

Session 5

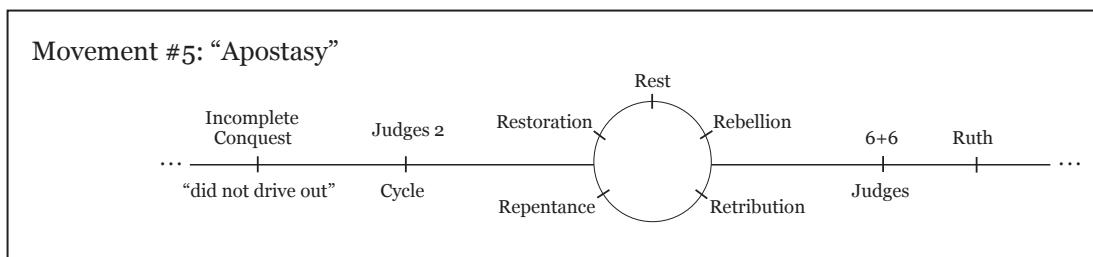
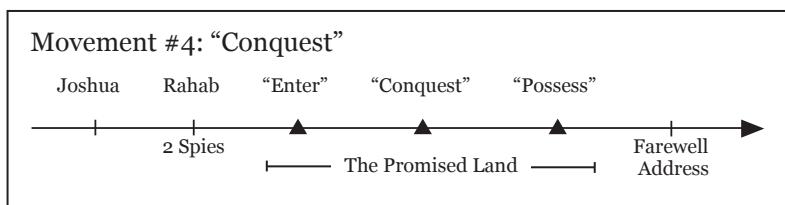
I. PRAYER/REVIEW

A. Movements and Scriptures

1. (#1) “Prologue” Genesis 1-11
2. (#2) “Patriarchs” Genesis 12-50; Job
3. (#3) “Redemption” Exodus/Leviticus
“Wanderings” Numbers/Deuteronomy
4. (#4) “Conquest” Joshua
5. (#5) “Apostasy” Judges; Ruth

TODAY

B. Timeline: Movements 4 and 5



II. OVERVIEW TO BOOK OF JUDGES

A. Charted

JUDGES					
KEY THEME: “Defeat & Deliverance”		KEY PHRASE: “Did Evil”		KEY CONCEPT: “Sin Cycle”	
1	Days of the Judges 3	3	Deeds of the Judges 16	17	Difficulties during the Judges 21
	Prologue		Body		Appendix
	Sin Cycle (Judges 2)		6 Major - 6 Minor		Idolatry/Civil War

B. Compared to Joshua

“Joshua”	“Judges”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victory of the “faith-life” • Freedom • Possession • Faithfulness • One leader prominent • Triumph • Success through faith (trust) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defeat of the “disobedient life” • Bondage • Oppression • Faithlessness • Many judges prominent • Tragedy • Failure through rebellion (compromise)

III. MOVEMENT #5: “APOSTASY” (THEOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT)

A. Incomplete Conquest: Historical Background

1. YHWH’s rest

Joshua 23:1-5

*A long time afterward, when the Lord had given **rest** to Israel from all their surrounding enemies, and Joshua was old and well advanced in years, ² Joshua summoned all Israel, its elders and heads, its judges and officers, and said to them, “I am now old and well advanced in years. ³ And you have seen all that the Lord your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is the Lord your God who has fought for you. ⁴ Behold, I have allotted to you as an **inheritance** for your tribes those nations that remain, along with all the nations that I have already cut off, from the Jordan to the Great Sea in the west. ⁵ The Lord your God will push them back before you and drive them out of your sight. And you shall possess their land, just as the Lord your God promised you.”*

Note:

- “rest” and “inheritance”
- “Lord your God who has fought for you”
- “will drive them out of your sight”
- Therefore, finish the job (human effort and divine enablement)

2. Joshua's warning

Joshua 23:6-13

Therefore, be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the right hand nor to the left,⁷ that you may not mix with these nations remaining among you or make mention of the names of their gods or swear by them or serve them or bow down to them,⁸ but you shall cling to the Lord your God just as you have done to this day.⁹ For the Lord has driven out before you great and strong nations. And as for you, no man has been able to stand before you to this day.¹⁰ One man of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is the Lord your God who fights for you, just as he promised you.¹¹ Be very careful, therefore, to love the Lord your God.¹² For if you turn back and cling to the remnant of these nations remaining among you and make marriages with them, so that you associate with them and they with you,¹³ know for certain that the Lord your God will no longer drive out these nations before you, but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good ground that the Lord your God has given you.

3. Israel's response ("did not drive out")

See Judges 1:19, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33

(This is "Incomplete Conquest," the first part of the Panorama Timeline, Movement #5, "Apostasy")

Lesson to be Learned:

- incomplete obedience is disobedience
- "incomplete conquest" is Israel's failure

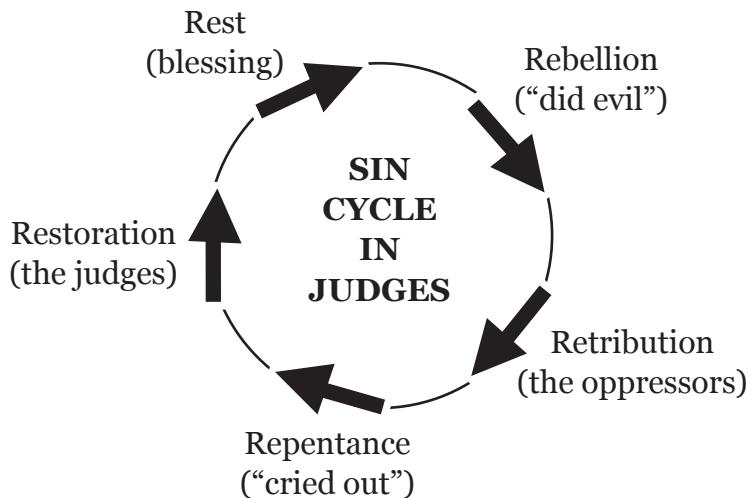
4. Encounter with the Angel of the Lord

Judges 2:1-3

Now the angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, “I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you,’² and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall break down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed my voice. What is this you have done?³ So now I say, I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you.”

B. “Sin Cycle” of Judges

1. Viewed pictorially



2. Described cyclically (“sin cycle”)
 - a. Rest: the people at “peace” (e.g. see Judg. 3:11)
 - b. Rebellion: the people “did evil”
 - c. Retribution: God “handed them over” to oppressors
 - d. Repentance: the people “cried out” in confession
 - e. Restoration: God raised up “judges who saved”
 - [f. Rest: the people again at peace...]
3. Outlined Biblically

Judges 2:6-19 NIV

After Joshua had dismissed the Israelites, they went to take possession of the land, each to their own inheritance.⁷ The people served the Lord throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had seen all the great things the Lord had done for Israel.

⁸ *Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of a hundred and ten.*

⁹ *And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Heres in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.*

¹⁰ *After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel.*

¹¹ *Then the Israelites **did evil** in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals.¹² They **forsook** the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the Lord's anger¹³ because they **forsook him** and served Baal and the Ashtoreths.*

¹⁴ *In his anger against Israel the Lord **gave them** into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He **sold them** into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist.¹⁵ Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the Lord was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.*

(continued - next page)

¹⁶ Then the Lord **raised up judges**, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders.

¹⁷ Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned from the ways of their ancestors, who had been obedient to the Lord's commands. ¹⁸ Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the **Lord relented** because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them. ¹⁹ But when the judge died, the people **returned to ways even more corrupt** than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.

Low Point for the Nation (in Judges):

- 1) The passing of a great leader (6-9): NO DIRECTION
- 2) The failure of a previous generation (10): NO DISCIPLESHIP
- 3) The collapse of a new generation (11-19): NO DISCIPLINE

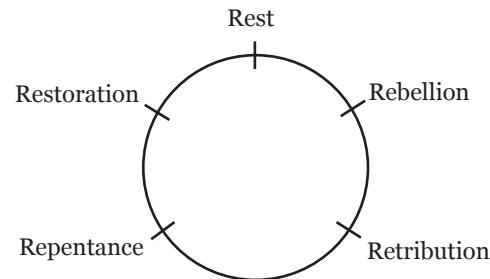
4. Illustrated specifically: Othniel

Judges 3:7-11 NIV

The Israelites **did evil** in the eyes of the Lord; they forgot the Lord their God and served the Baals and the Asherahs. ⁸ The anger of the Lord burned against Israel so that he **sold them** into the hands of Cushan-Rishathaim king of Aram Naharaim, to whom the Israelites were subject for eight years. ⁹ But when they **cried out** to the Lord, he **raised up** for them a **deliverer**, Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, who **saved them**. ¹⁰ The Spirit of the Lord came on him, so that he became Israel's **judge** and went to war. The Lord gave Cushan-Rishathaim king of Aram into the hands of Othniel, who overpowered him. ¹¹ So the land had **peace** for forty years, until Othniel son of Kenaz died.

Note:

- a. Rebellion: “did evil” (7)
- b. Retribution: “sold them” (8)
- c. Repentance: “cried out” (9)
- d. Restoration: “raised up” (9)
“deliverer” (9)
“saved them” (9)
“judge” (10)
- e. Rest: “peace” (11)



5. Applied “typologically”

- a. Theological observation: the “sin cycle” foreshadows the believer’s daily walk with God.
- b. Believer’s cycle (NT experience)

(1) Rest: daily fellowship or walk with God

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Galatians 5:16

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

John 15:1-8 (principle of “abiding”)

(2) Rebellion: a believer's sin which disrupts fellowship/walk/abiding

1 John 1:6

If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

John 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Psalm 66:18

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

(3) Retribution: the believer's sin brings divine discipline

Hebrews 12:5-11

*And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the **discipline** of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶ For the Lord **disciplines** the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." ⁷ It is for **discipline** that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not **discipline**? ⁸ If you are left without **discipline**, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who **disciplined** us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they **disciplined** us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he **disciplines** us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹ For the moment all **discipline** seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.*

(4) Repentance: the believer's confession of sin

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

James 4:8-10

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Joel 2:12-14 (“returning to the Lord” principle)

(5) Restoration: the believer restored to fellowship and daily walk with God

1 John 1:5-9 (descriptive of the cycle)

c. Summary statement on “Sin Cycle”

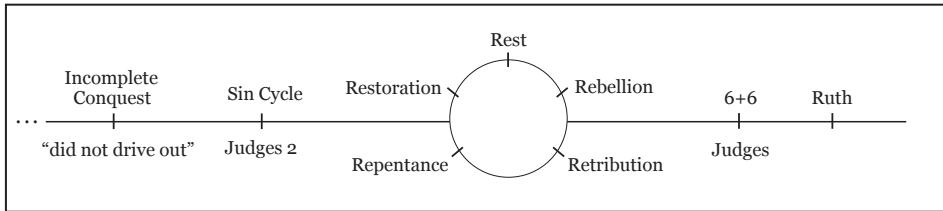
Insight

“The cycle accentuates two prominent lines of truth: (1) the desperate sickness of the human heart, revealing its ingratitude, stubbornness, rebellion and folly; and (2) God’s long-suffering, patience, love, and mercy.”

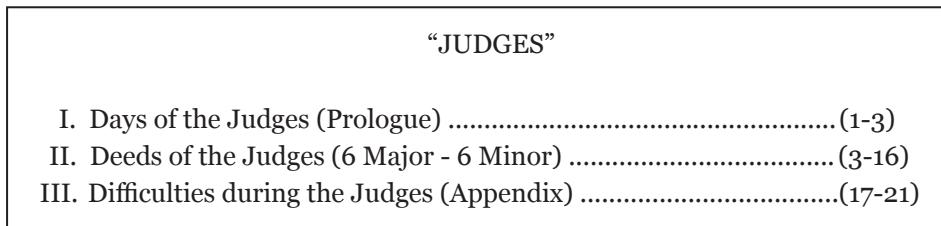
(I. Jensen, Survey of OT, 158-159)

IV. MOVEMENT #5: “APOSTASY” (BIBLICAL DEVELOPMENT)

A. Timeline Review



B. Book of Judges: broad outline



C. Prologue of Judges (Judges 1-3)

1. The situation militarily (1)
 - military action/conquests
2. The situation religiously (2)
 - “sin cycle” described
3. The situation politically (3:1-6)
 - testing of Israel

D. Deeds of the Judges

1. Judgeship of OTHNIEL (3:7-11)
 - See p. 86

2. Judgeship of EHUD (3:12-30)

- a. Rebellion... “did what was evil” (12)
- b. Retribution... “strengthened Eglon... against” (12)
- c. Repentance... “cried out” (15)
- d. Restoration... “deliverer” (15)
- e. Rest... “had rest” (or peace) (30)

3. Judgeship of SHAMGAR (3:31)

Judges 3:31

After him was Shamgar the son of Anath, who killed 600 of the Philistines with an oxgoad, and he also saved Israel.

4. Judgeship of DEBORAH (BARAK) (4:1-5:31)

DEBORAH AND BARAK	
Chapter 4	Chapter 5
Story	Song
Narrative	Poetry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Sin Cycle” • Oppressors: Jabin and Sisera • Deliverers: Deborah and Barak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praise (1-3) • Poetic epic (4-30) • Peace (31)

5. Judgeship of GIDEON (6:1-9:57)

GIDEON		
Chapters 6-8	Chapter 9	
Story of Gideon	Story of Abimelech	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sin Cycle • Call of Gideon 	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unruly son of Gideon • Ruthless son of Gideon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gideon's army (32,000 -- 10,000 -- 300) • Gideon's victory - Part 1 	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strife between Abimelech and Shechem • Abimelech vs. Gaal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gideon's victory - Part 2 • Gideon's ephod (snare) 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice at the end
		9

- Midianites are oppressing the Israelites (Judg. 6:1 ff) while before, the Israelites plundered the Midianites (Num. 31).
- The Israelites “cried out to the Lord.” This action first brought a divinely-sent prophet (6:7-10), then the Angel of the Lord (6:11 ff).
- Gideon “tests” the Angel of the Lord (pre-incarnate Christ?) (e.g. 6:17-20; 36-37); the Lord “tests” Gideon (7:1-8).
- Gideon is a deliverer judge but does not leave a lasting legacy (8:33-35 and 9:1-6).

6. Judgeship of TOLA (10:1-2)

Judges 10:1-2

After Abimelech there arose to save Israel Tola the son of Puah, son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, and he lived at Shamir in the hill country of Ephraim.² And he judged Israel twenty-three years. Then he died and was buried at Shamir.

7. Judgeship of JAIR (10:3-5)

Judges 10:3-5

After him arose Jair the Gileadite, who judged Israel twenty-two years.⁴ And he had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkeys, and they had thirty cities, called Havvoth-jair to this day, which are in the land of Gilead.⁵ And Jair died and was buried in Kamon.

8. Judgeship of JEPHTHAH (10:6-12:7)

As likely with all the judges (major and minor), the “sin cycle” is present. However, note some important variations in Jephthah.

a. Rebellion... “did what was evil” (10:6)

- (1) served the false gods (idolatry)
- (2) did not serve the Lord

b. Retribution... “sold them” (10:7-9)

c. Repentance... two-part repentance

- (1) Initial confession

Judges 10:10

And the people of Israel cried out to the Lord, saying, “We have sinned against you, because we have forsaken our God and have served the Baals.”

(2) Intense confession

Judges 10:15-16

And the people of Israel said to the Lord, “We have sinned; do to us whatever seems good to you. Only please deliver us this day.”¹⁶ So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the Lord, and he became impatient over the misery of Israel.

Lesson: Two-Part Repentance

- Is there a difference between “confession-repentance” and “brokenness-repentance”?
- Application for today?

d. Restoration

(1) No immediate deliverer raised up

Judges 10:16 NIV

Then they got rid of the foreign gods among them and served the Lord. And he could bear Israel’s misery no longer.

(2) Jephthah to become the deliverer (Judg. 11-12)

(3) Request of the people to Jephthah

- “Come and be our leader” (11:6)
- “Go with us and fight” (11:8)
- “Be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead” (11:8)

Reflection:

Was this the leadership and provision of the Lord or of man’s choice (cf. 11:9)?

(4) Rash vow of Jephthah

Judges 11:30-31

And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord and said, “If you will give the Ammonites into my hand,³¹ then whatever comes out from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the Ammonites shall be the Lord’s, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.”

- Was it human sacrifice?
- Was it dedication to perpetual Tabernacle service?

9. Judgeship of IBZAN (12:8-10)

10. Judgeship of ELON (12:11-12)

11. Judgeship of ABDON (12:13-15)

12. Judgeship of SAMSON (13:1-16:31)

Judges 13:1

And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, so the Lord gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.

SAMSON			
<u>Chapter 13</u>	<u>Chapter 14</u>	<u>Chapter 15</u>	<u>Chapter 16</u>
Birth of Samson	Marriage of Samson	Deeds of Samson	Downfall of Samson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sin Cycle • Miraculous birth • Nazirite vow • “Spirit of the Lord” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samson’s demand • “Spirit of the Lord” • Riddles and rashness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philistine troubles • “Spirit of the Lord” • Judge for 20 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deception & Delilah • Nazirite vow broken • “Lord had left him” • Death

Lessons from Samson:

- a. Samson's life parallels the journey of Israel. Both were called to be holy/separated unto the Lord; both ignored God's clear command of purity.
- b. Samson chased after foreign women; Israel chased after foreign gods.
- c. Samson had the power of the Holy Spirit but lost it; Israel had the presence of the Holy Spirit but neglected it.

E. Difficulties During the Judges (Judg. 17-21)

1. Micah, the Levite, the Danites, stolen idols (17:1-18:31)
2. A Levite, his concubine, the Benjamite war (19:1-21:25)

Reflection: End of the Book of Judges

So the end of Judges is disastrous for Israel. By the end of the book they are violating God's law and their covenant with him (Deuteronomy) in ways unimaginable. They are worshiping idols, and the Levites are leading them in this. They have become corrupt morally, sinking to the despised depths of the wretched Canaanite cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. They have ceased struggling to drive out the Canaanites and instead are becoming like the Canaanites. Finally, the Israelites turn on one another and annihilate one of their own tribes.

(Baker Illust. Bible Handbook, 155)

F. The Book of Ruth

Ruth 1:1

In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons.

RUTH	
<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Title</u>
1	Ruth and Naomi: Returning to Judah
2	Ruth and Boaz: Gleaning in the Fields
3	Ruth and Boaz: Lying on the Threshing Floor
4	Ruth and Boaz: Marrying the Kinsman-Redeemer

Key Features:

1. Ancestry of King David (Ruth 4:18-22)
2. Concept of the “Go’el” (Kinsman-Redeemer)
3. Character of God displayed (sovereignty, providence, mercy, grace, lovingkindness).

V. FOR LESSON 6: KINGSHIP: UNITED MONARCHY

A. Minimal Reading: 1 Sam. 1, 3, 8

B. Maximum Reading: 1 Sam. 1-8

C. Personal Project: Take a person through the timeline for this session (review previous Movements as well). Draw and explain this as best you can.

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL CHART

THE OPPRESSORS & JUDGES OF ISRAEL					
<u>OPPRESSOR</u>	<u>KING</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>JUDGE</u>	<u>TRIBE</u>	<u>REF. NOTE</u>
1. Mesopotamia	Cushan-risha-thaim	14th BC	Othniel	Judah	3:7-11
2. Moab	Eglon	14th-13th BC	Ehud	Benjamin	3:12-30
3. Philistia		?-13th BC	Shamgar		3:31
4. Canaan	Jabin	12th BC	Deborah	Ephraim	4:1-5:31
5. Midian	Oreb Zeeb Zebah Zalmunna	12th BC	Gideon	Manasseh	6:1-8:35
6. Civil War of Abimelech		12th BC			9:1-57
7. ?		12th BC	Tola	Issachar	10:1-2
8. ?		12th BC	Jair	Gilead	10:3-5
9. Ammon		12th-11th BC	Jephthah Ibzan Elon Abdon	Gilead Judah (??) Zebulun Ephraim	10:6-12:7 12:8-10 12:11-12 12:13-15
10. Philistia		12th-11th BC	Samson	Dan	13:1-16:31