Anath**, in the days of **Jael**, the highways were unoccupied, and the travellers walked through byways.
- ⁷ The inhabitants of the villages ceased, they ceased in **Israel**, until that I **Deborah arose**, that I arose a mother in **Israel**.
- ⁸ They chose new gods; then was war in the gates: was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in **Israel**?
- ⁹ My heart is *toward* the governors of **Israel**, that offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless ye the **LORD**.
- ¹⁰ Speak, ye that ride on white asses, ye that sit in judgment, and walk by the way.
- ¹¹ They that are delivered from the noise of archers in the places of drawing water, there shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the **LORD**, even the *righteous acts toward* the inhabitants of his villages in **Israel**: then shall the people of the **LORD** go *down* to the gates.
- ¹² Awake, awake, **Deborah**: awake, awake, utter a song: arise, **Barak**, and lead thy captivity captive, thou son of **Abinoam**.
- ¹³ Then he made him that remaineth have dominion over the nobles among the people: the **LORD** made me have dominion over the mighty.
- ¹⁴ *Out* of **Ephraim** was there a root of them against Amalek; *after* thee, **Benjamin**, among thy people; *out* of **Machir** came *down* governors, and *out* of **Zebulun** they that handle the pen of the writer.
- ¹⁵ And the princes of **Issachar** were with **Deborah**; even **Issachar**, and also **Barak**: he was sent on foot into the valley. For the divisions of **Reuben** there were great thoughts of heart.

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- 16 Why abodest thou among the sheepfolds, to hear the bleatings of the flocks? For the divisions of **Reuben** there were great searchings of heart.
- 17 **Gilead** abode *beyond* **Jordan**: and why did **Dan** remain in ships? **Asher** continued on the sea shore, and abode in his breaches.
- 18 **Zebulun** and **Naphtali** were a people that jeoparded their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.
- 19 The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of **Canaan** in **Taanach** by the waters of **Megiddo**; they took no gain of money.
- 20 They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against **Sisera**.
- 21 The river of **Kishon** swept them away, that ancient river, the river **Kishon**. O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength.
- 22 Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the pransings, the pransings of their mighty ones.
- 23 Curse ye **Meroz**, said the angel of the **LORD**, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the **LORD**, to the help of the **LORD** against the mighty.
- 24 **Blessed above women** shall **Jael** the wife of **Heber** the **Kenite** be, **blessed shall she be above women in the tent**.
- 25 He asked water, and she gave him milk; she brought forth butter in a lordly dish.
- 26 She put her hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workmen's hammer; and with the hammer she smote **Sisera**, she smote *off* his head, when she had pierced and stricken through his temples.
- 27 At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down: at her feet he bowed, he fell: where he bowed, there he fell down dead.
- 28 The mother of **Sisera** looked out at a window, and cried through the lattice, Why is his chariot so *long* in coming? why tarry the wheels of his chariots?
- 29 Her wise ladies answered her, yea, she returned answer to herself,
- 30 Have they not sped? have they not divided the prey; to every man a damsel or two; to **Sisera** a prey of divers colours, a prey of *divers* colours of needlework, of *divers* colours of needlework on both sides, meet for the necks of them that take the spoil?
- 31 So let *all* thine enemies perish, O **LORD**: but let them that love him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might. And the land had rest forty years.

Judges 6

- ¹ And the children of **Israel** did **evil** in the **sight** of the **LORD**: and the **LORD delivered** them into the **hand** of **Midian seven** years.
- ² And the **hand** of **Midian prevailed** against **Israel**: and because of the **Midianites** the children of **Israel** made them the **dens** which are in the **mountains**, and **caves**, and **strong holds**.
- ³ And so it was, when **Israel** had **sown**, that the **Midianites** came **up**, and the **Amalekites**, and the children of the **east**, even they came **up against** them;
- ⁴ And they **encamped** against them, and **destroyed** the **increase** of the **earth**, till thou come unto **Gaza**, and **left no sustenance** for **Israel**, **neither sheep**, **nor ox**, **nor ass**.
- ⁵ For they came **up** with their **cattle** and their **tents**, and they came as **grasshoppers** for **multitude**; for both they and their **camels** were without **number**: and they entered into the **land** to **destroy** it.
- ⁶ And **Israel** was **greatly impoverished** because of the **Midianites**; and the children of **Israel** **cried** unto the **LORD**.
- ⁷ And it came to **pass**, when the children of **Israel** **cried** unto the **LORD** because of the **Midianites**,
- ⁸ **That the LORD sent a prophet** unto the children of **Israel**, which said unto them, **Thus saith the LORD God of Israel**, I brought you **up** from **Egypt**, and brought you forth **out of the house of bondage**;
- ⁹ And I **delivered** you **out** of the **hand** of the **Egyptians**, and **out** of the hand of **all** that **oppressed** you, and **drove** them **out** from **before** you, and **gave** you their **land**;
- ¹⁰ And I said unto you, **I am** the **LORD** your **God**; **fear not** the gods of the **Amorites**, in whose land ye **dwell**: but ye have **not obeyed** my **voice**.
- ¹¹ **And there came an angel** of the **LORD**, and **sat under** an **oak** which was in **Ophrah**, that **pertained** unto **Joash** the **Abiezrite**: and his son **Gideon** **threshed wheat** by the **winepress**, to **hide** it from the **Midianites**.
- ¹² **And the angel** of the **LORD** **appeared** unto him, and said unto him, **The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour**.
- ¹³ And **Gideon** said unto him, Oh my **Lord**, if the **LORD** be with us, why then is **all** this **befallen** us? and where be **all** his **miracles** which our **fathers** told us of, saying, Did **not** the **LORD** bring us **up** from **Egypt**? but **now** the **LORD** hath **forsaken** us, and **delivered** us into the **hands** of the **Midianites**.

Judges 6

- ¹⁴ And the **LORD** looked upon him, and said, **Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?**
- ¹⁵ And he said unto him, Oh my **Lord**, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in **Manasseh**, and I am the least in my father's house.
- ¹⁶ And the **LORD** said unto him, **Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.**
- ¹⁷ And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me.
- ¹⁸ Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it *before* thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.
- ¹⁹ And **Gideon** went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it *out* unto him *under* the oak, and presented it.
- ²⁰ And the **angel** of **God** said unto him, **Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth.** And he did so.
- ²¹ **Then the angel of the **LORD** put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the **LORD** departed out of his sight.**
- ²² And when **Gideon** perceived that he was an **angel** of the **LORD**, **Gideon** said, Alas, O **LORD** **God**! for because I have *seen* an angel of the **LORD** face to *face*.
- ²³ And the **LORD** said unto him, **Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die.**
- ²⁴ **Then **Gideon** built an altar there unto the **LORD**, and called it **Jehovahshalom**: unto this day it is yet in **Ophrah** of the **Abiezrites**.**
- ²⁵ And it came to pass the same night, that the **LORD** said unto him, **Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of **Baal** that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it:**
- ²⁶ And build an altar unto the **LORD** thy **God** upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.

Judges 6

- 27 Then **Gideon** took ten men of his servants, and did as the **LORD** had said unto him: and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night.
- 28 And when the men of the city arose *early* in the morning, behold, the altar of **Baal** was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built.
- 29 And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they enquired and *asked*, they said, **Gideon** the son of **Joash** hath done this thing.
- 30 Then the men of the city said unto **Joash**, Bring *out* thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of **Baal**, and because he hath cut down the grove that was by it.
- 31 And **Joash** said unto *all* that stood against him, Will ye plead for **Baal**? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because *one* hath cast down his altar.
- 32 Therefore on that day he called him **Jerubbaal**, saying, Let **Baal** plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.
- 33 Then *all* the **Midianites** and the **Amalekites** and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of **Jezreel**.
- 34 But the **Spirit** of the **LORD** came upon **Gideon**, and he blew a trumpet; and **Abiezer** was gathered after him.
- 35 And he sent messengers throughout *all* **Manasseh**; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto **Asher**, and unto **Zebulun**, and unto **Naphtali**; and they came *up* to meet them.
- 36 And **Gideon** said unto **God**, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,
- 37 Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece *only*, and it be dry upon *all* the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.
- 38 And it was so: for he rose up *early* on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.
- 39 And **Gideon** said unto **God**, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry *only* upon the fleece, and upon *all* the ground let there be dew.
- 40 And **God** did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece *only*, and there was dew on all the ground.

Judges 7

- ¹ Then **Jerubbaal**, who is **Gideon**, and *all* the people that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of **Harod**: so that the host of the **Midianites** were on the *north* side of them, by the hill of **Moreh**, in the valley.
- ² **And the LORD said unto Gideon**, **The people that are with thee are *too many* for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.**
- ³ Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.
- ⁴ **And the LORD said unto Gideon**, **The people are yet *too many*; bring them *down* unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.**
- ⁵ So he brought *down* the people unto the water: and the **LORD** said unto **Gideon**, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.
- ⁶ And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but *all* the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.
- ⁷ **And the LORD said unto Gideon**, **By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let *all* the other people go every man unto his place.**
- ⁸ So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent *all* the rest of **Israel** every man unto his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of **Midian** was *beneath* him in the valley.
- ⁹ **And it came to pass the same night**, that the **LORD** said unto him, **Arise, get thee *down* unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand.**
- ¹⁰ But if thou fear to go *down*, go thou with **Phurah** thy servant *down* to the host:
- ¹¹ **And thou shalt hear what they say; and *afterward* shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host.** Then went he *down* with **Phurah** his servant unto the *outside* of the armed men that were in the host.

Judges 7

- ¹² And the **Midianites** and the **Amalekites** and *all* the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude.
- ¹³ And when **Gideon** was come, behold, there was a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of **Midian**, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along.
- ¹⁴ And his fellow answered and said, This is nothing else save the sword of **Gideon** the son of **Joash**, a man of **Israel**: for into his hand hath **God** delivered **Midian**, and *all* the host.
- ¹⁵ **And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.**
- ¹⁶ **And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.**
- ¹⁷ And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the *outside* of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so shall ye do.
- ¹⁸ When I blow with a trumpet, I and *all* that are with me, then *blow ye the trumpets* also on every side of *all* the camp, and say, **The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.**
- ¹⁹ So **Gideon**, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the *outside* of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands.
- ²⁰ **And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.**
- ²¹ And they stood every man in his place round about the camp; and *all* the host ran, and cried, and fled.
- ²² **And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Bethshittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abelmeholah, unto Tabbath.**

Judges 7

- ²³ And the men of **Israel** gathered themselves together *out of* **Naphtali**, and *out of* **Asher**, and *out of all* **Manasseh**, and pursued *after* the **Midianites**.
- ²⁴ And **Gideon** sent messengers throughout *all* mount **Ephraim**, saying, come *down* against the **Midianites**, and take *before* them the waters unto **Bethbarah** and **Jordan**. Then *all* the men of **Ephraim** gathered themselves together, and took the waters unto **Bethbarah** and **Jordan**.
- ²⁵ And they took two princes of the **Midianites**, **Oreb** and **Zeeb**; and they slew **Oreb** upon the rock **Oreb**, and **Zeeb** they slew at the winepress of **Zeeb**, and pursued **Midian**, and brought the heads of **Oreb** and **Zeeb** to **Gideon** on the other side **Jordan**.

Judges 8

- ¹ And the men of **Ephraim** said unto him, Why hast thou served us thus, that thou calledst us not, when thou wentest to fight with the **Midianites**? And they did chide with him *sharply*.
- ² And he said unto them, What have I done now in comparison of you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of **Ephraim** better than the vintage of **Abiezer**?
- ³ **God** hath delivered into your hands the princes of **Midian**, **Oreb** and **Zeeb**: and what was I able to do in comparison of you? Then their anger was abated *toward* him, when he had said that.
- ⁴ **And Gideon came to Jordan, and passed over, he, and the three hundred men that were with him, faint, yet pursuing them.**
- ⁵ And he said unto the men of **Succoth**, Give, I pray you, loaves of bread unto the people that follow me; for they be faint, and I am pursuing *after* **Zebah** and **Zalmunna**, kings of **Midian**.
- ⁶ And the princes of **Succoth** said, Are the hands of **Zebah** and **Zalmunna** now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thine army?
- ⁷ And **Gideon** said, Therefore when the **LORD** hath delivered **Zebah** and **Zalmunna** into mine hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.
- ⁸ And he went *up* thence to **Penuel**, and spake unto them likewise: and the men of **Penuel** answered him as the men of **Succoth** had answered him.
- ⁹ And he spake also unto the men of **Penuel**, saying, When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.
- ¹⁰ Now **Zebah** and **Zalmunna** were in **Karkor**, and their hosts with them, about fifteen thousand men, *all* that were left of *all* the hosts of the children of the east: for there fell an hundred and twenty thousand men that drew sword.
- ¹¹ And **Gideon** went *up* by the way of them that dwelt in tents on the *east* of **Nobah** and **Jogbehah**, and smote the host; for the host was secure.
- ¹² **And when Zebah and Zalmunna fled, he pursued after them, and took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and discomfited all the host.**
- ¹³ **And Gideon the son of Joash returned from battle before the sun was up,**
- ¹⁴ And caught a young man of the men of **Succoth**, and enquired of him: and he described unto him the princes of **Succoth**, and the elders thereof, even threescore and seventeen men.

Judges 8

- ¹⁵ And he came unto the men of **Succoth**, and said, Behold **Zebah** and **Zalmunna**, with whom ye did upbraid me, saying, Are the hands of **Zebah** and **Zalmunna** now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thy men that are weary?
- ¹⁶ And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of **Succoth**.
- ¹⁷ And he beat down the tower of **Penuel**, and slew the men of the city.
- ¹⁸ Then said he unto **Zebah** and **Zalmunna**, What manner of men were they whom ye slew at **Tabor**? And they answered, As thou art, so were they; each one resembled the children of a king.
- ¹⁹ And he said, They were my brethren, even the sons of my mother: as the **LORD** liveth, if ye had saved them alive, I would not slay you.
- ²⁰ And he said unto **Jether** his firstborn, Up, and slay them. But the youth drew not his sword: for he feared, because he was yet a youth.
- ²¹ Then **Zebah** and **Zalmunna** said, **Rise thou, and fall upon us: for as the man is, so is his strength.** And **Gideon** arose, and slew Zebah and **Zalmunna**, and took away the ornaments that were on their camels' necks.
- ²² Then the men of **Israel** said unto **Gideon**, **Rule thou over us, both thou, and thy son, and thy son's son also: for thou hast delivered us from the hand of Midian.**
- ²³ And **Gideon** said unto them, **I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the LORD shall rule over you.**
- ²⁴ And **Gideon** said unto them, I would desire a request of you, that ye would give me every man the earrings of his prey. (For they had golden earrings, because they were **Ishmaelites**.)
- ²⁵ And they answered, We will willingly give them. And they spread a garment, and did cast therein every man the earrings of his prey.
- ²⁶ And the weight of the golden earrings that he requested was a thousand and seven hundred shekels of gold; beside ornaments, and collars, and purple raiment that was on the kings of **Midian**, and beside the chains that were about their camels' necks.
- ²⁷ **And Gideon made an ephod** thereof, and put it in his city, even in **Ophrah**: and **all Israel** went thither a whoring after it: which thing became a snare unto **Gideon**, and to his house.

Judges 8

- 28 Thus was **Midian** subdued *before* the children of **Israel**, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of **Gideon**.
- 29 And **Jerubbaal** the son of **Joash** went and dwelt in his *own* house.
- 30 And **Gideon** had threescore and ten **sons** of his body begotten: for he had *many* wives.
- 31 And his concubine that was in **Shechem**, she also bare him a son, whose name he called **Abimelech**.
- 32 And **Gideon** the son of **Joash** died in a good old age, and was buried in the sepulchre of **Joash** his father, in **Ophrah** of the **Abiezrites**.
- 33 **And it came to pass**, as soon as **Gideon** was dead, that the children of **Israel** turned again, and went a whoring after Baalim, and made **Baalberith** their god.
- 34 And the children of **Israel** remembered not the **LORD** their **God**, who had delivered them *out* of the hands of *all* their enemies on every side:
- 35 **Neither** shewed they kindness to the house of **Jerubbaal**, *namely*, **Gideon**, according to *all* the goodness which he had shewed unto **Israel**.

Judges 9

- ¹ And **Abimelech** the son of **Jerubbaal** went to **Shechem** unto his mother's brethren, and communed with them, and with *all* the family of the house of his mother's father, saying,
- ² Speak, I pray you, in the ears of *all* the men of **Shechem**, Whether is better for you, either that *all* the sons of **Jerubbaal**, which are threescore and ten persons, reign over you, or that one reign over you? remember also that I am *your* bone and *your* flesh.
- ³ And his mother's brethren spake of him in the ears of *all* the men of **Shechem** *all* these words: and their hearts inclined to follow **Abimelech**; for they said, He is our brother.
- ⁴ And they gave him threescore and ten pieces of silver *out* of the house of **Baalberith**, wherewith **Abimelech** hired *vain* and *light persons*, which followed him.
- ⁵ And he went unto his father's house at **Ophrah**, and slew his brethren the sons of **Jerubbaal**, being threescore and ten persons, upon one stone: notwithstanding yet **Jotham** the youngest son of **Jerubbaal** was left; for he hid himself.
- ⁶ And *all* the men of **Shechem** gathered together, and *all* the house of **Millo**, and went, and made **Abimelech** king, by the plain of the pillar that was in **Shechem**.
- ⁷ And when they told it to **Jotham**, he went and stood in the *top* of mount **Gerizim**, and lifted up his voice, and cried, and said unto them, Hearken unto me, ye men of **Shechem**, that **God** may hearken unto you.
- ⁸ The trees went forth on a time to anoint a king over them; and they said unto the olive tree, Reign thou over us.
- ⁹ But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness, wherewith by me they honour **God** and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?
- ¹⁰ And the trees said to the fig tree, Come thou, and reign over us.
- ¹¹ But the fig tree said unto them, Should I forsake my sweetness, and my good fruit, and go to be promoted over the trees?
- ¹² Then said the trees unto the vine, Come thou, and reign over us.
- ¹³ And the vine said unto them, Should I leave my wine, which cheereth **God** and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?
- ¹⁴ Then said *all* the trees unto the bramble, Come thou, and reign over us.

Judges 9

- ¹⁵ And the **bramble** said unto the trees, If in **truth** ye **anoint** me **king** over you, then come and put your **trust** in my **shadow**: and if **not**, let **fire** come **out** of the bramble, and **devour** the **cedars** of **Lebanon**.
- ¹⁶ Now therefore, if ye have done **truly** and **sincerely**, in that ye have made **Abimelech** **king**, and if ye have **dealt well** with **Jerubbaal** and his **house**, and have done unto him according to the **deserving** of his **hands**;
- ¹⁷ (For my **father fought** for you, and **adventured** his **life far**, and **delivered** you **out** of the **hand** of **Midian**:
- ¹⁸ And ye are **risen up** against my father's house this **day**, and have **slain** his sons, **threescore and ten persons**, upon **one stone**, and have made **Abimelech**, the son of his **maidservant**, **king** over the **men** of **Shechem**, because he is your brother;)
- ¹⁹ If ye then have **dealt truly** and **sincerely** with **Jerubbaal** and with his **house** this **day**, then **rejoice** ye in **Abimelech**, and let him also rejoice in you:
- ²⁰ But if **not**, let **fire** come **out** from **Abimelech**, and **devour** the **men** of **Shechem**, and the **house** of **Millo**; and let fire come **out** from the men of **Shechem**, and from the house of **Millo**, and devour **Abimelech**.
- ²¹ And **Jotham ran away**, and **fled**, and went to **Beer**, and **dwelt** there, for **fear** of **Abimelech** his brother.
- ²² When **Abimelech** had **reigned three years** over **Israel**,
- ²³ Then **God sent** an **evil spirit** between **Abimelech** and the **men** of **Shechem**; and the men of **Shechem dealt treacherously** with **Abimelech**:
- ²⁴ That the **cruelty** done to the **threescore and ten** sons of **Jerubbaal** might come, and their **blood** be **laid** upon **Abimelech** their brother, which **slew** them; and upon the **men** of **Shechem**, which **aided** him in the **killing** of his brethren.
- ²⁵ And the **men** of **Shechem set liers** in **wait** for him in the **top** of the **mountains**, and they **robbed** **all** that came along that **way** by them: and it was told **Abimelech**.
- ²⁶ And **Gaal** the son of **Ebed** came with his brethren, and went over to **Shechem**: and the **men** of **Shechem** put their **confidence** in him.
- ²⁷ And they went **out** into the **fields**, and **gathered** their **vineyards**, and **trode** the **grapes**, and made **merry**, and went into the **house** of their god, and did **eat** and **drink**, and **cursed Abimelech**.

Judges 9

- ²⁸ And **Gaal** the son of **Ebed** said, Who is **Abimelech**, and who is **Shechem**, that we should serve him? is not he the son of **Jerubbaal**? and **Zebul** his officer? serve the men of **Hamor** the father of **Shechem**: for why should we serve him?
- ²⁹ And would to **God** this people were *under* my hand! then would I remove **Abimelech**. And he said to **Abimelech**, **Increase** thine army, and **come out**.
- ³⁰ And when **Zebul** the ruler of the city heard the words of **Gaal** the son of **Ebed**, his anger was kindled.
- ³¹ And he sent messengers unto **Abimelech** *privily*, saying, Behold, **Gaal** the son of **Ebed** and his brethren be come to **Shechem**; and, behold, they fortify the city against thee.
- ³² Now therefore *up* by night, thou and the people that is with thee, and lie in wait in the field:
- ³³ And it shall be, that in the morning, as soon as the sun is *up*, thou shalt rise *early*, and set upon the city: and, behold, when he and the people that is with him come *out* against thee, then mayest thou do to them as thou shalt find occasion.
- ³⁴ And **Abimelech** rose up, and *all* the people that were with him, by night, and they laid wait against **Shechem** in four companies.
- ³⁵ And **Gaal** the son of **Ebed** went *out*, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and **Abimelech** rose up, and the people that were with him, from lying in wait.
- ³⁶ And when **Gaal** saw the people, he said to **Zebul**, Behold, there come people *down* from the *top* of the mountains. And **Zebul** said unto him, Thou seest the shadow of the mountains as if they were men.
- ³⁷ And **Gaal** spake again, and said, See there come people *down* by the *middle* of the land, and another company come along by the plain of **Meonenim**.
- ³⁸ Then said **Zebul** unto him, Where is now thy mouth, wherewith thou saidst, Who is **Abimelech**, that we should serve him? is not this the people that thou hast despised? go *out*, I pray now, and fight with them.
- ³⁹ And **Gaal** went *out* before the men of **Shechem**, and fought with **Abimelech**.
- ⁴⁰ And **Abimelech** chased him, and he fled before him, and *many* were overthrown and wounded, even unto the entering of the gate.
- ⁴¹ And **Abimelech** dwelt at **Arumah**: and **Zebul** thrust *out* **Gaal** and his brethren, that they should not dwell in **Shechem**.

Judges 9

- 42 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people went *out* into the field; and they told **Abimelech**.
- 43 And he took the people, and divided them into three companies, and laid wait in the field, and looked, and, behold, the people were come forth *out* of the city; and he rose up against them, and smote them.
- 44 And **Abimelech**, and the company that was with him, rushed forward, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and the two other companies ran upon *all* the people that were in the fields, and slew them.
- 45 And **Abimelech** fought against the city *all* that day; and he took the city, and slew the people that was therein, and beat down the city, and sowed it with salt.
- 46 **And when *all* the men of the tower of **Shechem** heard that, they entered into an hold of the house of the god **Berith**.**
- 47 And it was told **Abimelech**, that *all* the men of the tower of **Shechem** were gathered together.
- 48 **And Abimelech** gat him *up* to mount Zalmon, he and *all* the people that were with him; and **Abimelech** took an axe in his hand, and cut down a bough from the trees, and took it, and laid it on his shoulder, and said unto the people that were with him, What ye have seen me do, make haste, and do as I have done.
- 49 And *all* the people likewise cut down every man his bough, and followed **Abimelech**, and put them to the hold, and set the hold on fire upon them; so that *all* the men of the tower of **Shechem** died *also*, **about a thousand men and women**.
- 50 Then went **Abimelech** to **Thebez**, and encamped against **Thebez**, and took it.
- 51 But there was a strong tower within the city, and thither fled *all* the men and women, and *all* they of the city, and shut it to them, and gat them *up* to the top of the tower.
- 52 And **Abimelech** came unto the tower, and fought against it, and went hard unto the door of the tower to burn it with fire.
- 53 And a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone upon **Abimelech's** head, and *all* to brake his skull.
- 54 **Then he** called hastily unto the young man his armourbearer, and said unto him, Draw thy sword, and slay me, that men say not of me, A women slew him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died.
- 55 And when the men of **Israel** saw that **Abimelech** was dead, they departed every man unto his place.⁵⁶ Thus **God** rendered the wickedness of **Abimelech**, which he did unto his father, in slaying his seventy brethren:⁵⁷ And *all* the evil of the men of **Shechem** did **God** render upon their heads: and upon them came the curse of **Jotham** the son of **Jerubbaal**.

Judges 10

- ¹ And after Abimelech there arose to defend Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar; and he dwelt in Shamir in mount Ephraim.
- ² And he judged Israel twenty and three years, and died, and was buried in Shamir.
- ³ And after him arose Jair, a Gileadite, and judged Israel twenty and two years.
- ⁴ And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havothjair unto this day, which are in the land of Gilead.
- ⁵ And Jair died, and was buried in Camon.
- ⁶ And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook the LORD, and served not him.
- ⁷ And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the children of Ammon.
- ⁸ And that year they vexed and oppressed the children of Israel: eighteen years, *all* the children of Israel that were on the other side Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead.
- ⁹ Moreover the children of Ammon passed over Jordan to fight *also* against Judah, and against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim; so that Israel was sore distressed.
- ¹⁰ And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim.
- ¹¹ And the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Did not I deliver you from the Egyptians, and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines?
- ¹² The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites, did oppress you; and ye cried to me, and I delivered you *out* of their hand.
- ¹³ Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other gods: wherefore I will deliver you no more.
- ¹⁴ Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation.
- ¹⁵ And the children of Israel said unto the LORD, We have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us *only*, we pray thee, this day.

Judges 10

- ¹⁶ And they put away the *strange* gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.
- ¹⁷ Then the children of **Ammon** were gathered together, and encamped in **Gilead**. And the children of **Israel** assembled themselves together, and encamped in **Mizpeh**.
- ¹⁸ And the people and princes of **Gilead** said one to another, What man is he that will begin to fight against the children of **Ammon**? he shall be head over *all* the inhabitants of **Gilead**.

Judges 11

- ¹ Now **Jephthah** the **Gileadite** was a *mighty man* of valour, and he was the son of an harlot: and **Gilead** begat **Jephthah**.
- ² And **Gilead's** wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him, **Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman.**
- ³ Then **Jephthah** fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of **Tob**: and there were gathered *vain men* to **Jephthah**, and went *out* with him.
- ⁴ And it came to pass in process of time, that the children of **Ammon** made war against Israel.
- ⁵ And it was so, that when the children of **Ammon** made war against Israel, the elders of **Gilead** went to fetch Jephthah *out* of the land of **Tob**:
- ⁶ And they said unto **Jephthah**, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of **Ammon**.
- ⁷ And **Jephthah** said unto the elders of **Gilead**, Did not ye hate me, and expel me *out* of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me *now* when ye are in distress?
- ⁸ And the elders of **Gilead** said unto **Jephthah**, Therefore we turn again to thee *now*, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of **Ammon**, and be our head over *all* the inhabitants of **Gilead**.
- ⁹ And **Jephthah** said unto the elders of **Gilead**, If ye bring me home again to fight against the children of **Ammon**, and the **LORD** deliver them *before* me, **shall I be your head**?
- ¹⁰ And the elders of **Gilead** said unto **Jephthah**, The **LORD** be witness between us, if we do not so according to thy words.
- ¹¹ Then **Jephthah** went with the elders of **Gilead**, and the people made him head and captain over them: and **Jephthah** uttered *all* his words *before* the **LORD** in **Mizpeh**.
- ¹² And **Jephthah** sent messengers unto the king of the children of **Ammon**, saying, What hast thou to do with me, that thou art come against me to fight in my land?
- ¹³ **And the king of the children of **Ammon** answered unto the messengers of **Jephthah**, Because **Israel** took away my land, when they came *up out* of **Egypt**, from **Arnon** even unto **Jabbok**, and unto **Jordan**: now therefore restore those lands again *peaceably*.**
- ¹⁴ And **Jephthah** sent messengers again unto the king of the children of **Ammon**:
- ¹⁵ And said unto him, Thus saith **Jephthah**, **Israel** took not away the land of **Moab**, nor the land of the children of **Ammon**:

Judges 11

- ¹⁶ But when **Israel** came up from **Egypt**, and walked through the wilderness unto the **Red sea**, and came to **Kadesh**;
- ¹⁷ Then **Israel sent messengers** unto the king of **Edom**, saying, Let me, I pray thee, pass through thy land: but the king of **Edom** would not hearken thereto. And in like manner they sent unto the king of **Moab**: but he would not consent: and **Israel abode** in **Kadesh**.
- ¹⁸ Then they went along through the wilderness, and compassed the land of **Edom**, and the land of **Moab**, and came by the east side of the land of **Moab**, and pitched on the other side of **Arnon**, but came not within the border of **Moab**: for **Arnon** was the border of **Moab**.
- ¹⁹ And **Israel sent messengers** unto **Sihon** king of the **Amorites**, the king of **Heshbon**; and **Israel** said unto him, Let us pass, we pray thee, through thy land into my place.
- ²⁰ But **Sihon trusted not Israel** to pass through his coast: but **Sihon gathered** *all* his people together, and pitched in **Jahaz**, and fought against **Israel**.
- ²¹ And the **LORD God** of **Israel delivered** **Sihon** and *all* his people into the hand of **Israel**, and they smote them: so **Israel possessed** *all* the land of the **Amorites**, the inhabitants of that country.
- ²² And they possessed *all* the coasts of the **Amorites**, from **Arnon** even unto **Jabbok**, and from the wilderness even unto **Jordan**.
- ²³ So now the **LORD God** of **Israel** hath dispossessed the **Amorites** from *before* his people **Israel**, and shouldest thou possess it?
- ²⁴ Wilt not thou possess that which **Chemosh** thy god giveth thee to possess? So whomsoever the **LORD** our **God** shall drive out from *before* us, them will we possess.
- ²⁵ And now art thou *any* thing better than **Balak** the son of **Zippor**, king of **Moab**? did he ever strive against **Israel**, or did he ever fight against them,
- ²⁶ While **Israel dwelt** in **Heshbon** and her towns, and in **Aroer** and her towns, and in *all* the cities that be along by the coasts of **Arnon**, three hundred years? why therefore did ye not recover them within that time?
- ²⁷ Wherefore I have not sinned against thee, but thou doest me wrong to war against me: the **LORD** the **Judge** be judge this day between the children of **Israel** and the children of **Ammon**.

Judges 11

- ²⁸ Howbeit the king of the children of **Ammon** hearkened not unto the words of **Jephthah** which he sent him.
- ²⁹ Then the **Spirit** of the **LORD** came upon **Jephthah**, and he passed over **Gilead**, and **Manasseh**, and passed over **Mizpeh** of **Gilead**, and from **Mizpeh** of **Gilead** he passed over unto the children of **Ammon**.
- ³⁰ And **Jephthah** vowed a vow unto the **LORD**, and said, If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of **Ammon** into mine hands,
- ³¹ Then it shall be, that *whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of **Ammon**, shall surely be the **LORD's**, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.*
- ³² So **Jephthah** passed over unto the children of **Ammon** to fight against them; and the **LORD** delivered them into his hands.
- ³³ And he smote them from **Aroer**, even till thou come to **Minnith**, even twenty cities, and unto the plain of the vineyards, with a very great slaughter. Thus the children of **Ammon** were subdued before the children of **Israel**.
- ³⁴ And **Jephthah** came to **Mizpeh** unto his house, and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter.
- ³⁵ And it came to pass, when he saw her, that he rent his clothes, and said, Alas, my daughter! thou hast brought me very low, and thou art one of them that trouble me: for I have opened my mouth unto the **LORD**, and I cannot go back.
- ³⁶ And she said unto him, My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the **LORD**, *do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth*; forasmuch as the **LORD** hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, even of the children of **Ammon**.
- ³⁷ And she said unto her father, Let this thing be done for me: let me alone two months, that I may go up and down upon the mountains, and bewail my virginity, I and my fellows.
- ³⁸ And he said, Go. And he sent her away for two months: and she went with her companions, and bewailed her virginity upon the mountains.
- ³⁹ And it came to pass at the end of two months, that she returned unto her father, who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed: and she knew no man. And it was a custom in **Israel**,
- ⁴⁰ That the daughters of **Israel** went yearly to lament the daughter of **Jephthah** the **Gileadite** four days in a year.

Judges 12

- ¹ And the men of **Ephraim** gathered themselves together, and went *northward*, and said unto **Jephthah**, Wherefore passedst thou over to fight against the children of **Ammon**, and didst not call us to go with thee? we will burn thine house upon thee with fire.
- ² And **Jephthah** said unto them, I and my people were at *great strife* with the children of **Ammon**; and when I called you, ye delivered me not out of their hands.
- ³ And when I saw that ye delivered me not, I put my life in my hands, and passed over against the children of **Ammon**, and the **LORD** delivered them into my hand: wherefore then are ye come *up* unto me this day, to fight against me?
- ⁴ Then **Jephthah** gathered together *all* the men of **Gilead**, and fought with **Ephraim**: and the men of **Gilead** smote **Ephraim**, because they said, Ye **Gileadites** are fugitives of **Ephraim** among the **Ephraimites**, and among the **Manassites**.
- ⁵ And the **Gileadites** took the passages of **Jordan** *before* the **Ephraimites**: and it was so, that when those **Ephraimites** which were escaped said, Let me go over; that the men of **Gilead** said unto him, Art thou an **Ephraimite**? If he said, Nay;
- ⁶ Then said they unto him, Say now *Shibboleth*: and he said *Sibboleth*: for he could not frame to pronounce it right. Then they took him, and slew him at the passages of **Jordan**: and there fell at that time of the **Ephraimites** forty and two thousand.
- ⁷ And **Jephthah** judged Israel six years. Then died **Jephthah** the **Gileadite**, and was buried in one of the cities of **Gilead**.
- ⁸ And *after* him **Ibzan** of **Bethlehem** judged Israel.
- ⁹ And he had thirty sons, and thirty daughters, whom he sent *abroad*, and took in thirty daughters from *abroad* for his sons. And he judged Israel seven years.
- ¹⁰ Then died **Ibzan**, and was buried at **Bethlehem**.
- ¹¹ And *after* him **Elon**, a **Zebulonite**, judged Israel; and he judged **Israel** ten years.
- ¹² And **Elon** the **Zebulonite** died, and was buried in **Aijalon** in the country of **Zebulun**.

Judges 12

- ¹³ And *after* him **Abdon** the son of **Hillel**, a **Pirathonite**, judged Israel.
- ¹⁴ And he had forty sons and thirty nephews, that rode on threescore and ten ass colts: and he judged Israel eight years.
- ¹⁵ And **Abdon** the son of **Hillel** the **Pirathonite** died, and was buried in **Pirathon** in the land of **Ephraim**, in the mount of the **Amalekites**.

Judges 13

- ¹ And the children of **Israel** did **evil** again in the **sight** of the **LORD**; and the **LORD** **delivered** them into the **hand** of the **Philistines** **forty** years.
- ² And there was a **certain** man of **Zorah**, of the **family** of the **Danites**, whose **name** was **Manoah**; and his **wife** was **barren**, and **bare not**.
- ³ **And the angel of the LORD appeared** unto the **woman**, and said unto her, **Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.**
- ⁴ **Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing:**
- ⁵ **For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.**
- ⁶ Then the **woman** came and told her **husband**, saying, A **man** of **God** came unto me, and his **countenance** was like the countenance of an **angel** of **God**, **very terrible**: but I asked him **not** whence he was, **neither** told he me his name:
- ⁷ But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt **conceive**, and **bear** a son; and now **drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing**: for the child shall be a **Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death**.
- ⁸ Then **Manoah** **intreated** the **LORD**, and said, O my **Lord**, let the **man** of **God** which thou didst **send** come **again** unto us, and **teach** us what we shall do unto the **child** that shall be **born**.
- ⁹ And **God** hearkened to the **voice** of **Manoah**; and the **angel** of **God** came **again** unto the **woman** as she **sat** in the **field**: but **Manoah** her **husband** was **not** with her.
- ¹⁰ And the **woman** made haste, and **ran**, and shewed her **husband**, and said unto him, Behold, the **man** hath **appeared** unto me, that came unto me the other **day**.
- ¹¹ **And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am.**
- ¹² And **Manoah** said, Now let thy **words** come to **pass**. How shall we **order** the **child**, and how shall we do unto him?
- ¹³ And the **angel** of the **LORD** said unto **Manoah**, **Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware.**
- ¹⁴ **She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe.**

Judges 13

- ¹⁵ And **Manoah** said unto the **angel** of the **LORD**, I pray thee, let us detain thee, until we shall have made ready a kid for thee.
- ¹⁶ And the **angel** of the **LORD** said unto **Manoah**, **Though thou detain me, I will not eat of thy bread: and if thou wilt offer a burnt offering, thou must offer it unto the **LORD**. For **Manoah** knew not that he was an **angel** of the **LORD**.**
- ¹⁷ And **Manoah** said unto the **angel** of the **LORD**, What is thy name, that when thy sayings come to pass we may do thee honour?
- ¹⁸ And the **angel** of the **LORD** said unto him, **Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret?**
- ¹⁹ So **Manoah** took a kid with a meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto the **LORD**: and the **angel** did wonderously; and **Manoah** and his wife looked on.
- ²⁰ **For it came to pass, when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the **angel** of the **LORD** ascended in the flame of the altar. And **Manoah** and his wife looked on it, and fell on their faces to the ground.**
- ²¹ But the **angel** of the **LORD** did no more appear to **Manoah** and to his wife. Then **Manoah** knew that he was an **angel** of the **LORD**.
- ²² **And **Manoah** said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen **God**.**
- ²³ But his wife said unto him, If the **LORD** were pleased to kill us, he would not have received a burnt offering and a meat offering at our hands, neither would he have shewed us *all* these things, nor would as at this time have told us such things as these.
- ²⁴ **And the woman bare a son, and called his name **Samson**: and the child grew, and the **LORD** blessed him.**
- ²⁵ And the **Spirit** of the **LORD** began to move him at times in the camp of **Dan** between **Zorah** and **Eshtaol**.

Judges 14

- ¹ And **Samson** went *down* to **Timnath**, and saw a woman in **Timnath** of the daughters of the **Philistines**.
- ² And he came *up*, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in **Timnath** of the daughters of the **Philistines**: now therefore *get her for me to wife*.
- ³ Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among *all* my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the **uncircumcised Philistines**? And **Samson** said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.
- ⁴ **But his father and his mother knew not that it was of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.**
- ⁵ Then went **Samson** *down*, and his father and his mother, to **Timnath**, and came to the vineyards of **Timnath**: and, behold, a young lion roared against him.
- ⁶ **And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and he had nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done.**
- ⁷ And he went *down*, and talked with the woman; and she pleased Samson well.
- ⁸ And *after* a time he returned to take her, and he turned aside to see the carcase of the lion: and, behold, there was a swarm of bees and honey in the carcase of the lion.
- ⁹ **And he took thereof in his hands, and went on eating, and came to his father and mother, and he gave them, and they did eat: but he told not them that he had taken the honey out of the carcase of the lion.**
- ¹⁰ So his father went *down* unto the woman: and **Samson** made there a feast; for so used the young men to do.
- ¹¹ And it came to pass, when they saw him, that they brought thirty companions to be with him.
- ¹² And **Samson** said unto them, I will now put forth a riddle unto you: if ye can certainly declare it me within the seven days of the feast, and find it *out*, then I will give you thirty sheets and thirty change of garments:
- ¹³ But if ye cannot declare it me, then shall ye give me thirty sheets and thirty change of garments. And they said unto him, Put forth thy riddle, that we may *hear* it.
- ¹⁴ **And he said unto them, Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness. And they could not in three days expound the riddle.**

Judges 14

- ¹⁵ And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they said unto **Samson's** wife, Entice thy husband, that he may declare unto us the riddle, lest we burn thee and thy father's house with fire: have ye called us to take that we have? is it not so?
- ¹⁶ And **Samson's** wife wept *before* him, and said, Thou dost but hate me, and lovest me not: thou hast put forth a riddle unto the children of my people, and hast not told it me. And he said unto her, Behold, I have not told it my father nor my mother, and shall I tell it thee?
- ¹⁷ And she wept *before* him the seven days, while their feast lasted: and it came to pass on the seventh day, that he told her, because she lay sore upon him: and she told the riddle to the children of her people.
- ¹⁸ And the men of the city said unto him on the seventh day *before* the sun went *down*, What is sweeter than honey? And what is stronger than a lion? and he said unto them, If ye had not plowed with my heifer, ye had not found out my riddle.
- ¹⁹ And the **Spirit** of the **LORD** came upon him, and he went *down* to **Ashkelon**, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil, and gave change of garments unto them which expounded the riddle. And his anger was kindled, and he went *up* to his father's house.
- ²⁰ But **Samson's** wife was given to his companion, whom he had used as his friend.

Judges 15

- ¹ But it came to pass within a while *after*, in the time of wheat harvest, that **Samson visited** his wife with a kid; and he said, I will *go in* to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in.
- ² And her father said, I *verily* thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her.
- ³ And **Samson** said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the **Philistines**, though I do them a displeasure.
- ⁴ And **Samson** went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to *tail*, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails.
- ⁵ And when he had set the brands on fire, he let them go into the standing corn of the **Philistines**, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the *standing* corn, with the vineyards and olives.
- ⁶ Then the **Philistines** said, Who hath done this? And they answered, **Samson**, the son *in law* of the **Timnite**, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion. And the **Philistines** came up, and burnt her and her father with fire.
- ⁷ And **Samson** said unto them, Though ye have done this, yet will I be avenged of you, and *after* that I will cease.
- ⁸ And he smote them hip and thigh with a great slaughter: and he went *down* and dwelt in the top of the rock Etam.
- ⁹ Then the **Philistines** went *up*, and pitched in **Judah**, and spread themselves in **Lehi**.
- ¹⁰ And the men of **Judah** said, Why are ye come *up* against us? And they answered, To bind Samson are we come up, *to do to him as he hath done to us*.
- ¹¹ Then three thousand men of **Judah** went to the top of the rock Etam, and said to **Samson**, Knowest thou not that the **Philistines** are rulers over us? what is this that thou hast done unto us? And he said unto them, *As they did unto me, so have I done unto them*.
- ¹² And they said unto him, We are come *down* to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the hand of the **Philistines**. And **Samson** said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves.
- ¹³ And they spake unto him, saying, **No**; but we will bind thee *fast*, and deliver thee into their hand: but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new cords, and brought him *up* from the rock.

Judges 15

- ¹⁴ And when he came unto **Lehi**, the **Philistines** shouted against him: and the **Spirit** of the **LORD** came *mightily* upon him, and the CORDS that were upon his ARMS became as FLAX that was BURNT with FIRE, and his BANDS LOOSED from off his HANDS.
- ¹⁵ And he FOUND a NEW JAWBONE of an ASS, and put forth his HAND, and took it, and SLAW a THOUSAND MEN therewith.
- ¹⁶ And **Samson** said, With the JAWBONE of an ASS, HEAPS upon HEAPS, with the jaw of an ass have I SLAIN a THOUSAND MEN.
- ¹⁷ And it came to PASS, when he had made an END of speaking, that he CAST AWAY the JAWBONE out of his HAND, and called that place **Ramathlehi**.
- ¹⁸ And he was SORE ATHIRST, and called on the **LORD**, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised?
- ¹⁹ **But God** clave an hollow place that was in the jaw, and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived: wherefore he called the name thereof **Enhakkore**, which is in **Lehi** unto this day.
- ²⁰ And he JUDGED **Israel** in the DAYS of the **Philistines** twenty years.

Judges 16

- ¹ Then went **Samson** to **Gaza**, and saw there an harlot, and *went in* unto her.
- ² And it was told the **Gazites**, saying, **Samson** is come hither. And they compassed him in, and laid wait for him *all night* in the gate of the city, and were quiet *all* the night, saying, In the morning, when it is day, we shall kill him.
- ³ And **Samson** lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and *all*, and put them upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the *top* of an hill that is *before* **Hebron**.
- ⁴ And it came to pass *afterward*, that he loved a woman in the valley of **Sorek**, whose name was **Delilah**.
- ⁵ And the lords of the **Philistines** came *up* unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.
- ⁶ And **Delilah** said to **Samson**, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.
- ⁷ And **Samson** said unto her, If they bind me with seven green withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.
- ⁸ Then the lords of the **Philistines** brought *up* to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.
- ⁹ Now there were men lying in wait, abiding with her in the chamber. And she said unto him, The **Philistines** be upon thee, **Samson**. And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire. So his strength was not known.
- ¹⁰ And **Delilah** said unto **Samson**, Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound.
- ¹¹ And he said unto her, If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.
- ¹² **Delilah** therefore took new ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The **Philistines** be upon thee, **Samson**. And there were liers in wait abiding in the chamber. And he brake them from *off* his arms like a thread.

Judges 16

- ¹³ And **Delilah** said unto **Samson**, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web.
- ¹⁴ And she fastened it with the pin, and said unto him, The **Philistines** be upon thee, **Samson**. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.
- ¹⁵ And she said unto him, How canst thou say, *I love thee*, when thine heart is not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth.
- ¹⁶ And it came to pass, when she pressed him *daily* with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death;
- ¹⁷ That he told her *all* his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a **Nazarite** unto **God** from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like *any other man*.
- ¹⁸ And when **Delilah** saw that he had told her *all* his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the **Philistines**, saying, Come *up* this once, for he hath shewed me *all* his heart. Then the lords of the **Philistines** came *up* unto her, and brought money in their hand.
- ¹⁹ And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.
- ²⁰ And she said, The **Philistines** be upon thee, **Samson**. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go *out* as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the **LORD** was departed from him.
- ²¹ But the **Philistines** took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him *down* to **Gaza**, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.
- ²² Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.
- ²³ Then the lords of the **Philistines** gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto **Dagon** their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.
- ²⁴ And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.

Judges 16

- ²⁵ And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for **Samson**, that he may make us sport. And they called for **Samson** out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him *between* the pillars.
- ²⁶ And **Samson** said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.
- ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women; and *all* the lords of the **Philistines** were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while **Samson** made sport.
- ²⁸ And **Samson** called unto the **LORD**, and said, O **Lord God**, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O **God**, that I may be at once avenged of the **Philistines** for my two eyes.
- ²⁹ And **Samson** took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.
- ³⁰ And **Samson** said, Let me die with the **Philistines**. And he bowed himself with *all* his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon *all* the people that were therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were *more* than they which he slew in his life.
- ³¹ Then his brethren and *all* the house of his father came *down*, and took him, and brought him *up*, and buried him between **Zorah** and **Eshtaol** in the buryingplace of **Manoah** his father. And he judged **Israel** twenty years.

Judges 17

- ¹ And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was **Micah**.
- ² And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it. And his mother said, **Blessed** be thou of the **LORD**, my son.
- ³ And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the **LORD** from my hand for my son, to make a **graven image** and a **molten image**: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.
- ⁴ Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a **graven image** and a **molten image**: and they were in the house of **Micah**.
- ⁵ And the man **Micah** had an house of **gods**, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.
- ⁶ **In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.**
- ⁷ And there was a young man out of **Bethlehemjudah** of the family of **Judah**, who was a **Levite**, and he sojourned there.
- ⁸ And the man departed out of the city from **Bethlehemjudah** to sojourn where he could find a place: and he came to mount Ephraim to the house of **Micah**, as he journeyed.
- ⁹ And **Micah** said unto him, Whence comest thou? And he said unto him, I am a **Levite** of **Bethlehemjudah**, and I go to sojourn where I may find a place.
- ¹⁰ And **Micah** said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten shekels of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the **Levite** went in.
- ¹¹ And the **Levite** was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons.
- ¹² And **Micah** consecrated the **Levite**; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of **Micah**.
- ¹³ Then said **Micah**, Now know I that the **LORD** will do me good, seeing I have a **Levite** to my priest.

Judges 18

- ¹ In those days there was no king in Israel: and in those days the tribe of the Danites sought them an inheritance to dwell in; for unto that day *all* their inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel.
- ² And the children of Dan sent of their family five men from their coasts, men of valour, from Zorah, and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land, and to search it; and they said unto them, Go, search the land: who when they came to mount Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they lodged there.
- ³ When they were by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man the Levite: and they turned in thither, and said unto him, Who brought thee hither? and what makest thou in this place? and what hast thou here?
- ⁴ And he said unto them, Thus and thus dealeth Micah with me, and hath hired me, and I am his priest.
- ⁵ **And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous.**
- ⁶ **And the priest said unto them, Go in peace: *before* the LORD is your way wherein ye go.**
- ⁷ Then the five men departed, and came to Laish, and saw the people that were therein, how they dwelt careless, *after* the manner of the Zidonians, quiet and secure; and there was no magistrate in the land, that might put them to shame in any thing; and they were *far* from the Zidonians, and had no business with any man.
- ⁸ And they came unto their brethren to Zorah and Eshtaol: and their brethren said unto them, What say ye?
- ⁹ And they said, Arise, that we may go up against them: for we have seen the land, and, behold, it is very good: and are ye still? be not slothful to go, and to enter to possess the land.
- ¹⁰ When ye go, ye shall come unto a people secure, and to a large land: for God hath *given* it into your hands; a place where there is no want of any thing that is in the earth.
- ¹¹ **And there went from thence of the family of the Danites, *out* of Zorah and *out* of Eshtaol, six hundred men appointed with weapons of war.**
- ¹² And they went up, and pitched in Kirjathjearim, in Judah: wherefore they called that place Mahanehdan unto this day: behold, it is *behind* Kirjathjearim.
- ¹³ And they passed thence unto mount Ephraim, and came unto the house of Micah.

Judges 18

- ¹⁴ Then answered the **five men** that went to **spy out** the **country** of **Laish**, and said unto their brethren, Do ye **know** that there is in these **houses** an **ephod**, and **teraphim**, and a **graven image**, and a **molten image**? now therefore **consider** what ye *have to do*.
- ¹⁵ And they **turned thitherward**, and came to the **house** of the **young man** the **Levite**, even unto the **house** of **Micah**, and **saluted** him.
- ¹⁶ And the **six hundred men** **appointed** with their **weapons** of **war**, which were of the children of **Dan**, **stood** by the entering of the **gate**.
- ¹⁷ **And the five men** that went to **spy out** the **land** went **up**, and came in thither, and took the **graven image**, and the **ephod**, and the **teraphim**, and the **molten image**: and the **priest stood** in the entering of the **gate** with the **six hundred men** that were **appointed** with **weapons** of **war**.
- ¹⁸ And these went into **Micah's house**, and **fetchd** the **carved image**, the **ephod**, and the **teraphim**, and the **molten image**. Then said the **priest** unto them, *What do ye?*
- ¹⁹ **And they said** unto him, Hold thy **peace**, **lay** thine **hand** upon thy **mouth**, and go with us, and be to us a **father** and a **priest**: is it **better** for thee to be a priest unto the **house** of **one man**, or that thou be a priest unto a **tribe** and a **family** in **Israel**?
- ²⁰ **And the priest's heart** was **glad**, and he took the **ephod**, and the **teraphim**, and the **graven image**, and went in the midst of the people.
- ²¹ So they **turned** and **departed**, and put the **little ones** and the **cattle** and the **carriage** *before* them.
- ²² **And when they were** a **good way** from the **house** of **Micah**, the **men** that were in the **houses** **near** to **Micah's house** were **gathered** together, and **overtook** the children of **Dan**.
- ²³ And they **cried** unto the children of **Dan**. And they **turned** their **faces**, and said unto **Micah**, What **aiileth** thee, that thou comest with such a **company**?
- ²⁴ And he said, Ye have taken **away** my **gods** which I made, and the **priest**, and ye are gone **away**: and what have I *more*? and what is this that ye say unto me, What **aiileth** thee?
- ²⁵ And the children of **Dan** said unto him, Let **not** thy **voice** be heard among us, lest **angry fellows run** upon thee, and thou **lose** thy **life**, with the **lives** of thy **household**.
- ²⁶ And the children of **Dan** went their **way**: and when **Micah** saw that they were **too strong** for him, he **turned** and went *back* unto his **house**.

Judges 18

- ²⁷ And they took the things which **Micah** had made, and the priest which he had, and came unto **Laish**, unto a people that were at quiet and secure: and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and burnt the city with fire.
- ²⁸ And there was no deliverer, because it was *far* from **Zidon**, and they had no business with *any man*; and it was in the valley that lieth by **Bethrehob**. And they built a city, and dwelt therein.
- ²⁹ And they called the name of the city **Dan**, *after* the name of **Dan** their father, who was born unto **Israel**: howbeit the name of the city was **Laish** at the first.
- ³⁰ And the children of **Dan** set up the graven image: and **Jonathan**, the son of **Gershom**, the son of **Manasseh**, he and his sons were priests to the tribe of **Dan** until the day of the captivity of the land.
- ³¹ And they set them *up* **Micah's graven image**, which he made, *all* the time that the house of **God** was in **Shiloh**.

Judges 19

- ¹ And it came to pass in those days, when there was no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite sojourning on the side of mount Ephraim, who took to him a concubine out of Bethlehemjudah.
- ² And his concubine played the whore against him, and went away from him unto her father's house to Bethlehemjudah, and was there four whole months.
- ³ And her husband arose, and went after her, to speak friendly unto her, and to bring her again, having his servant with him, and a couple of asses: and she brought him into her father's house: and when the father of the damsel saw him, he rejoiced to meet him.
- ⁴ And his father in law, the damsel's father, retained him; and he abode with him three days: so they did eat and drink, and lodged there.
- ⁵ And it came to pass on the fourth day, when they arose early in the morning, that he rose up to depart: and the damsel's father said unto his son in law, Comfort thine heart with a morsel of bread, and afterward go your way.
- ⁶ And they sat down, and did eat and drink both of them together: for the damsel's father had said unto the man, Be content, I pray thee, and tarry all night, and let thine heart be merry.
- ⁷ And when the man rose up to depart, his father in law urged him: therefore he lodged there again.
- ⁸ And he arose early in the morning on the fifth day to depart; and the damsel's father said, Comfort thine heart, I pray thee. And they tarry until afternoon, and they did eat both of them.
- ⁹ And when the man rose up to depart, he, and his concubine, and his servant, his father in law, the damsel's father, said unto him, Behold, now the day draweth toward evening, I pray you tarry all night: behold, the day groweth to an end, lodge here, that thine heart may be merry; and to morrow get you early on your way, that thou mayest go home.
- ¹⁰ **But the man would not tarry that night, but he rose up and departed, and came over against Jebus, which is Jerusalem; and there were with him two asses saddled, his concubine also was with him.**
- ¹¹ **And when they were by Jebus, the day was far spent; and the servant said unto his master, Come, I pray thee, and let us turn in into this city of the Jebusites, and lodge in it.**
- ¹² And his master said unto him, We will not turn aside hither into the city of a stranger, that is not of the children of Israel; we will pass over to Gibeah.

Judges 19

- ¹³ And he said unto his servant, Come, and let us draw *near* to one of these places to lodge *all night*, in **Gibeah**, or in **Ramah**.
- ¹⁴ And they passed on and went their way; and the sun went *down* upon them when they were by **Gibeah**, which belongeth to **Benjamin**.
- ¹⁵ **And they turned aside thither, to go in and to lodge in **Gibeah**: and when he went in, he sat him *down* in a street of the city: for there was no man that took them into his house to lodging.**
- ¹⁶ **And, behold, there came an old man from his work out of the field at even, which was also of mount Ephraim; and he sojourned in **Gibeah**: but the men of the place were **Benjamites**.**
- ¹⁷ And when he had lifted up his eyes, he saw a wayfaring man in the street of the city: and the old man said, Whither goest thou? and whence comest thou?
- ¹⁸ And he said unto him, We are passing from **Bethlehemjudah** *toward* the side of mount Ephraim; from thence am I: and I went to **Bethlehemjudah**, but I am now going to the house of the **LORD**; and there is no man that receiveth me to house.
- ¹⁹ Yet there is both straw and provender for our asses; and there is bread and wine also for *me*, and for thy handmaid, and for the young man which is with thy servants: there is no want of *any thing*.
- ²⁰ **And the old man said, Peace be with thee; howsoever let *all* thy wants lie upon me; only lodge not in the street.**
- ²¹ So he brought him into his house, and gave provender unto the asses: and they washed their feet, and did eat and drink.
- ²² **Now as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, *certain* sons of **Belial**, beset the house round about, and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, *Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him*.**
- ²³ **And the man, the master of the house, went out unto them, and said unto them, Nay, my brethren, nay, I pray you, do not so *wickedly*; seeing that this man is come into mine house, do not this folly.**
- ²⁴ **Behold, here is my daughter a maiden, and his concubine; them I will *bring out now*, and humble ye them, and *do with them what seemeth good* unto you: but unto this man do not so vile a thing.**

Judges 19

- ²⁵ But the men would not hearken to him: so the man took his concubine, and brought her forth unto them; and they knew her, and abused her *all the night* until the morning: and when the day began to spring, they let her go.
- ²⁶ Then came the woman in the dawning of the day, and fell down at the door of the man's house where her lord was, till it was light.
- ²⁷ And her lord rose up in the morning, and opened the doors of the house, and went *out* to go his way: and, behold, the woman his concubine was fallen down at the door of the house, and her hands were upon the threshold.
- ²⁸ And he said unto her, *Up*, and let us be going. But none answered. Then the man took her *up* upon an ass, and the man rose up, and gat him unto his place.
- ²⁹ And when he was come into his house, he took a knife, and laid hold on his concubine, and divided her, together with her bones, into twelve pieces, and sent her into all the coasts of Israel.
- ³⁰ And it was so, that *all that saw it* said, There was no such deed done nor seen from the day that the children of Israel came *up out* of the land of Egypt unto this day: consider of it, take advice, and speak your minds.

Judges 20

- ¹ Then *all* the children of **Israel** went *out*, and the congregation was gathered together as one man, from **Dan** even to **Beersheba**, with the land of **Gilead**, unto the **LORD** in **Mizpeh**.
- ² And the chief of *all* the people, even of *all* the tribes of **Israel**, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of **God**, four hundred thousand footmen that drew sword.
- ³ (Now the children of **Benjamin** *heard* that the children of **Israel** were gone *up* to **Mizpeh**.) Then said the children of **Israel**, Tell us, how was this wickedness?
- ⁴ And the **Levite**, the husband of the woman that was slain, answered and said, I came into **Gibeah** that belongeth to **Benjamin**, I and my concubine, to lodge.
- ⁵ And the men of **Gibeah** rose against me, and beset the house round about upon me by night, and thought to have slain me: and **my concubine** *have they forced, that she is dead*.
- ⁶ And I took my concubine, and cut her in pieces, and sent her throughout all the country of the inheritance of Israel: for they have committed lewdness and folly in Israel.
- ⁷ Behold, ye are *all* children of **Israel**; give here your advice and counsel.
- ⁸ And *all* the people arose as one man, saying, We will not any of us go to his tent, neither will we any of us turn into his house.
- ⁹ But now this shall be the thing which we will do to **Gibeah**; we will **go up by lot against it**;
- ¹⁰ And we will take ten men of an hundred throughout *all* the tribes of **Israel**, and an hundred of a thousand, and a thousand out of ten thousand, to fetch victual for the people, that they may do, when they come to **Gibeah** of **Benjamin**, according to *all* the folly that they have wrought in **Israel**.
- ¹¹ So *all* the men of **Israel** were gathered against the city, knit together as one man.
- ¹² And the tribes of **Israel** sent men through *all* the tribe of **Benjamin**, saying, What wickedness is this that is done among you?
- ¹³ **Now therefore deliver us the men, the children of Belial, which are in Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israel. But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren the children of Israel.**
- ¹⁴ **But the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together out of the cities unto Gibeah, to go out to battle against the children of Israel.**

Judges 20

- ¹⁵ And the children of **Benjamin** were numbered at that time out of the cities twenty and six thousand men that drew sword, beside the inhabitants of **Gibeah**, which were numbered seven hundred chosen men.
- ¹⁶ **Among all this people there were seven hundred chosen men lefthanded; every one could sling stones at an hair breadth, and not miss.**
- ¹⁷ And the men of **Israel**, beside **Benjamin**, were numbered four hundred thousand men that drew sword: all these were men of war.
- ¹⁸ **And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of **God**, and asked counsel of **God**, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of **Benjamin**? And the **LORD** said, **Judah shall go up first**.**
- ¹⁹ And the children of **Israel** rose up in the morning, and encamped against **Gibeah**.
- ²⁰ And the men of **Israel** went out to battle against **Benjamin**; and the men of **Israel** put themselves in array to fight against them at **Gibeah**.
- ²¹ **And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the **Israelites** that day twenty and two thousand men.**
- ²² And the people the men of **Israel** encouraged themselves, and set their battle again in array in the place where they put themselves in array the first day.
- ²³ **(And the children of Israel went up and wept before the **LORD** until even, and asked counsel of the **LORD**, saying, Shall I go up again to battle against the children of **Benjamin** my brother? And the **LORD** said, **Go up against him**.)**
- ²⁴ And the children of **Israel** came near against the children of **Benjamin** the second day.
- ²⁵ **And Benjamin went forth against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed down to the ground of the children of **Israel** again eighteen thousand men; all these drew the sword.**
- ²⁶ **Then all the children of **Israel**, and all the people, went up, and came unto the house of **God**, and wept, and sat there before the **LORD**, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the **LORD**.**
- ²⁷ **And the children of Israel enquired of the **LORD**, (for the ark of the covenant of **God** was there in those days,**

Judges 20

- ²⁸ And **Phinehas**, the son of **Eleazar**, the son of **Aaron**, stood before it in those days,) saying, Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of **Benjamin** my brother, or shall I cease? And the **LORD** said, Go up; for to morrow I will deliver them into thine hand.
- ²⁹ And **Israel** set liers in wait round about **Gibeah**.
- ³⁰ And the children of **Israel** went up against the children of **Benjamin** on the third day, and put themselves in array against **Gibeah**, as at other times.
- ³¹ And the children of **Benjamin** went out against the people, and were drawn away from the city; and they began to smite of the people, and kill, as at other times, in the highways, of which one goeth up to the house of **God**, and the other to **Gibeah** in the field, about thirty men of **Israel**.
- ³² And the children of **Benjamin** said, They are smitten down before us, as at the first. But the children of **Israel** said, Let us flee, and draw them from the city unto the highways.
- ³³ And all the men of **Israel** rose up out of their place, and put themselves in array at **Baaltamar**: and the liers in wait of **Israel** came forth out of their places, even out of the meadows of **Gibeah**.
- ³⁴ And there came against **Gibeah** ten thousand chosen men out of all **Israel**, and the battle was sore: but they knew not that evil was near them.
- ³⁵ And the **LORD** smote **Benjamin** before **Israel**: and the children of **Israel** destroyed of the **Benjamites** that day twenty and five thousand and an hundred men: all these drew the sword.
- ³⁶ So the children of **Benjamin** saw that they were smitten: for the men of **Israel** gave place to the **Benjamites**, because they trusted unto the liers in wait which they had set beside **Gibeah**.
- ³⁷ And the liers in wait hasted, and rushed upon **Gibeah**; and the liers in wait drew themselves along, and smote all the city with the edge of the sword.
- ³⁸ Now there was an appointed sign between the men of **Israel** and the liers in wait, that they should make a great flame with smoke rise up out of the city.
- ³⁹ And when the men of **Israel** retired in the battle, **Benjamin** began to smite and kill of the men of **Israel** about thirty persons: for they said, Surely they are smitten down before us, as in the first battle.
- ⁴⁰ But when the flame began to arise up out of the city with a pillar of smoke, the **Benjamites** looked behind them, and, behold, the flame of the city ascended up to heaven.

Judges 20

- 41 And when the men of **Israel** turned again, the men of **Benjamin** were amazed: for they saw that evil was come upon them.
- 42 Therefore they turned their backs *before* the men of **Israel** unto the way of the wilderness; but the battle overtook them; and them which came *out* of the cities they destroyed in the *midst* of them.
- 43 Thus they inclosed the **Benjamites** round about, and chased them, and trode them *down* with ease over against **Gibeah** *toward* the sunrising.
- 44 And there fell of **Benjamin** eighteen thousand men; *all* these were men of valour.
- 45 And they turned and fled *toward* the wilderness unto the rock of **Rimmon**: and they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men; and pursued hard *after* them unto **Gidom**, and slew two thousand men of them.
- 46 So that *all* which fell that day of **Benjamin** were twenty and five thousand men that drew the sword; *all* these were men of valour.
- 47 But six hundred men turned and fled to the wilderness unto the rock **Rimmon**, and abode in the rock **Rimmon** four months.
- 48 And the men of **Israel** turned again upon the children of **Benjamin**, and smote them with the edge of the sword, as well the men of every city, as the beast, and *all* that came to hand: also they set on fire *all* the cities that they came to.

Judges 21

- ¹ Now the men of **Israel** had sworn in **Mizpeh**, saying, There shall not any of us give his daughter unto **Benjamin** to wife.
- ² And the people came to the house of **God**, and abode there till even *before* **God**, and lifted up their voices, and wept sore;
- ³ And said, O **LORD God** of **Israel**, why is this come to pass in **Israel**, that there should be to day one tribe lacking in **Israel**?
- ⁴ And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people rose *early*, and built there an altar, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.
- ⁵ And the children of **Israel** said, Who is there among *all* the tribes of **Israel** that came not up with the congregation unto the **LORD**? For they had made a great oath concerning him that came not up to the **LORD** to **Mizpeh**, saying, He shall surely be put to death.
- ⁶ And the children of **Israel** repented them for **Benjamin** their brother, and said, There is one tribe cut off from **Israel** this day.
- ⁷ How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing we have sworn by the **LORD** that we will not give them of our daughters to wives?
- ⁸ And they said, What one is there of the tribes of **Israel** that came not up to **Mizpeh** to the **LORD**? And, behold, there came none to the camp from **Jabeshgilead** to the assembly.
- ⁹ For the people were numbered, and, behold, there were none of the inhabitants of **Jabeshgilead** there.
- ¹⁰ And the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest, and commanded them, saying, Go and smite the inhabitants of **Jabeshgilead** with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children.
- ¹¹ And this is the thing that ye shall do, Ye shall utterly destroy every male, and every woman that hath lain by man.
- ¹² And they found among the inhabitants of **Jabeshgilead** four hundred young virgins, that had known no man by lying with any male: and they brought them unto the camp to **Shiloh**, which is in the land of **Canaan**.
- ¹³ And the whole congregation sent some to speak to the children of **Benjamin** that were in the rock **Rimmon**, and to call peaceably unto them.

Judges 21

- ¹⁴ And **Benjamin** came again at that time; and they gave them wives which they had saved alive of the women of **Jabeshgilead**: and yet so they sufficed them not.
- ¹⁵ And the people repented them for **Benjamin**, because that the **LORD** had made a breach in the tribes of **Israel**.
- ¹⁶ Then the elders of the congregation said, How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing the women are destroyed out of **Benjamin**?
- ¹⁷ And they said, There must be an inheritance for them that be escaped of **Benjamin**, that a tribe be not destroyed out of **Israel**.
- ¹⁸ Howbeit we may not give them wives of our daughters: for the children of **Israel** have sworn, saying, Cursed be he that giveth a wife to **Benjamin**.
- ¹⁹ Then they said, Behold, there is a feast of the **LORD** in **Shiloh** yearly in a place which is on the north side of **Bethel**, on the east side of the highway that goeth up from **Bethel** to **Shechem**, and on the south of **Lebonah**.
- ²⁰ Therefore they commanded the children of **Benjamin**, saying, Go and lie in wait in the vineyards;
- ²¹ And see, and, behold, if the daughters of **Shiloh** come out to dance in dances, then come ye out of the vineyards, and catch you every man his wife of the daughters of **Shiloh**, and go to the land of **Benjamin**.
- ²² And it shall be, when their fathers or their brethren come unto us to complain, that we will say unto them, Be favourable unto them for our sakes: because we reserved not to each man his wife in the war: for ye did not give unto them at this time, that ye should be guilty.
- ²³ And the children of **Benjamin** did so, and took them wives, according to their number, of them that danced, whom they caught: and they went and returned unto their inheritance, and repaired the cities, and dwelt in them.
- ²⁴ And the children of **Israel** departed thence at that time, every man to his tribe and to his family, and they went out from thence every man to his inheritance.
- ²⁵ In those days there was no king in **Israel**: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.