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

***I Will Not Justify the Wicked -*** [***Judges 3;***](swordsearcher://bible/judges3)[***Romans 3-4***](swordsearcher://bible/rom3-4)***;*** [***James 1-2***](swordsearcher://bible/ja1-2)

**I. Historical Background and Reminder**

**II. Canaanites left in each allotment – Trials**

**III. The Cycles Begin**

**IV. Israel did evil again – Ehud, the LORD’s Deliverer**

**V. Shamgar delivers Israel**

**VI. Justification by Faith**

**VII. Now, Justification by Faith needs to be Tested**

[**I John 3:1**](swordsearcher://bible/1jo3.1-10) Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.  
**I John 3:2** Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.  
**I John 3:3** And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.  
**I John 3:4** Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.  
**I John 3:5** And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.  
**I John 3:6** Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.  
**I John 3:7** Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.  
**I John 3:8** He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.  
**I John 3:9** Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.  
**I John 3:10** In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

**I Will Not Justify the Wicked - (**[**I John 3:7**](swordsearcher://bible/1jo3.7)**) …he that doeth righteousness is righteous, …**

Last week, one of the major divisions of the study was intitled, “*Who is right and who is wrong*”. Today, The Scripture is going to remind us in the Old Testament who is *right* or who is *wrong* in the LORD’s sight; and will teach us the first step to be righteous in both the New and the Old Testaments.

**I. Historical Background Reminder**

Back in Exodus 23, the LORD has given the Children of Israel the Decalogue along with an explanation, and then continues by teaching Israel how they should live when the LORD brings them into the promised land in order to remain there. ([Deuteronomy 28](swordsearcher://bible/de28)) That is admonition to those in the days of the Judges; but we must remember the application, for us, in this church age, is our sober, righteous lifestyle in this present world with a vision of looking for the Blessed hope and glorious appearing of the LORD and Savior Jesus Christ who will lead us into the promised Kingdom. ([Titus 1-2](swordsearcher://bible/titus1-2))

**Let’s cut into the last part explaining the Law. We must follow with the application today.**

[**Exodus 23:1**](swordsearcher://bible/ex23.1-7) Thou shalt not raise a false report: put not thine hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness.  
**Exodus 23:2** Thou shalt not follow a multitude to *do* evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest *judgment*:  
**Exodus 23:3** Neither shalt thou countenance a poor man in his cause.  
**Exodus 23:4** If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again.  
**Exodus 23:5** If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under his burden, and wouldest forbear to help him, thou shalt surely help with him.  
**Exodus 23:6** Thou shalt not wrest the judgment of thy poor in his cause.  
**Exodus 23:7** Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked… **Remember Romans 1 from last week?**

**Let’ see how the righteous can become unrighteous – The Sabbath today is looking for His Rest**

[**Exodus 23:12**](swordsearcher://bible/ex23.12-19) Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.  
**Exodus 23:13** And in all *things* that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.

**Exodus 23:14** Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year.  
**Exodus 23:15** Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)  
**Exodus 23:16** And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, *which is* in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.  
**Exodus 23:17** Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord GOD.  
**Exodus 23:18** Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread; neither shall the fat of my sacrifice remain until the morning.  
**Exodus 23:19** The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.

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| The 3 feasts each year are observed today by Looking back at the **Death of Christ** (Redemption); now, **Unleavened Bread** (Sanctification) [Romans 5:1-8:8](swordsearcher://bible/romans5.1-8.8); and in knowledge - **Firstfruits** (Glorification by the Resurrection) [Romans 8:9-39](swordsearcher://bible/romans9.9-39); daily, **Pentecost** (Living righteously and giving out the Word with the power from on high) [Romans 12-15](swordsearcher://bible/romans12-15); Always **Tabernacles** (The Obedience of Faith, Stewart of the Mysteries) Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of Jesus Christ) - [Titus](swordsearcher://bible/titus1-2); [Romans 16](swordsearcher://bible/rom16) |

**The Angel is the ministry of the LORD Jesus Christ – His Word**  
[**Exodus 23:20**](swordsearcher://bible/ex23.20-24) Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.  
**Exodus 23:21** Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name *is* in him.  
**Exodus 23:22** But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.  
**Exodus 23:23** For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, *and* the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off.  
**Exodus 23:24** Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images.

**In our economy – All spiritual blessings –** [Ephesians 1](swordsearcher://bible/ephesians1)  
[**Exodus 23:25**](swordsearcher://bible/ex23.25-26) And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.  
**Exodus 23:26** There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

**The LORD will fight the battles – He wants obedience**  
[**Exodus 23:27**](swordsearcher://bible/ex23.27-28) I will send my fear before thee, and will destroy all the people to whom thou shalt come, and I will make all thine enemies turn their backs unto thee.  
**Exodus 23:28** And I will send hornets before thee, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before thee.

**The LORD’s timing is perfect – Disobedience brings defeat**[**Exodus 23:29**](swordsearcher://bible/ex23.29-30) I will not drive them out from before thee in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beast of the field multiply against thee.  
**Exodus 23:30** By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land.

**Israel has never inhabited these boundaries – They will in the Kingdom**  
[**Exodus 23:31**](swordsearcher://bible/ex23.31-33) And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee.  
**Exodus 23:32** Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods.  
**Exodus 23:33** They shall not dwell in thy land, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee.

**II. Canaanites left in each allotment – Why? – (lords of the Philistines)** [Joshua 13:3](swordsearcher://bible/joshua13.3)

[**Judges 3:1**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.1-5) 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;  
**Judges 3:2** Only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof;  
**Judges 3:3** *Namely*, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baal-hermon unto the entering in of Hamath.  
**Judges 3:4** 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.  
**Judges 3:5** And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites:

**III.** **The Cycles Begin**   
**Israel becomes apostate – Why?**

[**Judges 3:6**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.6-7) And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods.  
**Judges 3:7** 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.

**Therefore, the LORD sold the Israelites to the king of Mesopotamia!**  
[**Judges 3:8**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.8) Therefore the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia: and the children of Israel served Chushan-rishathaim eight years.

**And when Israel cried unto the LORD**  
[**Judges 3:9**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.9-10) 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.  
**Judges 3:10** And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war: and the LORD delivered Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed against Chushan-rishathaim.

**The land had rest from war 40 years**  
[**Judges 3:11**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.11) And the land had rest forty years. And Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

**Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD when Othniel died**

**IV.** **Israel did evil again – Ehud, the LORD’s deliverer**

**Israel did evil again – served Eglon, King of Moab 18 years**  
[**Judges 3:12**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.12-14) 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.  
**Judges 3:13** And he gathered unto him the children of Ammon and Amalek, and went and smote Israel, and possessed the city of palm trees.  
**Judges 3:14** So the children of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

**But when the children of Israel cried, the LORD raised up Ehud**  
[**Judges 3:15**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.15-23) 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.  
**Judges 3:16** 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.  
**Judges 3:17** And he brought the present unto Eglon king of Moab: and Eglon *was* a very fat man.  
**Judges 3:18** And when he had made an end to offer the present, he sent away the people that bare the present.

**Judges 3:19** 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.  
**Judges 3:20** And Ehud came unto him; and he was sitting in a summer parlors, which he had for himself alone. And Ehud said, I have a message from God unto thee. And he arose out of *his* seat.  
**Judges 3:21** And Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly:  
**Judges 3:22** 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.  
**Judges 3:23** Then Ehud went forth through the porch, and shut the doors of the parlors upon him, and locked them.

**When Ehud left…**  
[**Judges 3:24**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.15-24) When he was gone out, his servants came; and when they saw that, behold, the doors of the parlor *were* locked, they said, Surely he covereth his feet in his summer chamber.

**When the doors were unlocked, Eglon was “dead on the earth”**  
[**Judges 3:25**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.25) 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.

**While the servants waited at the locked bathroom door, and blew a trumpet on Mt. Ephraim**  
[**Judges 3:26**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.26-27) And Ehud escaped while they tarried, and passed beyond the quarries, and escaped unto Seirath.  
**Judges 3:27** 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.

**Follow, the LORD hath delivered your enemies to you – Faith and prophecy using past participle**[**Judges 3:28**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.28-29) 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.  
**Judges 3:29** 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.

**The land had rest from war for 80 years**[**Judges 3:30**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.30) So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest fourscore years.

**V.** **Shamgar delivers Israel**

**Shamgar delivered Israel also**  
[**Judges 3:31**](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.31) 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.

**VI. Justification by Faith - Let God be True, but every man a Liar**

**By the Deeds of the Law is no man Justified**

[**Romans 3:1**](swordsearcher://bible/rom3.1-20) What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit *is there* of circumcision?  
**Romans 3:2** Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.  
**Romans 3:3** For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?  
**Romans 3:4** God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.  
**Romans 3:5** But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? *Is* God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man)  
**Romans 3:6** God forbid: for then how shall God judge the world?  
**Romans 3:7** For if the truth of God hath more abounded through my lie unto his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner?  
**Romans 3:8** And not *rather*, (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil, that good may come? whose damnation is just.  
**Romans 3:9** What then? are we better *than they*? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;  
**Romans 3:10** As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:  
**Romans 3:11** There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.  
**Romans 3:12** They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.  
**Romans 3:13** Their throat *is* an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps *is* under their lips:  
**Romans 3:14** Whose mouth *is* full of cursing and bitterness:  
**Romans 3:15** Their feet *are* swift to shed blood:  
**Romans 3:16** Destruction and misery *are* in their ways:  
**Romans 3:17** And the way of peace have they not known:  
**Romans 3:18** There is no fear of God before their eyes.  
**Romans 3:19** Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.  
**Romans 3:20** Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

**Now, the Righteous of God is manifested by faith and Witnessed by the Old Testament**  
[**Romans 3:21**](swordsearcher://bible/rom3.21-25) But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;  
**Romans 3:22** Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:  
**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;  
**Romans 3:24** Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:  
**Romans 3:25** Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

**Jesus Christ is the Justifier**  
[**Romans 3:26**](swordsearcher://bible/rom3.26) To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

**Who can boast? –** [Ephesians 2:8-10](swordsearcher://bible/rom3.1-20)  
[**Romans 3:27**](swordsearcher://bible/rom3.27-29) Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.  
**Romans 3:28** Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.  
**Romans 3:29** *Is he* the God of the Jews only? *is he* not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:

**God justifies Jews by faith and Gentiles by faith**  
[**Romans 3:30**](swordsearcher://bible/rom3.30) Seeing *it is* one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

**We do not make the Law void by faith!**  
**Romans 3:31** Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

**Paul illustrates Justification by Faith using Abraham** in [Genesis 15](swordsearcher://bible/gen15)

[**Romans 4:1**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.1-5) What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?  
**Romans 4:2** For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath *whereof* to glory; but not before God.  
**Romans 4:3** For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.  
**Romans 4:4** Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.  
**Romans 4:5** But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

**And David**  
[**Romans 4:6**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.6-8) Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,  
**Romans 4:7** *Saying*, Blessed *are* they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.  
**Romans 4:8** Blessed *is* the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

**This is not only for the Jew – Abraham’s time there was no Jew**  
[**Romans 4:9**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.9-11) *Cometh* this blessedness then upon the circumcision *only*, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.  
**Romans 4:10** How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision.  
**Romans 4:11** And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which *he had yet* being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

**Justification is not counted to any because of the sign, but rather by the Walk of Faith**  
[**Romans 4:12**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.12) And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which *he had* being *yet* uncircumcised.

**What was Abraham’s Faith?**  
[**Romans 4:13**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.13-16) For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, *was* not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.  
**Romans 4:14** For if they which are of the law *be* heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:  
**Romans 4:15** Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, *there is* no transgression.  
**Romans 4:16** Therefore *it is* of faith, that *it might be* by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

**God calls those things which are not as though they were – Quickens the dead**  
[**Romans 4:17**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.17-18) (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, *even* God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.  
**Romans 4:18** Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

**Abraham did not call things that were not as if they were – He only considered what God said**  
[**Romans 4:19**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.19) And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

**Definition of Faith** **illustrated with Abraham – Believing God will do what He said He would do**  
[**Romans 4:20**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.20-22) He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;  
**Romans 4:21** And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.  
**Romans 4:22** And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

**If we believe God’s Word as Abraham, did - Justification is for us also**  
[**Romans 4:23**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.23-24) Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;  
**Romans 4:24** But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

**This is why it is important to believe on Christ – His resurrection makes our resurrection** **possible**  
[**Romans 4:25**](swordsearcher://bible/rom4.24) Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

**VII.** **Now, Justification by Faith needs to be Tested**

**Count it Joy when in a trial – It is a trial of your faith – It is only failed by giving into temptation**

[**James 1:1**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.1-3) James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.  
**James 1:2** My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;  
**James 1:3** Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

**Remember the context – It is the trying of your faith** – **During the trial do you need wisdom?**[**James 1:4**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.4-5) But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.  
**James 1:5** If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

**The asking must be in faith – remember the definition of faith? – Believing God will do what He said**  
[**James 1:6**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.6-7) But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.  
**James 1:7** For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

**Illustration of faith and lack of faith**  
[**James 1:8**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.8-11) A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.  
**James 1:9** Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:  
**James 1:10** But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.  
**James 1:11** For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.

**Passing trials brings on the promise – Crown of Life**  
[**James 1:12**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.12) Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

**Failing the trial leads to death**  
[**James 1:13**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.13-17) Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:  
**James 1:14** But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.  
**James 1:15** Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.  
**James 1:16** Do not err, my beloved brethren.  
**James 1:17** Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

**God will beget those with His Word – We can be a “kind of firstfruit”**  
**James 1:18** Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

**Everyone lay apart al filthiness and meekly receive the engrafted Word**   
[**James 1:19**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.19-21) Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:  
**James 1:20** For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.  
**James 1:21** Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

**But if one is only a hearer of the Word, he deceives himself – (false doctrine)**  
[**James 1:22**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.22) But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

**A metaphor of a mirror – If one pursues the Perfect Law of Liberty and continues therein...**  
[**James 1:23**](swordsearcher://bible/ja1.23-27) For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:  
**James 1:24** For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

**James 1:25** But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.  
**James 1:26** If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion *is* vain.  
**James 1:27** Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world.

**You cannot have the Faith of Christ and be a respecter of persons**

[**James 2:1**](swordsearcher://bible/ja2.1-7) My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* of glory, with respect of persons.  
**James 2:2** For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment;  
**James 2:3** And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:  
**James 2:4** Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?  
**James 2:5** Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?  
**James 2:6** But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?  
**James 2:7** Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?

**If you are a doer of the Word you fulfill the Royal Law -**   
[**James 2:8**](swordsearcher://bible/ja2.8-13) If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:  
**James 2:9** But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.  
**James 2:10** For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.  
**James 2:11** For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.  
**James 2:12** So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.  
**James 2:13** For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

**Whole point – a hearer only has deceived Himself – He thinks he has faith – no do the Word no faith**[**James 2:14**](swordsearcher://bible/ja2.14-20) What *doth it* profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?  
**James 2:15** If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,  
**James 2:16** And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be *ye* warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what *doth it* profit?  
**James 2:17** Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.  
**James 2:18** Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

It is not just believing – The devil believes. The devils believes who God is!  
**James 2:19** Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.  
**James 2:20** But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

**James illustrates Justification by Works with Abraham – But** [Genesis 22](swordsearcher://bible/gen22) **(Latter in Abraham’s life**

[**James 2:21**](swordsearcher://bible/ja2.21-24) Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?  
**James 2:22** Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?  
**James 2:23** And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.  
**James 2:24** Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

**Illustrated by Rahab from Joshua – What if she had just promised (Remember her statement of faith)**  
[**James 2:25**](swordsearcher://bible/ja2.25-26) Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent *them* out another way?  
**James 2:26** For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

**By Works A Man Is Justified, And Not By Faith Only**

**(**[James 2:24](swordsearcher://bible/ja2.24)**)**

**12 Judges – From Joshua’s Death to Samuel’s Birth – Major Judges bold**

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| **Judge (Tribe)** | **Reference** | **Oppressor** | **Years of Oppression** | **Years of Rest** |
| **Othniel** (Judah) | [Judges 3:7-11](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.7-11) | Cushan-Rishathaim, King of Mesopotamia | 8 [Judges 3:8](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.8) | 40 [Judges 3:11](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.11) |
| **Ehud** (Benjamin) | [Judges 3:12–30](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.12-30) | Eglon king of Moab, Ammonites and Amalekites | 18 [Judges 3:14](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.14) | 80 [Judges 3:30](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.30) |
| Shamgar (?) | [Judges 3:31](swordsearcher://bible/judges3.31) | Philistines | not given | not given |
| **Deborah** (Ephraim) | [Judges 4-5](swordsearcher://bible/judges4-5) | Jabin, Canaanite king of Hazor ;Sisera, general and vassal of Jabin | 20 [Judges 4:3](swordsearcher://bible/judges4.3) | 40 [Judges 5:31](swordsearcher://bible/judges5.31) |
| **Gideon** (Manasseh) | [Judges 6-8](swordsearcher://bible/judges6-8) | Midianites, Amalekites “People of the East” | 7 [Judges 6:1](swordsearcher://bible/judges6.1) | 40 [Judges 8:28](swordsearcher://bible/judges8.28) |
| Tola (Issachar) | [Judges 10:1–2](swordsearcher://bible/judges10.1-2) |  |  | 23 [Judges 10:2](swordsearcher://bible/judges10.2) |
| Jair (Gilead-Manasseh) | [Judges 10:3–5](swordsearcher://bible/judges10.3-5) |  |  | 22 [Judges 10:3](swordsearcher://bible/judges10.3-5) |
| **Jephthah** (Gilead-Manasseh) | [Judges 10:6–12:7](swordsearcher://bible/judges10.6-12.7) | Philistines and Ammonites Civil war with Ephraim | 18 [Judges 10:8](swordsearcher://bible/judges10.8) | 6 [Judges 12:7](swordsearcher://bible/judges12.7) |
| Ibzan (Judah) | [Judges 12:8–10](swordsearcher://bible/judges12.8-10) |  |  | 7 [Judges 12:9](swordsearcher://bible/judges12.9) |
| Elon (Zebulun) | [Judges 12:11–12](swordsearcher://bible/judges12.11-12) |  |  | 10 [Judges 12:11](swordsearcher://bible/judges12.11) |
| Abdon (Ephraim) | [Judges 12:13–15](swordsearcher://bible/judges12.13-15) |  |  | 8 [Judges 12:14](swordsearcher://bible/judges12.14) |
| **Samson** (Dan) | [Judges 13–16](swordsearcher://bible/judges13-16) | Philistines | 40 [Judges 13:1](swordsearcher://bible/judges113.1) | 20 [Judges 15:20](swordsearcher://bible/judges15.20); [16.21](swordsearcher://bible/judges16.20) |

**The Cycles in Judges**

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