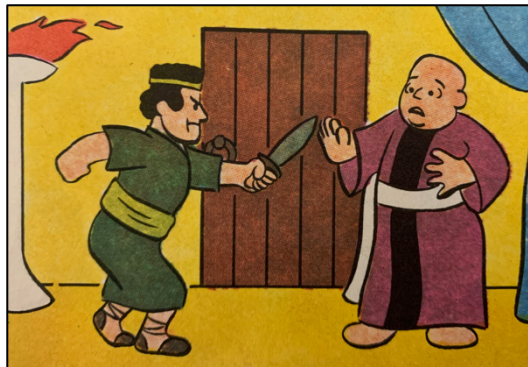
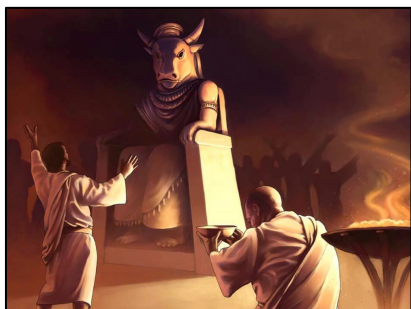


Video:  
<https://youtu.be/vOx3h2pTXrk?si=ij9oGUTdw5IYV9WH>  
 The Judges  
 by My First Bible  
 (Watch till 9:10)



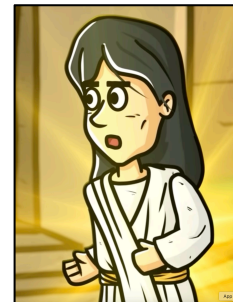
## Lesson #8: GOD RAISES UP JUDGES - OTHNIEL, EHUD & SHAMGAR JUDGES 2 & 3



The Bible says that after Joshua died, each tribe of Israel settled in its own territory. God told them to drive out all the Canaanites who still live there. God didn't want His people to live with the Canaanites because they worshipped false gods and even made child sacrifices. Some of the false gods were called Baal and Asherah.

But some of the tribes began to live among the Canaanites, instead of driving them out. So, the Israelites started worshipping the false gods, just like the Canaanites.

God sent an angel of the Lord to warn them. The angel brought a message from God, "I told you to break down the altars to the false gods. You have disobeyed Me. I will no longer help you drive out the Canaanites."



God's warnings came true. God let an enemy king hurt Israelites. When the Israelites went into battle they were defeated. For 8 years, their enemies constantly carried out raids to steal their crops and belongings.

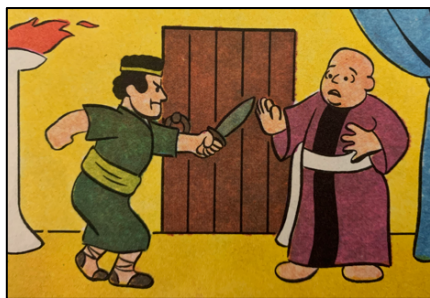
**Then the Israelites remembered how good they had it when they loved and obeyed God. They cried out to Him, "Save us!" So, the Lord raised up judges.** The judges were like Tribal Chiefs. They fought the enemies and taught them to obey God.





**OTHNIEL** was the first Judge. The Spirit of God came upon him, and he led the Israelites against the enemies. He helped the people turn back to God. There was peace in the land for 40 years.

After Othniel died, the Israelites **forgot about God** again. So, God gave the king of Moab power to attack the Israelites and rule over them for 18 years. **Then the Israelites remembered how good they had it when they loved and obeyed God. They cried out to Him, "Save us!"** So, God raised up a new Judge, **EHUD**, to save them.



The Spirit of God came upon **EHUD**. He went to visit the king of Moab. Ehud was left-handed, so he had his sword hidden under his cloak on his right side. The king's guards didn't notice it. Ehud said, "I have a secret message for you." When the king stood up, Ehud pulled out his sword. He thrust it into the king's fat belly. Ehud escaped and locked the doors behind him. The king's

servants came in and found their king dead! When Ehud returned home, he blew a ram's horn to gather his people, and he became the Israelites' leader. There was peace in the land for 80 years.



After Ehud died, the Israelites forgot God again. The Philistines began to rule over them. **But, when they remembered how good they had it when they loved and obeyed God, they cried out to Him, "Save us!"** So, God sent a third Judge, **SHAMGAR**, to save them. Shamgar was a farmer. With help from God, he killed 600 Philistines with no sword - only an ox goad.

Over and over...

The Israelites would **FORGET GOD AND SIN...**

Then other nations would **HURT** them...

Then they would **REPENT AND CRY OUT TO GOD...**

Then God would put his spirit on a **JUDGE...**

Then the Judge would rescue the Israelites and bring **PEACE** (until he died) ...

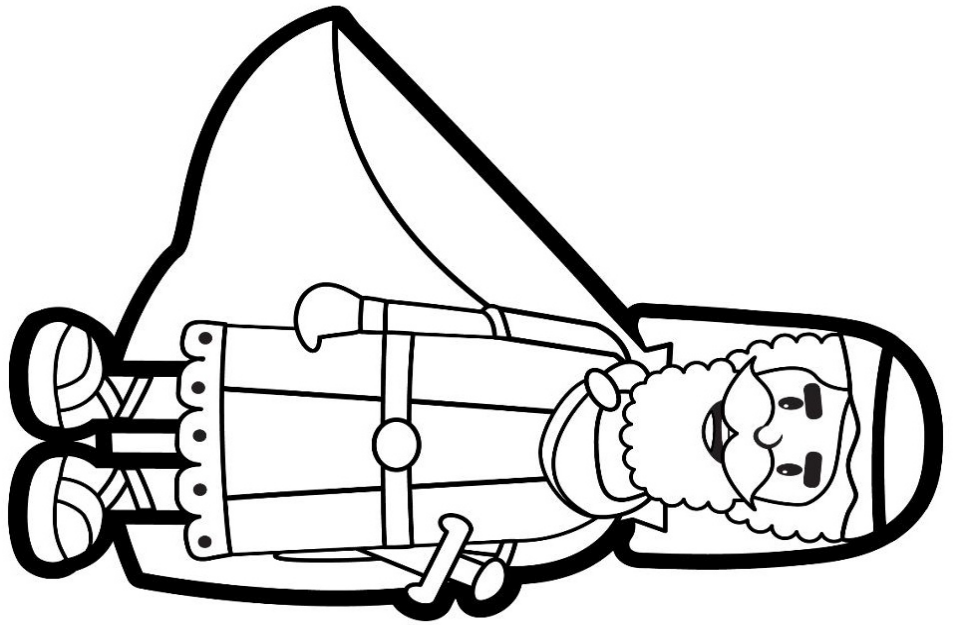
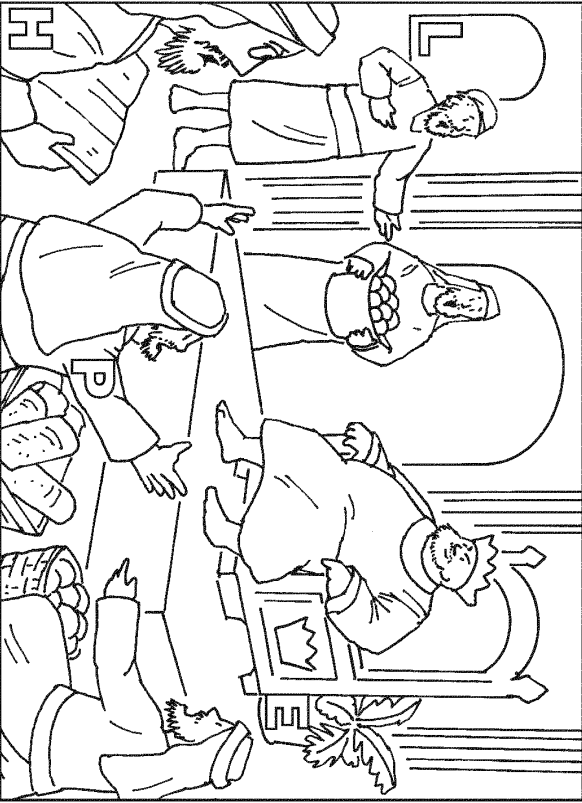
This cycle was repeated over and over again. **God's great plan was to send a true Deliverer—Jesus, who saves people from sin forever!**



# Ehud Defeats Eglon

The Israelites disobeyed the Lord, so He gave an enemy king named Eglon power over them for 18 years. The Israelites cried out to the Lord for help.

Find the hidden letters in the picture. **H E L P**



\_\_\_\_\_  
 E

\_\_\_\_\_  
 H

\_\_\_\_\_  
 U

\_\_\_\_\_  
 D

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

Circle the correct answer:



1. The Israelites needed new leaders because (Moses / Joshua) had died.
2. God raised up (Othniel / Samson) to rule as the first Judge.
3. Each time a Judge died, the Israelites (remembered / forgot about) God.
4. The King of Moab was very (fat / thin.)
5. Ehud killed the King of Moab with a (hammer / sword.)
6. After Ehud returned home, he became the Israelites' (leader / servant.)
7. After Ehud died, God sent a third Judge named (Peter / Shamgar.)
8. A JUDGE in Israel was like a (Courtroom Judge / Tribal Chief.)

Write one word that describes each Judge:

- Othniel: \_\_\_\_\_
- Ehud: \_\_\_\_\_
- Shamgar: \_\_\_\_\_



**THINK ABOUT THIS:**

- Why did God send Judges to Israel?

\_\_\_\_\_

- What happened when the people repented and cried out to God?

\_\_\_\_\_

- What does this teach us about God?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_