

Chapter 8

Judges: A Few Good Men...And Women



THE STORY

The Apathy of Defeat (Judges 1-2)

Here come the Judges! (Judges 3-16)



**The cycle of lather, rinse, repeat
(or sin, judge, repent) occurs six
times in the book of Judges.**



That's too many. Let any soldier is even the least bit fearful leave.

Judges 7:1-8

"It was impossible to count them or their camels." Judges 6:5

Jars of Clay



“No sooner had Gideon died than the Israelites again prostituted themselves to the Baals. They set up Baal-Berith as their God and did not remember the Lord their God, who had rescued them from the hands of all their enemies on every side.” Judges 8:33-34



Deborah (Judges 4-5)

"Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time." Judges 4:4



"She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephriam, and the Israelites came to her to have their disputes decided..."



She sent for Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, 'The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you: 'Go, take with you ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun and lead the way to Mount Tabor.'"



“I will lure Sisera, the commander of Jabin’s army, with his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River and give him into your hands. If you go with me, I will go; but if you don’t go with me, I won’t go.”



"‘Very well,’ Deborah said, ‘I will go with you. But because of the way you’re going about this, the honor will not be yours, for the Lord will hand Sisera over to a woman.’...



**So Deborah went with Barak to Kedesh, where he summoned Zebulun and Naphtali. Ten thousand men followed him, and Deborah also went with him."
Judges 4**



**Identify which stage of the cycle
best applies to your life right now.**

Sin:

**1. I'm chasing the wrong thing
right now.**



Identify which stage of the cycle best applies to your life right now.

Sin:

2. I have mixed up priorities.

3. I have an addiction or an addictive personality and it has captured me.



**Identify which stage of the cycle
best applies to your life right now.**

Sin:

4. I keep mistreating other people.



Oppression:

- 1. My relationship with God has been affected.**
- 2. I am destroying my relationships with others.**



Oppression:

- 3. It is affecting or will affect my physical and emotional health.**
- 4. It is affecting or will affect me financially.**



Repentance:

At this stage, you identify you're in sin or oppression, so you have two choices:

1. I am not ready to come clean with God.



Repentance:

At this stage, you identify you're in sin or oppression, so you have two choices:

2. I am ready to come clean with God right now.



Deliverance:

**Out of a broken heart of
repentance, God can deliver us.**



THE STORY

Application of the cycle to our lives:

We **sin**—we don't keep God on the throne of our lives. 1 John 1:8

We are **oppressed**—our fellowship with God and others is broken. 1 John 1:6



Application of the cycle to our lives:

We **repent/confess**—we are restored through the blood of Jesus.

1 John 1:9

We experience **deliverance**—we experience joy and fruitfulness.

1 John 1:7

