### Judges

## Chapter 2

1Well, a messenger of Jehovah had traveled from Well, a messenger of Jehovah had traveled from <span class="placename">GilGalWell, a messenger of Jehovah had traveled from <span class="placename">GilGal</span> to Well, a messenger of Jehovah had traveled from <span class="placename">GilGal</span> to <span class="placename">The Place of TearsWell, a messenger of Jehovah had traveled from <span class="placename">GilGal</span> to <span class="placename">The Place of Tears</span> at BethEl, to address the house of IsraEl.  
  
There he told them:  
  
 ‘This is what Jehovah has said:  
  
 ‘I brought you out of Egypt and into the land that I promised to your ancestors, and I said that I’d never break the Agreement that I made with you. 2However, I told you not to make any agreements with [the people] who live in this land, and that you were not to worship their gods!  
  
 ‘Rather, [I told you to] destroy their carved images and to pull down their altars!  
  
 ‘However, you haven’t listened to My voice, and you’ve done [many bad] things... 3Therefore, just as I told you, I won’t drive them out from in front of you, so they’ll harass you, and their gods will oppress you!’  
  
4Well, after the messenger of Jehovah said all of this to the sons of IsraEl, the people started shouting and crying... 5And that’s why they named it And that’s why they named it <span class="placename">The Place of TearsAnd that’s why they named it <span class="placename">The Place of Tears</span>.  
  
Then they offered sacrifices to Jehovah there, 6and thereafter, JoShua dismissed the people and they each returned to the lands that they were given as their inheritances.  
  
  
7So the people served Jehovah [faithfully] for as long as JoShua and all the elders who knew of the great things that Jehovah had done in IsraEl were still alive... 8But then JoShua (the son of NaWeh), the servant of Jehovah, died at 110 years old, 9and they buried him along the border of his inheritance in and they buried him along the border of his inheritance in <span class="placename">ThamNa-Tharesand they buried him along the border of his inheritance in <span class="placename">ThamNa-Thares</span> in the hills of and they buried him along the border of his inheritance in <span class="placename">ThamNa-Thares</span> in the hills of <span class="placename">Ephraimand they buried him along the border of his inheritance in <span class="placename">ThamNa-Thares</span> in the hills of <span class="placename">Ephraim</span>, on the north side of and they buried him along the border of his inheritance in <span class="placename">ThamNa-Thares</span> in the hills of <span class="placename">Ephraim</span>, on the north side of <span class="placename">Mount GaAsand they buried him along the border of his inheritance in <span class="placename">ThamNa-Thares</span> in the hills of <span class="placename">Ephraim</span>, on the north side of <span class="placename">Mount GaAs</span>.  
  
10Also, the rest of that generation was laid to rest with their ancestors. So, another generation came along that didn’t know Jehovah or of the things that He had done for IsraEl. 11Therefore, the sons of IsraEl started doing evil things before Jehovah, and they started serving the BaAls!  
  
12Yes, they left Jehovah (the God of their ancestors) who had brought them out of the land of Egypt, and started following and worshiping other gods – the gods of the nations roundabout them – 13and this made Jehovah very angry… They left Him and started serving BaAl and the stars!  
  
  
14Well, because Jehovah was very angry at IsraEl, He handed them over to looters who plundered them… He sold them into the hands of their enemies [who lived] roundabout them, and they were no longer able to stand against their enemies.  
  
16Also, even though Jehovah had appointed Judges to save them from the hands of those who were looting them, they wouldn’t listen to the Judges! 17They just continued in their immoral relations with other gods by worshiping them, and they quickly turned from the way that their ancestors had walked, refusing to listen to the words of Jehovah.  
  
18But because Jehovah had appointed those Judges, He blest them and continued to save [IsraEl] from the hands of their enemies during the entire era of the Judges; for Jehovah was moved by all their groaning about those who were attacking and looting them.  
  
19Yet, after each Judge died, they’d just go right back to being corrupt – even worse than their ancestors – by worshiping and serving other gods... And they stubbornly refused to abandon their evil ways, 20which made Jehovah very angry with IsraEl.  
  
So He told them:  
  
 ‘Because this nation has broken the Sacred Agreement that I made with their ancestors and refused to listen to My voice, 21I will no longer drive away a single man from those nations among them who were allowed to stay in the land by JoShua, son of NaWeh.  
  
 22‘[I’m doing this] to see whether IsraEl will ever choose to follow and walk in My ways, as did their ancestors.’  
  
23So, Jehovah didn’t bother all those nations that JoShua didn’t conquer, and He didn’t drive them away.