

## Scripture Reading

Judges 2:18–19 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup>Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the Lord relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them.

<sup>19</sup>But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.

1) Everyone did what was right in their own eyes

Judges 17:6 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup>In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

Deuteronomy 12:8 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup>“You shall not at all do as we are doing here today—every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes—

2) The Sin cycle

Judges 2:8–16 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup>Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of a hundred and ten.

<sup>9</sup>And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Heres in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. <sup>10</sup>After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel. <sup>11</sup>Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals. <sup>12</sup>They forsook the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the Lord’s anger <sup>13</sup>because they forsook him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths. <sup>14</sup>In his anger against Israel the Lord gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. <sup>15</sup>Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the Lord was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress. <sup>16</sup>Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders.

a) Rebellion

b) Oppression

c) Repentance

d) Deliverance

e) Rest

3) The Judges

4) Hope for a King

Judges 21:25 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup>In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.