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The Outline of the Book of Judges

The basis for this commentary is taken from Ariel's Bible Commentary (Exposition from a Messianic Jewish perspective) on Judges and Ruth by Arnold Fruchtenbaum.

Judges from a Messianic Jewish Perspective (Ac)

Glossary (Ad)

The Cycle of Sin in Judges (Ae)

The Relevance of the Book of Judges Today (Af)

I. Isra'el's Failure to Conquer the Land – 1:1 to 3:6 (Ag)

A. The Incomplete Conquest – 1:1 to 2:5 (Ah)

1. The Failures of the Southern Tribes – 1:1-21 (Ai)

2. The Failures of the Northern Tribes – 1:22-36 (Aj)

3. The Angel of ADONAI Confronts Isra'el – 2:1-5 (Ak)

B. Judgement for the Incomplete Conquest – 2:6 to 3:6 (Al)

1. The Joshua Generation Dies – 2:6-10 (Am)

2. Cycles of Rebellion and Retribution – 2:11 to 3:6 (An)

II. The Seven Detailed Cycles – 3:7 to 16:31 (Ao)

A. The First Cycle: Othniel – 3:7-11 (Ap)

B. The Second Cycle: Ehud – 3:12-30 (Aq)

C. The Third Cycle: Shamgar – 3:31 (Ar)

D. The Fourth Cycle: Deborah – 4:1-24 (As)

E. Deborah's Victory Song – 5:1-31 (At)

1. Sing Praises to ADONAI – 5:1-11 (Au)
2. The Responses of the Tribes – 5:12-18 (Av)
3. The Defeat of the Canaanites – 5:19-23 (Aw)
4. Blessed be Ja'el – 5:24-31 (Ax)

F. The Fifth Cycle: Gideon – 6:1 to 9:57 (Ay)

1. A Prophet Sent by ADONAI Confronts Isra'el – 6:1-10 (Az)
2. The Call of Gideon – 6:11-24 (Ba)
3. The Destruction of the Altar of Ba'al – 6:25-32 (Bb)
4. The Sign of the Fleece – 6:33-40 (Bc)
5. Gideon's Victory Over the Midianites – 7:1-23 (Bd)
6. Gideon's Call to Ephraim – 7:24 to 8:3 (Be)
7. The Final Defeat of the Midianites – 8:4-21 (Bf)
8. The Golden Ephod and the Golden Calf – 8:22-32 (Bg)
9. The Rise and Fall of Abimelech – 8:33 to 9:57 (Bh)
    a. The Conspiracy of Abimelech – 8:33 to 9:6 (Bi)
    b. The Curse of Jotham – 9:7-21 (Bj)
    c. The Destruction of Shechem – 9:22-25 and 42-49 (Bk)
    d. The Conspiracy of Ga'al – 9:26-41 (Bl)
    e. Abimelech Destroys Shechem – 9:42-49 (Bm)

e. The Death of Abimelech – 9:50-57 (Bn)

G. The Judgeships of Tola and Ja'ir – 10:1-5 (Bo)

H. The Sixth Cycle: Jephthah – 10:6 to 12:7 (Bp)

1. ADONAI Himself Confronts Isra'el – 10:6 to 11:11 (Bq)
2. Jephthah's Negotiations with the Ammonites – 11:12-28 (Br)
3. Jephthah Makes a Rash Vow – 11:29-40 (Bs)
4. The Judgeship of Jephthah – 12:1-7 (Bt)

I. The Minor Judges: Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon – 12:8-15 (Bu)

J. The Seventh Cycle: Samson – 13:1 to 16:31 (Bv)

1. Samson's Birth – 13:1-25 (Bw)
2. Samson's Marriage – 14:1-20 (Bx)
3. Samson's War with the Philistines – 15:1-20 (By)
4. Samson and Delilah – 16:1-22 (Bz)
5. Samson's Death – 16:23-31 (Ca)

III. The Appendices – 17:1 to 21:25 (Cb)

A. The First Appendix: Spiritual Chaos (Micah and the Danite's) 17:1 to **18:31 (Cc)**

1. Micah and the Levite – 17:1-13 (Cd)
2. The Migration of Dan – 18:1-13 (Ce)
3. The Hiring of the Levite – 18:14-26 (Cf)
4. The Danite Conquest – 18:27-31 (Cg)

B. The Second Appendix: Moral Chaos (The Benjamite War) 19:1 to **21:25 (Ch)**

1. The Levite and His Concubine – 19:1-30 (Ci)
    a. Conflict and Reconciliation – 19:1-10a (Cj)
    b. Journey to Gibeah of Benjamin – 19:10b-15 (Ck)
    c. The Problem of Hospitality – 19:16-21 (Cl)
    d. The Rape of the Concubine – 19:22-30 (Cm)
2. The Tribal War Against Benjamin – 20:1-48 (Cn)
    a. The Levite's Explanation – 20:1-7 (Co)
    b. The Call to Arms – 20:8-11 (Cp)
    c. The Preparation for War – 20:12-17 (Cq)
    d. The First Battle – 20:18-21 (Cr)
    e. The Second Battle – 20:22-25 (Cs)
    f. The Third Battle – 20:26-35 (Ct)
    g. The Destruction of the City of Gibeah – 20:36-40 (Cu)
    h. The Flight and the Pursuit of Benjamites – 20:41-48 (Cv)
3. The Wives for Benjamin -21:1-24 (Cw)
    a. The Recognition of the Crisis – 21:1-7 (Cx)
    b. The First Stage: Jabesh-Gilead – 21:8-15 (Cy)
    c. The Second Stage: Shiloh – 21:16-24 (Cz)
    d. The Theme of Judges – 21:25 (Da)

End Notes (Db)

Bibliography (Dc)