

Judges Series

Lesson #85

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Dean Bible Ministries

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**God's Grace
to the Undeserving**

Judges 13:24–14:9

JUDGES

2021

When Chaos Was King

Judg. 13:1, “Again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.”

Judg. 13:1, “Again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.”

Jer. 18:7, “The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it,

Jer. 18:8, “if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it.

Jer. 18:9, “And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it,

Jer. 18:10, “if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.”

Rev. 3:19, “As many as I love [φιλέω *phileō*], I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

Rev. 3:20, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”

φιλέω phileō

1 sing pres act subj

“to love, have affection for; used of a more intimate, affection for friends, loved ones, and family members.”

Only believers are objects of God’s *phileo* love. All humans are objects of God’s *agapao* love (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8).

God's Grace

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But God's grace includes divine discipline based on His unfailing, faithful, loyal love.

God's Grace

Heb. 12:5, “And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: **‘My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;**

Heb. 12:6, “ **‘For whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.’**

Heb. 12:7, “If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?”

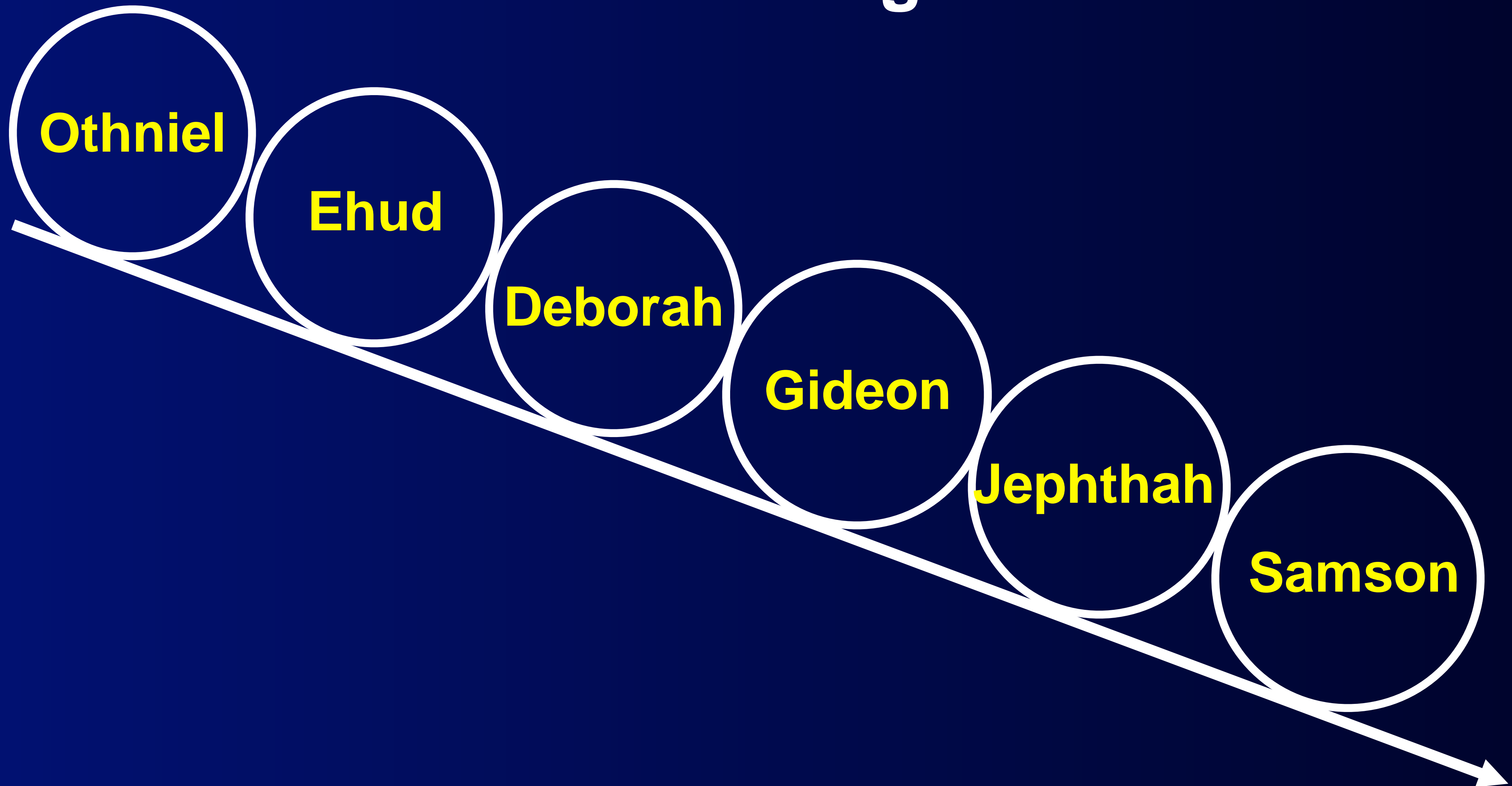
God promised Abraham that He would unconditionally bless all mankind through Abraham (Gen. 12:1–3; Gen. 22:17–18)

- Israel's sin at Mt. Sinai did not end the promise.**
- Israel's rebellion in the wilderness did not abrogate the promise.**
- Israel's idolatry during the Judges period did not destroy the covenant.**
- When Israel sacrificed their first born on the fiery altars of Molech, it did not end the covenant.**
- When Jephthah the judge burned his daughter as a burnt offering, it did not cause God to turn His back on Israel.**

Why? The covenant is based on

- **God not man,**
- **God's integrity, not man's infidelity,**
- **God's work, not man's work.**

Deterioration of Positive Volition in the Judges



- **Relativism means that if everything is equally true, everything is equally false. This leads to an ecumenical mindset that truth doesn't matter, just anything we can hold in common, like experience.**
- **If everything is relative nothing is worth dying for.**
- **If you don't have anything worth dying for, you have nothing worth living for.**
- **The only thing worth living for is whatever you want to do at the moment.**
- **If nothing is worth dying for then the great sin becomes fighting for your truth. This leads to pacifism and also leads to pacifism and arms control.**
- **Without accepting a concept of absolutes, neither an individual nor a nation can turn back to God.**

Unique Features of Samson's Judgeship:

- 1. Samson's cycle is much more biographical.**
- 2. Samson's birth is told in detail. He has a miraculous conception and birth.**
- 3. Much, much more attention is given to Samson's personal life.**
- 4. Samson never seems to be concerned about his relationship with God.**
- 5. Samson does not complete the deliverance**
- 6. Samson operates alone, he never raises an army.**
- 7. Samson's death is told in detail.**

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

- 1. Both Samson and Israel are chosen by God to perform a mission of deliverance.**

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

2. Both Samson and Israel are born miraculously.

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

- 3. Both Samson and Israel are born in the midst of a pagan environment and called to a life of separation and devotion to *Yahweh*.**

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

- 4. Both Samson and Israel succumb to the lure of that pagan environment. Samson is drawn to foreign women, Israel is drawn to foreign gods, spiritual adultery, and “playing the harlot.”**

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

5. Both Samson and Israel seek peaceful coexistence.

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

- 6. Neither Samson nor Israel seem overly concerned with God. Indeed the physical blindness of Samson illustrates the spiritual blindness of Israel.**

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

7. Both Samson and Israel seem to want to manipulate God to their own ends and purposes.

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

- 8. Both Samson and Israel are protected by God despite their disobedience and are used by God for His purposes despite their negative volition and though neither merit such blessing.**

Parallels Between Israel and Samson

- 9. The plan of God is not creaturely dependent. Though God is sovereign He does not force His will on people. But we see Him working behind the scenes such that when man is disobedient, God nevertheless still works out the results He desires.**

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

- 1. Both Samson and the Church Age believer are chosen by God to perform a mission of deliverance.
Matt. 28:19–20**

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

2. Both Samson and the Church Age believer are born miraculously; Samson's physical conception and birth, the believer's regeneration.

John 1:12, 13 with John 3:3; Titus 3:5

John 1:12, “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

John 1:13, “who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

3. Both Samson and the Church are born in the midst of a pagan environment and called to a life of separation and devotion to *Yahweh*. Rom. 12:2

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be pressed into the mold of your culture’s values and methodology, but be transformed by the total renovation of how and what you think, that your life will be evidence that the will of God (what He says in the Bible) is good and acceptable and perfect complete.” ~RD paraphrase

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

- 4. Both Samson and the compromised, carnal, Church Age believer succumb to the lure of that pagan environment. Samson is drawn to foreign women. Church Age carnal believers are drawn to the kosmic system and sin, spiritual adultery, and “playing the harlot.”**

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

- 5. Both Samson and the compromised, carnal, Church Age believer seek peaceful coexistence.**

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

- 6. Neither Samson nor the compromised, carnal, Church Age believer seem overly concerned with God. Indeed, the physical blindness of Samson illustrates the spiritual blindness of the compromised, carnal, Church Age believer.**

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

7. Both Samson and the compromised, carnal, Church Age believer seem to want to manipulate God to their own ends and purposes.

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

8. Both Samson and the compromised, carnal, Church Age believer are protected by God despite their disobedience and are used by God for His purposes despite their negative volition and though neither merit such blessing.

Parallels Between Samson and Compromised, Carnal Believers

- 9. The plan of God is not creaturely dependent. Though God is sovereign, He does not force His will on people. But we see Him working behind the scenes such that when man is disobedient, God nevertheless still works out the results He desires.**

Judg. 15:20, “So he judged Israel twenty years in the days of the Philistines.”