

“Through the Bible: Judges 11-15”

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I. Jephthah; Vows; Ibzan; Elon; Abdon (Jdg. 11-12)

- A. We are introduced to Jephthah, who was “a mighty man of _____,” “the son of an _____” and whose father’s name was _____ (Jdg. 11:1). His ½ brothers did not think highly of him, and consequently did what to Jephthah (Jdg. 11:2-3)? _____
- B. In time, the children of _____ made war with Israel (Jdg. 11:4). Who did the elders of Gilead go to for help (Jdg. 11:6)? _____
- C. Jephthah agreed to be “_____ and _____ over them” (Jdg. 11:11), based upon their agreeing to make him “_____ over all the inhabitants of Gilead” (Jdg. 11:8).
- D. Jdg. 11:12-28 indexes an exchange of messages between Jephthah and the king of Ammon. Answer these questions based upon this passage.
1. What did Jephthah want to know according to Jdg. 11:12?

 2. What was the king’s issue according to Jdg. 11:13?

 3. Jephthah tried, in detail, to explain to the king, “Howbeit the king of the children of Ammon _____ not unto the words of Jephthah which he sent him” (Jdg. 11:28).
- E. What did Jephthah vow in exchange for a victory over the children of Ammon (Jdg. 11:29-31)? _____
- F. Indeed, the Lord “_____ them into his hands” (Jdg. 11:32). Sadly, though, who came through the door to meet him (Jdg. 11:34)? And what amazing statement did Jephthah make at the end of Jdg. 11:35? _____
- G. The men of Ephraim took issue with Jephthah, and in the end _____ Ephraimites died (Jdg. 12:6). Jephthah dies having served as a judge for _____ years (Jdg. 12:7).
- H. In quick succession, we learn about three more judges, and their length of service (Jdg. 12:8-15). Make a note of these facts below.
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

II. Cycle of Evil Continues; Samson is Born (Jdg. 13)

- A. The children did _____ again, and were delivered into the hands of the _____ (Jdg. 13:1).

- B. "And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the _____, whose name was _____; and his wife was _____, and bare not" (Jdg. 13:2).
- C. An angel of the Lord appears and has several exchanges with Manoah and his wife (Jdg. 13:3-21). The main message was they would have a son who would become a _____ (Jdg. 13:5). A son was born, and his name was _____ (Jdg. 13:24).

III. **Samson wants a Philistine; Samson Causes Great Havoc (Jdg. 14-15)**

- A. What request did Samson make of his father and mother in Jdg. 14:1? How did they react to this demand? _____
- B. Several interesting and dreadful things happen in Jdg. 14:5-Jdg. 15:20. As you read through these passages, answer these questions.
1. When "a young _____ roared against him" (Jdg. 14:5), what did Samson do (Jdg. 14:6)? _____
 2. Later, what does he retrieve from the carcass and to whom does he offer it to (Jdg. 14:8-9)? _____
 3. Samson posed a riddle saying "Out of the _____ came forth _____, and out of the _____ came forth _____" (Jdg. 14:14).
 4. The people were only able to solve the riddle with whose help (Jdg. 14:15-18)? _____
 5. In the meantime, what had been done with Samson's wife (Jdg. 14:20)? _____
 6. Samson attempted to retrieve his wife, "but her _____ would not _____ him to go in" (Jdg. 15:1).
 7. At this point, Samson goes on a path of destruction.
 - a. Samson used _____ foxes, and fire _____ let them loose in the Philistines fields (Jdg. 15:4-5). Part of the Philistines retaliation was the death of Samson's wife and father-in-law.
 - b. Though _____ men of Judah bound Samson with two new _____ (Jdg. 15:9-13), he was able to break free and kill a _____ men with the _____ of a donkey (Jdg. 15:15). Samson had served _____ years (Jdg. 15:20).