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|  | **LightHouse Ranch****Bible Study**  |

***Cause of the Cycles - Judges 1-2’ Romans 1-2***

 **I. Who is going to fight our battles?**

 **II. Israel’s Evil doings Provoked the LORD**

 **III. Nevertheless the LORD raised up Judges**

 **IV. God’s Purpose?**

 **V. The Cause of Man falling away from God today**

 **VI. Who is Right and Who is Wrong?**

**VII. Circumcise your Heart**

**God’s Message in the Old Testament and in the New Testament:**

And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore, also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Who knoweth *if* he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; *even* a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: **Joel 2:11-15**

**Cause of the Cycles – Chapters 1-2**

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| **Scope of the Book of Judges – People’s Disregard for God’s Word**  |
| **Scope** | Behold, I have divided unto you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the great sea westward. And the LORD your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you. **Be ye therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn not aside there from *to* the right hand or *to* the left; That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear *by them*, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them: But cleave unto the LORD your God, as ye have done unto this day.** For the LORD hath driven out from before you great nations and strong: but *as for* you, no man hath been able to stand before you unto this day. **(****Joshua 23:4-9****)****In those days *there was* no king in Israel,*****but* every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes**. (**Judges 17:6**) |
| **Reference** | **1** | **3** | **17** | **19** | **20 21** |
| **Theme** | **The End Result of the Disregard of God’s Word is Judgment and Anarchy** |
| **Focus** | **Disobedience** | **Cycles of sin and deliverance** | **Other gods** | **Immorality** | **Civil War** |
| **Divisions** | **Cause of the Cycles** | **Cycles of 7 with 12 Judges** | **Anarchy** |
| **Time** | **About 350 years in Canaan** |

1. **Who is going to fight our battles?**

**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?
**Judges 1:2** And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.
**Judges 1:3** 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.

**Judah went up to Bezek****Judges 1:4** 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.
**Judges 1:5** And they found Adoni-bezek in Bezek: and they fought against him, and they slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.
**Judges 1:6** But Adoni-bezek fled; and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes.

**Adoni-bezek’s acknowledgement of the sovereign God**
**Judges 1:7** And Adoni-bezek 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.

**Judah takes Jerusalem**
**Judges 1:8** 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.

**Judah fights against the Canaanites in the mountains, the Shephelah, and the Negev****Judges 1:9** 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.

**Judah went against the Canaanites in Hebron and Debir**
**Judges 1:10** And Judah went against the Canaanites that dwelt in Hebron: (now the name of Hebron before *was* Kirjath-arba:) and they slew Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai.
**Judges 1:11** And from thence he went against the inhabitants of Debir: and the name of Debir before *was* Kirjath-sepher:

**Othniel wins Caleb’s daughter to be his wife – Descendants of Jethro dwell with Israel**
**Judges 1:12** And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjath-sepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife.
**Judges 1:13** And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife.
**Judges 1:14** 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?
**Judges 1:15** 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.
**Judges 1:16** 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.

**Judah and Simeon take Zephath, Gaza’s three cities, but could not take the valley**
**Judges 1:17** 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.
**Judges 1:18** Also Judah took Gaza with the coast thereof, and Askelon with the coast thereof, and Ekron with the coast thereof.
**Judges 1:19** 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.

**Caleb takes his possession of Hebron defeating three sons of the Anakites**
**Judges 1:20** And they gave Hebron unto Caleb, as Moses said: and he expelled thence the three sons of Anak.

**Benjamin failed to drive out the Jebusites**
**Judges 1:21** 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.

**House of Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim)**
**Judges 1:22** And the house of Joseph, they also went up against Beth-el: and the LORD *was* with them.
**Judges 1:23** And the house of Joseph sent to descry Beth-el. (Now the name of the city before *was* Luz.)
**Judges 1:24** 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.
**Judges 1:25** 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.
**Judges 1:26** 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.

**Manasseh failed also**
**Judges 1:27** Neither did Manasseh drive out *the inhabitants of* Beth-shean 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.

**Israel, when strong, put the Canaanites into servitude – partial fulfillment of Noah’s prophecy**
**Judges 1:28** And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out.

**Ephraim failed also**
**Judges 1:29** Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them.

**Zebulun failed**
**Judges 1:30** Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries.

**Asher failed**
**Judges 1:31** 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:
**Judges 1:32** But the Asherites dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: for they did not drive them out.

**Naphtali failed**
**Judges 1:33** Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh, nor the inhabitants of Beth-anath; but he dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: nevertheless the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and of Beth-anath became tributaries unto them.
**Judges 1:34** And the Amorites forced the children of Dan into the mountain: for they would not suffer them to come down to the valley:
**Judges 1:35** 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.
**Judges 1:36** And the coast of the Amorites *was* from the going up to Akrabbim, from the rock, and upward.

**The Angel of the LORD speaks**

**Judges 2:1** 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.
**Judges 2:2** 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?
**Judges 2:3** 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.
**Judges 2:4** 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.
**Judges 2:5** And they called the name of that place Bochim: and they sacrificed there unto the LORD.

**Joshua did not send them out for failure**
**Judges 2:6** And when Joshua had let the people go, the children of Israel went every man unto his inheritance to possess the land.
**Judges 2:7** 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.

**Joshua dies**
**Judges 2:8** And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, *being* an hundred and ten years old.
**Judges 2:9** And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash.

**The next generation knew not the LORD or His works – failure of the parents**
**Judges 2:10** 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.

**II.** **Israel’s Evil doings Provoked the LORD**
**Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD**

**Judges 2:11** And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:
**Judges 2:12** 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.
**Judges 2:13** And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.

**The LORD delivered Israel into the hands of their spoilers**
**Judges 2:14** 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.
**Judges 2:15** 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.

**III. Nevertheless the LORD raised up Judges**

**The LORD sends deliverance**
**Judges 2:16** Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.
**Judges 2:17** 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.
**Judges 2:18** 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.

**But when the Judge was dead**
**Judges 2:19** 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.

**Then the anger of the LORD was against Israel**
**Judges 2:20** 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;
**Judges 2:21** I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died:

**IV.** **God’s Purpose?**
**Judges 2:22** 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.
**Judges 2:23** Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

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| **Three Major Divisions****1.) Cause of the cycles****2.) Cycles of 7 with 12 Judges****3.) Anarchy** |  |

**V. The Cause of Man falling away from God today**

**Apostleship and grace comes by Christ for obedience among all nations**

**Romans 1:1** Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,
**Romans 1:2** (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)
**Romans 1:3** Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;
**Romans 1:4** And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:
**Romans 1:5** By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

**Ye (plural) also are called of Jesus Christ**
**Romans 1:6** Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:

**Paul desires to see the congregation in Rome to impart some spiritual gift**
**Romans 1:7** To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.
**Romans 1:8** First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.
**Romans 1:9** For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;
**Romans 1:10** Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you.
**Romans 1:11** For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;

**I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ**
**Romans 1:12** That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.
**Romans 1:13** Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles.
**Romans 1:14** I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.
**Romans 1:15** So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.
**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

**In the Gospel is the righteousness of God revealed in the walk of faith****Romans 1:17** For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

**The wrath of God is revealed against all unrighteousness**

**Romans 1:18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

**Why is the wrath of God against all unrighteousness?**
**Romans 1:19** Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them.

**How does God show all men – invisible and even the Godhead?**
**Romans 1:20** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

**So, all have been taught by God, 3 things that shows their unrighteousness?**
**Romans 1:21** Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

**Second**

**Romans 1:22** Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

**Third**
**Romans 1:23** And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

If any or all of these continue…

**God gave them up to uncleanness – out of their own hearts**
**Romans 1:24** Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:
**Romans 1:25** Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

**And the women:**
**Romans 1:26** For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

**And the men**:
**Romans 1:27** And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

**When it gets to the point that God is not in their knowledge – reprobate mind**
**Romans 1:28** And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;
**Romans 1:29** Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,
**Romans 1:30** Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,
**Romans 1:31** Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

**With knowledge of God’s judgement do and have pleasure in them that do these things**
**Romans 1:32** Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

**And are inexcusable if one does these things and judge others who do them**

**Romans 2:1** Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.
**Romans 2:2** But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

**VI.** **Who is right and who is wrong?**

**Does anyone escape - Who is righteous and who is unrighteous**
**Romans 2:3** And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?
**Romans 2:4** Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?
**Romans 2:5** But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

Yes, God judges righteously in everything according to a man’s deeds
**Romans 2:6** Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

**Even those who with patient continuance in well doing seeking honour and eternal life.****Romans 2:7** To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

**And also to the opposite – the contentious obeying righteousness, indignation and wrath**
**Romans 2:8** But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,
**Romans 2:9** Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;
**Romans 2:10** But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:
**Romans 2:11** For there is no respect of persons with God.
**Romans 2:12** For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

**Justification does not come from hearing only but doing**
**Romans 2:13** (For not the hearers of the law *are* just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

**Even Gentiles who do not have the Word do what is in the Word, are a law unto themselves**
**Romans 2:14** For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:
**Romans 2:15** Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)
**Romans 2:16** In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.
**Those that teach – Do you teach yourself? – Jew or Gentile, saint or stranger**

**Romans 2:17** Behold, thou art called a Jew, and restest in the law, and makest thy boast of God,
**Romans 2:18** And knowest *his* will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law;
**Romans 2:19** And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness,

**Romans 2:20** An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.
**Romans 2:21** Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?
**Romans 2:22** Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?
**Romans 2:23** Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?
**Romans 2:24** For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.
**Romans 2:25** For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.

**If the Gentile keep the Law won’t this be counted righteousness?****Romans 2:26** Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?

**And judge the unrighteous?**
**Romans 2:27** And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?

**VII. Circumcise your heart**
**Romans 2:28** For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither *is that* circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:
**Romans 2:29** But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.

Paul is quoting from the Old Testament – Same in the Old as it is in the New:

Deuteronomy 10:12-18;

Deuteronomy 30:2-10;

Jeremiah 4:1-6;