

General Church Education



Joshua and Judges

Review

Lesson 29

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Level 4: The Lord Is the Hero

For ages 9-10

Joshua and Judges Review

Teacher Background

This year students have learned about the conquest of the Land of Canaan from the book of Joshua, and about the local heroes the Lord raised up to judge Israel and rid them of their enemies from the book of Judges. Today's review lesson touches on stories from Joshua and Judges to consolidate what students have learned, and help them develop confidence in their growing knowledge of the Word. While students may not remember every story in detail, this lesson helps place the stories in a larger framework.

Joshua represents truth that fights falsity. Joshua courageously led the forces of Israel against enemies living in the land, allowing people to settle and build peaceful lives. While Joshua conquered the enemies enough to settle in the land, Israel's enemies were not all wiped out. Joshua charged each tribe to continue fighting and overcoming enemies in their territories. But only Judah and Simeon attempted to do it, and they did not succeed. So local enemies remained in the land. After a time the children of Israel forgot how the Lord led them and the miracles He did. They married with people from the enemy nations and adopted their idolatry. The book of Judges describes the repeated cycle of Israel's choice to fall away from the Lord and follow idols, their being overcome by an enemy, crying to the Lord for help, and the Lord raising up a judge who defeated the enemy, and restored peace in the land.

Key Ideas

- The book of Joshua tells the story of Israel entering the land of Canaan and conquering enemy nations so Israel could live there.
- Joshua told the people to get rid of any enemy nations that remained, but the people did not do it.
- The book of Judges is about enemy nations causing problems for the children of Israel, and the Lord raising up leaders to bring people back to Him and restore peace in the land.

From the Writings

'The land of Canaan' represents the Lord's kingdom in heaven and on earth... The reason it does is that the representative Church was established in that land, a Church in which every single thing represented the Lord and the celestial and spiritual things of His kingdom. This applied to everything associated with religion and religious observances—to the persons who ministered and to the things they administered, and to the places where the ministrations took place. See *Arcana Coelestia* 1437.

Before regeneration all good is obtained by means of truth, but after regeneration a person is led by the Lord by means of good. The former state is meant by the six days which come before the seventh, and that the latter state is meant by the seventh day or the sabbath. From this it is evident that the former state was represented by the travels of the children of Israel in the wilderness for forty years, and that the latter state was represented by their being led into the land of Canaan. See *Arcana Coelestia* 8539.

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This lesson reviews how Joshua led the children of Israel into the land of Canaan. To access the pages referenced in this lesson, download the lesson book at http://www.newchristianresources.org/The-Lord-Is-the-Hero-Lesson-Book-Digital-Download_p_257.html. After the ark of the covenant led them across the river Jordan and into Canaan, Joshua led the people in fierce battles against their enemies. The first battle was against the city of Jericho. Do you remember how they won the battle?

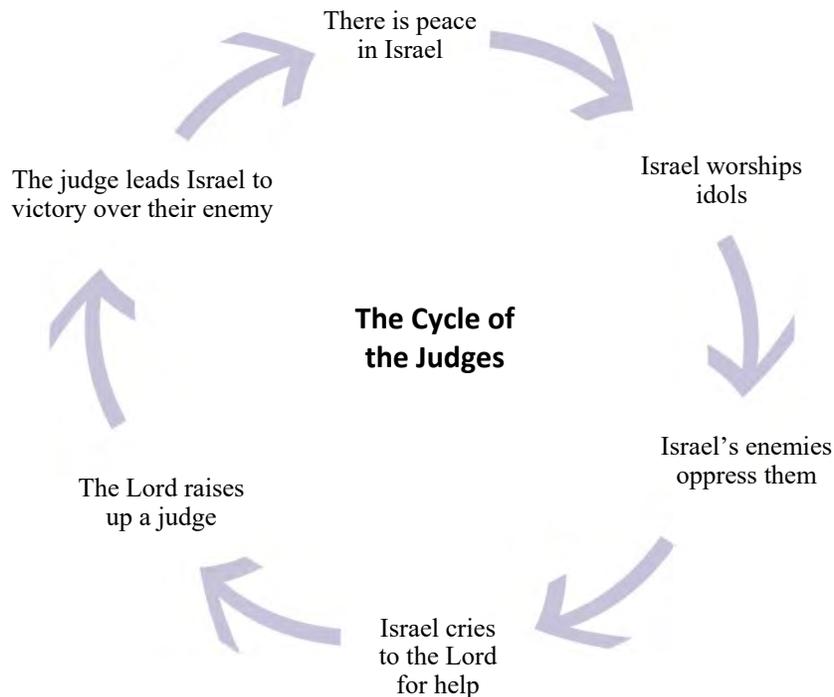
After Israel conquered the nations in the middle of the land, they went on to fight their enemies in the south. Finally, they fought the enemies in the north. When all the fighting ended, Israel had won enough battles to start living in the land. At the Lord's command, the people drew lots and divided the land. Each tribe was given their own place. Under Joshua the people won many battles and were able to live in the land the Lord had promised Abram many, many years earlier.

Below is a chart that shows stories from the book of Joshua. How many can you remember? Cover up the "What" column and use the "who" and "where" columns to tell the story of Joshua.

Joshua chapter	Page this book	Who?	Where?	What?
1	16	Joshua	The Jordan River	The Lord's promise to Joshua
2	20	Rahab	Jericho	Helped the spies
3	24	Joshua and the people	Jordan River	Crossed the river
4	28	Twelve tribes	Jordan River	Memorial stones
5	32	Commander of the Lord's army	Jericho	Appeared to Joshua
6	36	Joshua and Israel	Jericho	The city is destroyed
7	40	Joshua and Israel	Ai	Achan sinned so Israel lost the battle
8	44	Joshua and Israel	Ai	Israel obeyed the Lord and took Ai
9	48	The Gibeonites	Gilgal	Tricked Israel into making a treaty with them
10	52	Israel, Gibeonites, Amalekites	Gibeon	Israel and the Gibeonites fight five kings and conquer the south; the sun stands still
11	56	Joshua and the Israelites	The North of Canaan	Israel's northern enemies are conquered
13-19	60	The Twelve Tribes	Gilgal Shiloh	Receive their inherited land; tabernacle set up

Joshua chapter	Page this book	Who?	Where?	What?
20-21	64	Levites	In all tribes	Levite cities and cities of refuge established
22	68	Eastern tribes	Jordan River	Return home and build an altar of remembrance
23-24	72	Joshua	Shechem	Joshua's farewell and death

Just before Joshua died he told the children of Israel to keep fighting the enemies still living in the land. They were to get rid of them all. Two tribes tried, but were not strong enough to do it. Other tribes did not even try. So Israel's enemies continued to live in the land. Eventually Israel forgot the amazing miracles the Lord had done. They married their enemies and began to worship idols. So the Lord allowed enemy nations to trouble Israel. Some enemies became harsh rulers. Other enemies took their money and food. When things got really bad, Israel cried out to the Lord. The Lord raised up a judge to lead Israel so the people could get rid of their enemy and once again worship the Lord. The Lord could then bring peace back in the land. This cycle is called the "cycle of the judges".



The heroes raised up by the Lord to judge Israel are listed on the next page. Each judge fought a local enemy that was attacking Israel and holding the people under its power. See if you can remember the brave deeds each judge did to bring the children of Israel back to the Lord.

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Judges chapter	Page in Book	Judge	Enemy	Interesting Facts
3	80	Othniel	Mesopotamia	Son of Caleb's brother
3	80	Ehud	Moab	Left-handed
3	80	Shamgar	Philistines	Killed 600 with ox goad
4-5	84	Deborah	Canaan (Sisera)	River swept chariots away; Jael, a woman, killed Sisera
6-8	88-94	Gideon	Midian	300 men fought with trumpets, torches, and pitchers
9	96	(Abimelech)		Jotham's parable of trees; millstone fell on Abimelech
10	100	Tola		
10	100	Jair		Had 30 sons
11-12	100	Jephthah	Ammon	Dedicated the first thing to come out of his house to the Lord
13-16	104-110	Samson	Philistines	One-man army; killed lion with his hands; told Delilah the secret of his strength; killed thousands
17-18	112	(Micah)		Made idols and hired a priest that were taken by the tribe of Dan
I Samuel 1	116	Samuel		He was a priest and judged the whole land of Israel

Samuel, the last judge of Israel was not like other judges. Samuel judged the entire land of Israel. He was not a warrior, but a priest of the Lord.

After the period of the judges ended, the Lord chose a king to rule over Israel. Samuel, the last judge, and he anointed the first king of Israel, King Saul. Jacob's Ladder Level Five tells the story of the first two kings of Israel, King Saul and King David, and the many things that happened during the time when they reigned over Israel.

Activity Overview | Joshua and Judges Review

Projects

Choose one or two activities.

- Qualities of a Hero Review Chart
- The Books of Joshua and Judges: A Review in Pictures (video)
- Judges Picture Sequencing Review

Additional Activity Ideas

- Complete a Crossword Puzzle Review of Joshua and Judges, online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/activity-review-of-joshua-and-judges-crossword-puzzle.pdf>.
- Group activity. Play Twenty Questions. Say, “I’m thinking of a person (place or event) from the stories of Joshua and Judges. Who is it?” Players get to ask up to 20 questions with yes/no answers to find the person, for example, “Is it a person? Is the person a judge? Is he good?”
- If you have completed the Judges Trading Cards in this book, gather together the cards. Use the cards to review each of the judges. For a group of children, trade cards.
- Review the judges of Israel by completing a chart. This activity is online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/activity-chart-of-the-judges-review.pdf>.
- Complete a multiple choice review of the books of Joshua and Judges. This activity is online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/activity-books-of-joshua-and-judges-multiple-choice-review.pdf>.

Activity 1 | Qualities of a Hero Review Chart

This year we have learned about many heroes in the books of Joshua and Judges. Use your book to help you remember the heroes you have learned about and the brave things they did.

1. Write the name of a hero in the Character box.
2. Write an event which shows why the person is a hero in the Situation box.
3. Write the name of someone you know who has the same quality in the Person I Know box.
4. The last two boxes are blank so you can add your own qualities of heroes, for example, bravery, kindness, friendship, determination, or honesty.

Courage	Obedience to the Lord
Character	Character
Situation	Situation
Person I know	Person I know
Strength	Trust in the Lord
Character	Character
Situation	Situation
Person I know	Person I know
Character	Character
Situation	Situation
Person I know	Person I know

Activity 2 | The Books of Joshua and Judges: A Review in Pictures

The book of Joshua is filled with stories about the conquest of the Land of Canaan under Joshua's leadership. Review these stories by watching a video that traces events from the time Rahab protected Israel's spies, until the land was conquered and Joshua died.

The video is available online at <http://bit.ly/JoshuaReview>. The video has no sound, allowing you to talk about what's going on in the pictures.

To confirm stories pictured, turn on the Closed Captioning (CC) in the bottom right corner of the screen. CC may be selected in many languages.



Activity 3 | Picture Review of the Book of Judges

Sequence stories from the book of Judges with a picture review. Cut out the pictures, and arrange them in the order in which they appear in the Word. An answer key is provided on the next page.



Activity 3 | Picture Review of the Book of Judges Answers

1. Ehud



2. Deborah and Barak (Jael hides Sisera in her tent.)



3. Gideon



4. Abimelech



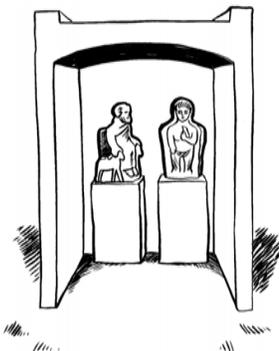
5. Jephthah



6. Samson



7. Micah



8. Samuel

