### Judges

## Chapter 3

1These are the nations that Jehovah left [in the land] to test those in IsraEl who didn’t know about the wars in These are the nations that Jehovah left [in the land] to test those in IsraEl who didn’t know about the wars in <span class="placename">CanaAnThese are the nations that Jehovah left [in the land] to test those in IsraEl who didn’t know about the wars in <span class="placename">CanaAn</span> 2(because that generation of IsraEl hadn’t fought in the wars):  
  
 • 3The five kingdoms of the The five kingdoms of the <span class="placename">PhilistinesThe five kingdoms of the <span class="placename">Philistines</span> and,  
 • All the • All the <span class="placename">CanaAnites • All the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>,  
 • • <span class="placename">Sidonians • <span class="placename">Sidonians</span>, and  
 • • <span class="placename">Evites • <span class="placename">Evites</span> who lived south of • <span class="placename">Evites</span> who lived south of <span class="placename">Lebanon • <span class="placename">Evites</span> who lived south of <span class="placename">Lebanon</span> from • <span class="placename">Evites</span> who lived south of <span class="placename">Lebanon</span> from <span class="placename">Mount HerMon • <span class="placename">Evites</span> who lived south of <span class="placename">Lebanon</span> from <span class="placename">Mount HerMon</span> to • <span class="placename">Evites</span> who lived south of <span class="placename">Lebanon</span> from <span class="placename">Mount HerMon</span> to <span class="placename">LaboEmath • <span class="placename">Evites</span> who lived south of <span class="placename">Lebanon</span> from <span class="placename">Mount HerMon</span> to <span class="placename">LaboEmath</span>.  
  
4He used them to test IsraEl and to find out whether they’d obey the commands that He’d given their ancestors through Moses.  
  
5So, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the So, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnitesSo, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, So, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">HittitesSo, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, So, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">AmoritesSo, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, So, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">PherezitesSo, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, So, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">EvitesSo, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">Evites</span>, and So, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">Evites</span>, and <span class="placename">JebusitesSo, the sons of IsraEl lived in the midst of the <span class="placename">CanaAnites</span>, <span class="placename">Hittites</span>, <span class="placename">Amorites</span>, <span class="placename">Pherezites</span>, <span class="placename">Evites</span>, and <span class="placename">Jebusites</span>, 6and they married their daughters, gave their daughters to their sons, and they started serving the gods [of these nations].  
  
7[Of course], this was all evil in the eyes of Jehovah, for they had forgotten Jehovah their God and were serving the BaAls and the sacred poles.  
  
  
8As a result, Jehovah became very angry with IsraEl and He sold them into the hands of Chushan RishaThaim, the king of As a result, Jehovah became very angry with IsraEl and He sold them into the hands of Chushan RishaThaim, the king of <span class="placename">Syrian MesoPotamiaAs a result, Jehovah became very angry with IsraEl and He sold them into the hands of Chushan RishaThaim, the king of <span class="placename">Syrian MesoPotamia</span>, and the sons of IsraEl served him for 8 years.  
  
9It was then that the sons of IsraEl once again started calling to Jehovah, so Jehovah appointed a savior for IsraEl who delivered them… [Judge #1] GothoniEl (son of Kenez), Caleb’s younger brother.  
  
10Jehovah poured His Breath upon him, and this man served as IsraEl’s Judge. Then when he went to war against Chusar Sathaim, Jehovah gave the king of Jehovah poured His Breath upon him, and this man served as IsraEl’s Judge. Then when he went to war against Chusar Sathaim, Jehovah gave the king of <span class="placename">Syrian MesoPotamiaJehovah poured His Breath upon him, and this man served as IsraEl’s Judge. Then when he went to war against Chusar Sathaim, Jehovah gave the king of <span class="placename">Syrian MesoPotamia</span> into his hands, and he was conquered.  
  
11So thereafter, the land was quiet for 40 years… Until GothoniEl (son of Kenez) died.  
  
  
12However, the sons of IsraEl kept doing evil things before Jehovah... So, because of their evil ways, He allowed Eglom (the king of However, the sons of IsraEl kept doing evil things before Jehovah... So, because of their evil ways, He allowed Eglom (the king of <span class="placename">MoAbHowever, the sons of IsraEl kept doing evil things before Jehovah... So, because of their evil ways, He allowed Eglom (the king of <span class="placename">MoAb</span>) to grow stronger and then come against IsraEl.  
  
13First, he brought together all the sons of First, he brought together all the sons of <span class="placename">AmMonFirst, he brought together all the sons of <span class="placename">AmMon</span> and First, he brought together all the sons of <span class="placename">AmMon</span> and <span class="placename">AmalecFirst, he brought together all the sons of <span class="placename">AmMon</span> and <span class="placename">Amalec</span>, and then he went and cut down IsraEl, capturing First, he brought together all the sons of <span class="placename">AmMon</span> and <span class="placename">Amalec</span>, and then he went and cut down IsraEl, capturing <span class="placename">The City of Palm TreesFirst, he brought together all the sons of <span class="placename">AmMon</span> and <span class="placename">Amalec</span>, and then he went and cut down IsraEl, capturing <span class="placename">The City of Palm Trees</span>. 14So, the sons of IsraEl served Eglom (the king of MoAb) for the next 18 years.  
  
15Well, once again the sons of IsraEl called to Jehovah and He provided them a savior, [Judge #2] Aod (son of Gera and grandson of JeMeni), who was just as strong with his left hand as he was with his right.  
  
And when the sons of IsraEl sent him to carry tributes to Eglom, 16Aod made himself a two-edged dagger that was 8 inches (20cm) long, which he hid on his right thigh under his robe. 17And thereafter, he went and carried the tributes to Eglom, who was a very fat man.  
  
18So, after he had presented all the tributes, he sent those who had carried the gifts away 19(he did this after they’d all returned from the quarries at GilGal).  
  
And he said:  
  
 ‘I have a secret message for you O king!’  
  
Then Eglom told him not to say anything further until he’s dismissed all of his attendants.  
  
20So, later, Aod went to see Eglom while he was sitting in his upper summer chamber all by himself.  
  
And Aod said:  
  
 ‘I have a message for you from God, O king.’  
  
Then, as Eglom rose from his throne, 21Aod reached in with his left hand and grabbed the dagger from his right thigh, and he plunged it into [Eglom’s] belly… 22He drove it in so far that the handle went in and the fat closed over it… And he left the whole dagger inside his belly!  
  
23Then Aod just walked out on the porch, passing the guards on the way, and he closed and locked the chamber doors as he left.  
  
24Well when Eglom’s servants came and saw that the doors to the upper chamber were locked, they said:  
  
 ‘Doesn’t he usually [lie undressed] in the summer chamber?’  
  
25Then they waited so long that they finally became embarrassed. And when they saw that no one had opened the doors to the upper chamber [for a long time], they got the keys and opened them…  
  
And that’s when they found their lord lying dead on the floor!  
  
26Meanwhile, Aod had escaped during the confusion, for nobody had paid any attention to him. So he passed the quarries and ran to Meanwhile, Aod had escaped during the confusion, for nobody had paid any attention to him. So he passed the quarries and ran to <span class="placename">Setir OthaMeanwhile, Aod had escaped during the confusion, for nobody had paid any attention to him. So he passed the quarries and ran to <span class="placename">Setir Otha</span>.  
  
27Then when Aod got back to the land of IsraEl, he blew his horn in the hills of Then when Aod got back to the land of IsraEl, he blew his horn in the hills of <span class="placename">EphraimThen when Aod got back to the land of IsraEl, he blew his horn in the hills of <span class="placename">Ephraim</span>, and the sons of IsraEl came down from the mountains to him.  
  
So he he stood before them and said:  
  
 28‘Now follow me! For Jehovah God has given our enemies the ‘Now follow me! For Jehovah God has given our enemies the <span class="placename">MoAbites‘Now follow me! For Jehovah God has given our enemies the <span class="placename">MoAbites</span> into our hands!’  
  
Well, they all followed him and they captured the Well, they all followed him and they captured the <span class="placename">fords of the JorDanWell, they all followed him and they captured the <span class="placename">fords of the JorDan</span> near the land of Well, they all followed him and they captured the <span class="placename">fords of the JorDan</span> near the land of <span class="placename">MoAbWell, they all followed him and they captured the <span class="placename">fords of the JorDan</span> near the land of <span class="placename">MoAb</span>, and they wouldn’t allow anyone to cross it.  
29Thus, they cut down MoAb that day, killing about 10,000 mighty men, and no one escaped.  
  
30As a result, MoAb was put back into the hands of IsraEl, and the land rested for the next 80 years… And Aod judged them, until he died.  
  
  
31Well after him, Jehovah appointed [Judge #3] SamEgar (son of DiNach).  
He’s the one who cut down 600 Philistines with an ox plow.  
  
And he too delivered IsraEl.