

Women's Bible Study  
Judges 3:7-31

1. Othniel-The basic pattern of judgeship-The model
  - a. Israel sins (3:7) preferring local gods to her own.
  - b. Israel angers the Lord (3:8a)
  - c. Israel is subjected to an oppressor (3:8b)
  - d. Israel cries to the Lord (3:9a)- repentance is crucial for renewal and restoration
  - e. A deliverer is raised up (3:9b)
  - f. The deliverer is described (3:9c) Caleb's nephew from 1:11
  - g. The deliverer is empowered (3:10a)
  - h. The deliverer judges Israel (3:10b)
  - i. The deliverer rescues Israel (3:10c)
  - j. The deliverer gives rest to Israel (3:11a)
  - k. The deliverer dies (3:11b)- Salvation and peace rest on the leadership of God's judge.

**Reflection:** God raises up leaders of his own choosing, and he will rescue his people, not only from their oppressors but, from themselves.

2. Ehud- deception

- a. An unexpected Man (3:15a)-left-handed disability
  - 1. right handed- (Isaiah 62:8-9; Psalm 16:11; 110:1)
- b. An unexpected Mission (3:15b)
  - 1. Tribute payment---submission
- c. Unexpected message(3:16-22)
  - 1. sword hidden on right side—not expected
- d. An unexpected method (3:23-26)
  - 1. Guards-physical lock and embarrassment
- e. An unexpected mandate (3:27-30)
  - 1. First sign of leadership---by a left handed man.

\*\*\*The Lord does what he has said he will do and shows himself to be a saving God; but how unpredictably he does it!

3. Shamgar 3:31- Reminder that the Lord makes the judgment as to what shall happen, how it shall happen, and how the story shall be told to us. He remains the Judge. He is himself the great Deliverer, but how he judges and delivers is up to him.

**Reflection:** “We are not to be surprised if he choses the most unlikely methods, even if we find that such ‘left-handed’ things as deprivation or illness, frustration or failure, become the instruments of his rule.”