

X. Analysis of the book of Judges

A. Chapter 1

1. In chapter 1, we see that Israel is going to go up and drive the Canaanites that are remaining out of the land and they are going to take possession of it.
2. And so we have Judah and Simeon that go up first and they take possession of the land and they agree to help one another.
3. Then we are told that Ephraim goes up and Manasseh goes up and all the other different tribes go up.
4. But as they go up, they immediately disobey the Lord.
 - i. How do they disobey the Lord?
 - ii. For example, when Ephraim went up, they took possession of the land that belonged to Ephraim, but here in Gezer there were Canaanites that were there and they didn't drive the Canaanites out.
 - iii. Rather they felt that here was a good chance to have free labor and so they made slaves out of them.
 - iv. Ephraim, Manasseh, Zebulum, and a few other tribes did that.
 - v. Instead of obeying the Lord and driving the Canaanites out like the Lord said, they made a treaty with them and allowed them to stay in the land as slaves to give them free labor.

B. Chapter 2

1. Because this happened, we are told in chapter 2 that the angel of the Lord appeared to the Israelites at Bochim.
2. Bochim is just a little way from Gilgal.
3. The angel of the Lord appeared to Israel and said, "Because you have disobeyed me, because you made a treaty with these people and allowed them to stay in the land and because you didn't destroy their altars, places of worship and their gods, I am not going to drive them out like I said."
4. And so the Canaanites are going to stay in the land.
5. When the Israelites heard this, the Israelites were very upset and they mourned and grieved over it.
6. In chapter 2, we are also told that as long as Joshua and the elders who outlived him lived that Israel served the Lord.
 - i. Joshua knew that when they got into the land, the children of Israel were going to trespass against the Lord.
 - ii. He heard the Lord tell Moses that when he was installed as the leader.
 - iii. He did everything he could to keep them in obedience to the Lord.