

D. Ehud (3:12-30) - Moab

1. Israel ^{relapses} ~~trespasses~~ into idolatry.
2. Because they relapse into idolatry, they experience retribution from the Lord.
3. The Lord brings the Moabites to punish Israel.
4. The Moabites oppress Israel ~~for~~ 18 years.
5. The king of the Moabites was a man named Eglon and he was a heavy man.
6. The Moabites took Jericho and king Eglon made Jericho his summer palace.
7. All during this time, the Israelites have to pay tribute to the Moabites.
8. The people of Israel eventually repent and they cry out to the Lord and the Lord raises up a judge, a rescuer to deliver them, in the person of Ehud.
9. Ehud is known as the left-handed judge.
10. Ehud, along with several others, went to see king Eglon ~~in~~ in his summer palace to pay tribute.
11. After they pay tribute, they start back toward Gilgal, but Ehud says, "I am going to go back and see king Eglon."
12. So he went back and told his ^{servants} ~~descendants~~, he said, "I have a secret message for king Eglon."
13. When Eglon was told this, he dismissed his attendants and Ehud came in.
14. Ehud had a sword strapped to his right side.
15. When he went in, king Eglon stood up.
16. Ehud took his left hand, took the sword out and killed him with the sword.
17. Ehud went out and locked the door and went on his way.
18. When the king's descendants came back and found the door locked, they thought that he was relieving himself and would soon open the door.
19. But that gave Ehud the chance to escape.
20. When they went back later, they found he was dead.
21. Ehud escaped and gathered the Israelites and said, "Meet down here at the ford where the Moabites cross the Jordan to go back to Moab. Cut them off so the Moabites can't get back."
22. And 10,000 Moabite soldiers were killed and Ehud rescues Israel from the Moabites.
23. After he did that, Ehud judged Israel for 80 long years during which time the Israelites remained faithful to the Lord.