

Judges Series

Lesson #34

October 26, 2021

Dean Bible Ministries

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**The Bee and
the Lightning –**

Part 2

Judges 4:1–9

JUDGES

2021

When Chaos Was King

Outline of “Judges” (Chieftains, Tribal Rulers, Leaders)

1:1–3:6

Introduction

**How Israel went from
spiritual victory
to being worse than
the Canaanites**

Incomplete obedience

Compromise

Failure

Cycles of discipline

3:7–16:31

Paganization of the Leadership

Othniel (the best)

Ehud

Shamgar

Deborah

Gideon

Tola, Jair

Jephthah

Ibzan, Elon, Abdon

Samson (the worst)

17:1–21:25

Paganization of the Priests

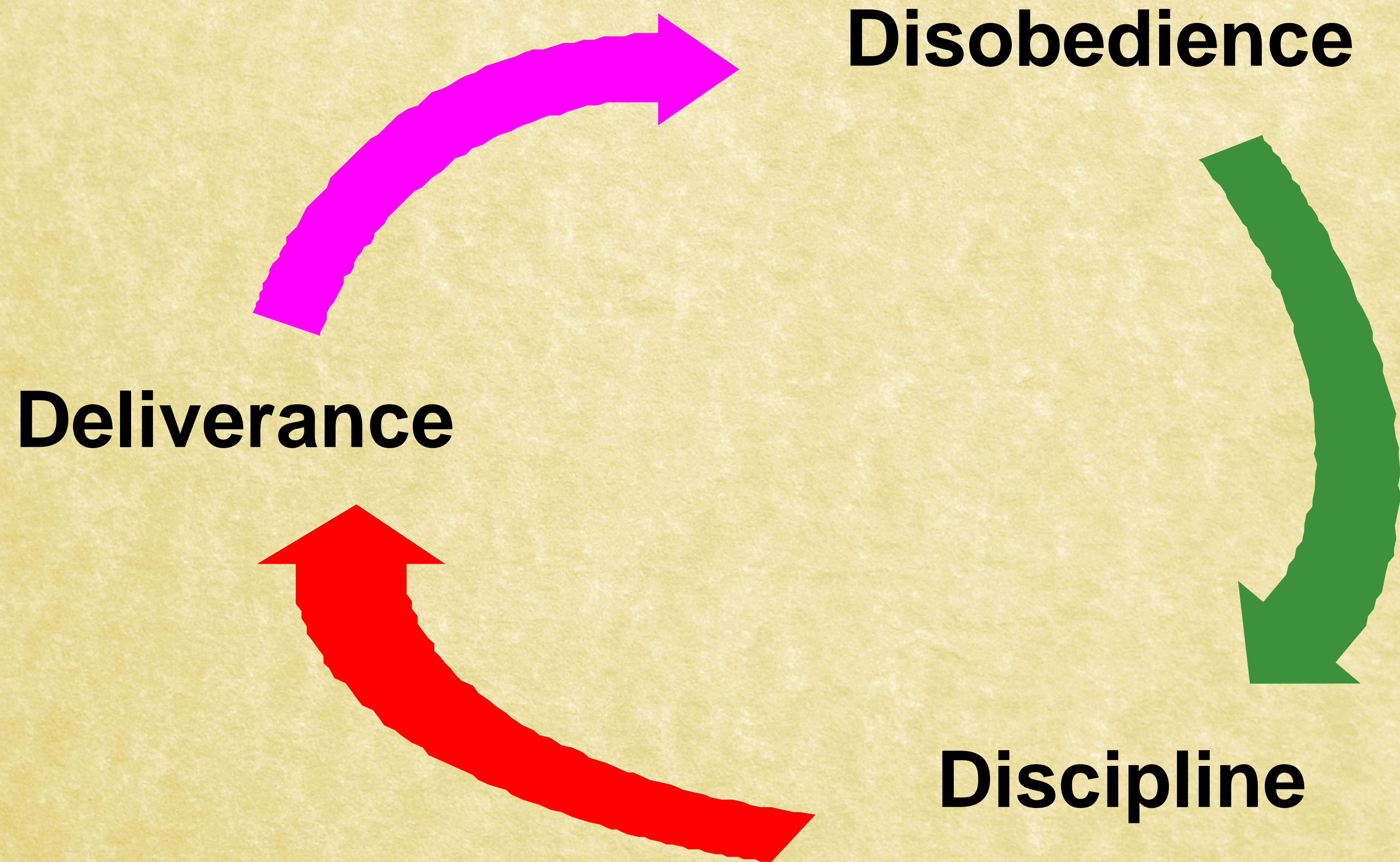
Chap. 17–18

and the

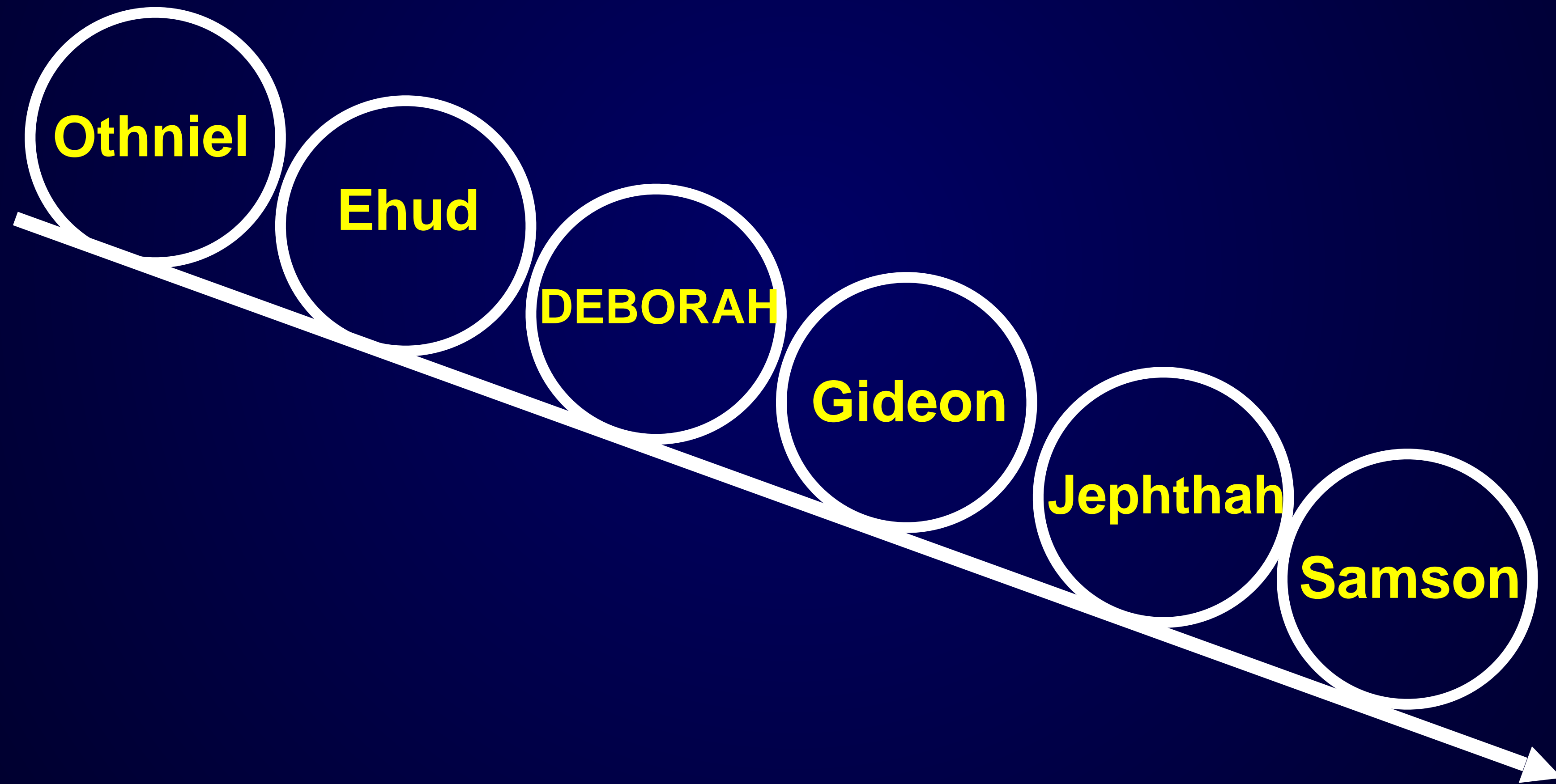
People

Chap. 19–21

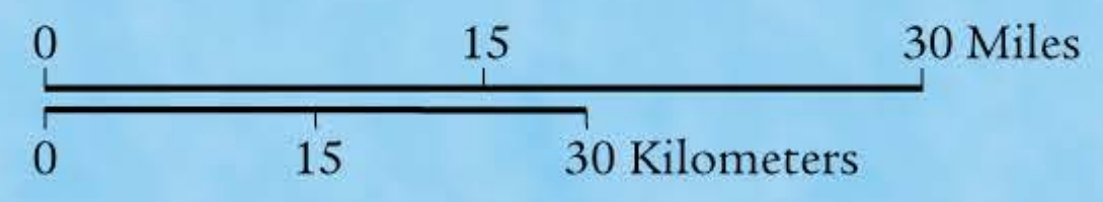
The Cycles of the Judges



SLIDING into Paganism in the time of the JUDGES



← Sargon II campaign (712 BC)
← Sennacherib campaign (701 BC)



The First Cycle with Othniel as Judge –

(1) Disobedience and Departure from Devotion to Yahweh–Judges 3:7–ONE verse

(2) Discipline from the Lord–Judges 3:8, 9–TWO verses

(3) Deliverance by grace–Judges 3:10, 11–TWO verses

The second cycle with Ehud as Judge –

- (1) Disobedience and Departure from Devotion to Yahweh–Judges 3:12–ONE verse**
- (2) Discipline from the Lord–Judges 3:13, 14–TWO verses**
- (3) Deliverance by Grace–Judges 3:15–30–SIXTEEN verses**

The third cycle with Deborah as Judge

- (1) Disobedience and Departure from Devotion to Yahweh 4:1–ONE verse**
- (2) Discipline from the Lord–Judges 4:2, 3—TWO verses**
- (3) Deliverance by Grace–Judges 4:4–24–TWENTY-ONE verses**







**Judg. 4:1, “When Ehud was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD.
~NKJV**

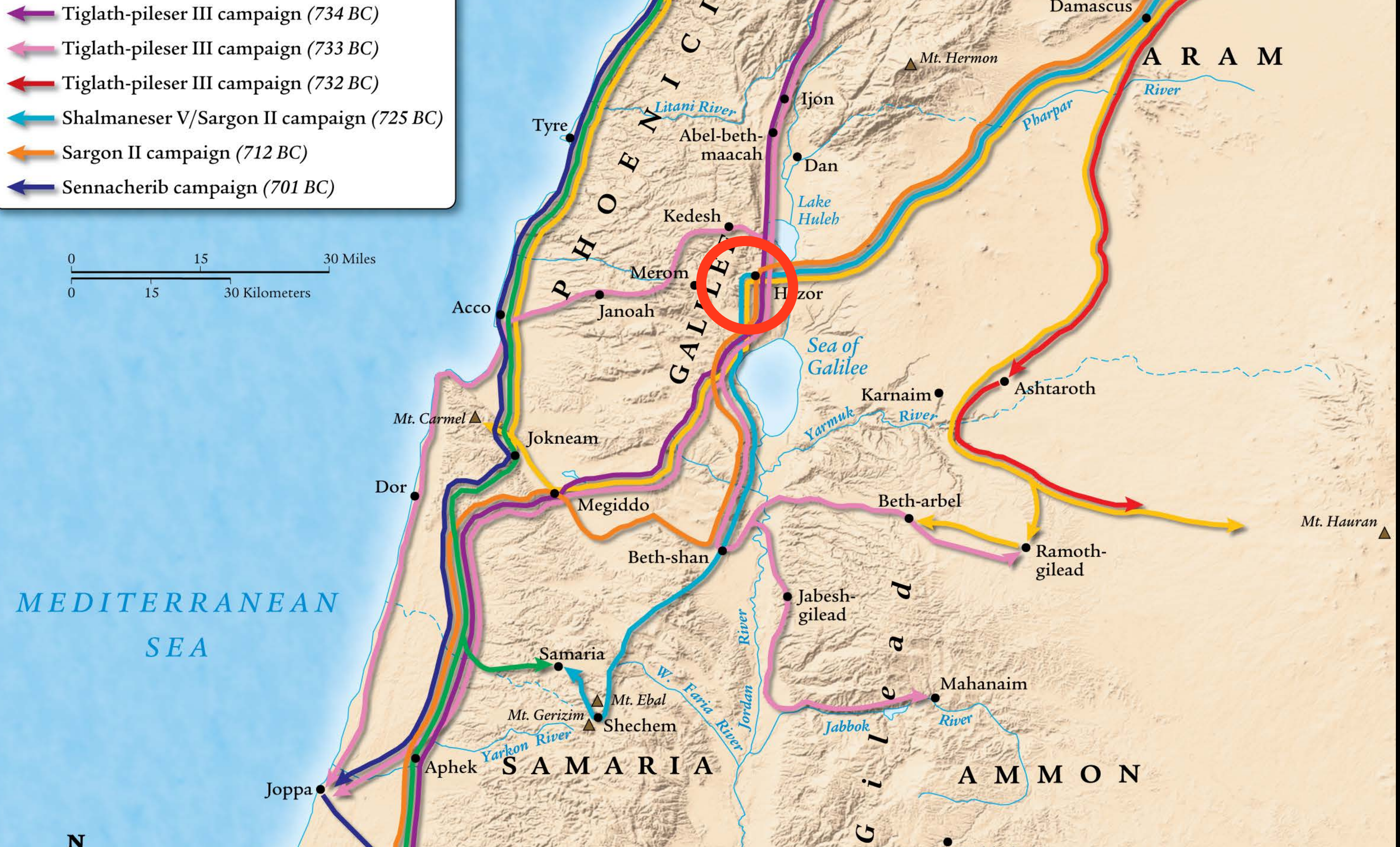
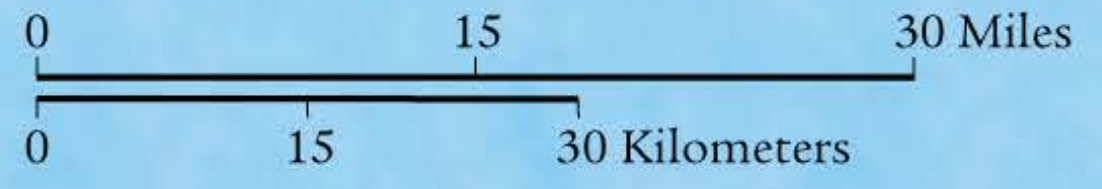
Judg. 4:2, “So the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim.”

Judg. 4:1, “When Ehud was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD.” ~NKJV

Judg. 4:1, “The sons of Israel again did evil in the eyes of *Yhwh* after Ehud died.” ~RD

Second: What do we know about Hazor?

-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (734 BC)
-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (733 BC)
-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (732 BC)
-  Shalmaneser V/Sargon II campaign (725 BC)
-  Sargon II campaign (712 BC)
-  Sennacherib campaign (701 BC)



Conclusion: Hazor was destroyed twice, once at the time of Joshua, and again later in the mid-13th century BC.

Confirmation in Later Verses

1 Sam. 12:9, “And when they forgot the LORD their God, He sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the army of Hazor, into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab; and they fought against them.”

Psa. 83:9, “Deal with them as with Midian, as with Sisera, as with Jabin at the Brook Kishon,”

Judg. 4:2, “So the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim.”

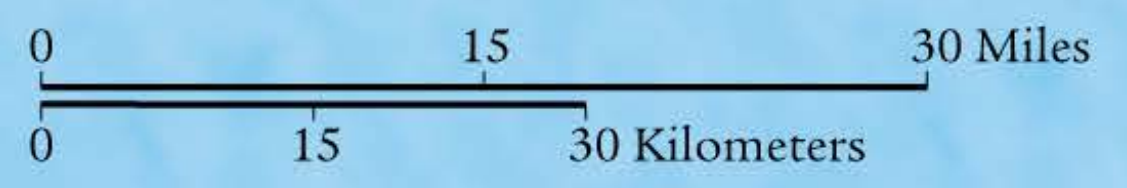
Sisera is a Canaanite name.

**He was probably a Hittite or Hurrian mercenary
like Shamgar.**

Judg. 4:2, “So the Lord sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim.

Judg. 4:3, “And the children of Israel cried out to the Lord; for Jabin had nine hundred chariots of iron, and for twenty years he had harshly oppressed the children of Israel.” ~NKJV

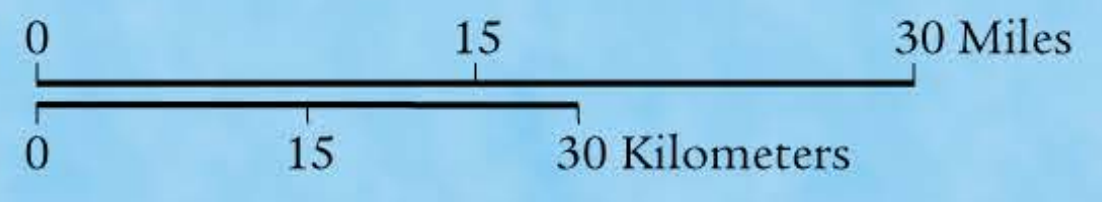
Territory shared by the tribes of Judah and Simeon



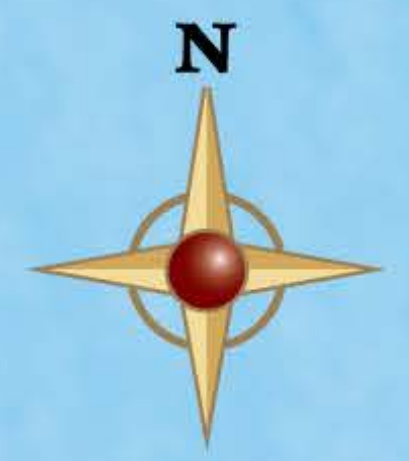
MEDITERRANEAN SEA



← Sargon II campaign (712 BC)
← Sennacherib campaign (701 BC)



MEDITERRANEAN SEA



Judg. 4:4, “Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, was judging Israel at that time.

Judg. 4:5, “And she would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim. And the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.”

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The term “judging” is *shopeta*, a governor, leader, or military commander, not a sitting adjudicator.

Prophet

Ex. 4:15, “Now you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you what you shall do.

Ex. 4:16, “So he shall be your spokesman to the people. And he himself shall be as a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God.”

Prophet

Ex. 7:1, “So the LORD said to Moses: ‘See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet.’”

Ex. 7:2, “ ‘You shall speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother shall tell Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land.’”

נָבִיא *navi'*

comm masc sing constr
prophet

Prophet

Ex. 15:20, “Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

Ex. 15:21, “And Miriam answered them: ‘Sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!’ ”

נְבִיאָה *nevi'ah*

comm fem sing abs

prophetess

1 Chron. 25:1, “Moreover David and the captains of the army separated for the service some of the sons of Asaph, of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, stringed instruments, and cymbals. And the number of the skilled men performing their service was:”

נָבֵא *nava'*

nif part masc

sing abs

to prophesy

1 Sam. 10:5, “After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying.”

נבא *nva'* hitp
part masc sing
abs
to prophesy

נְבִיא *navi'*
comm masc sing constr
prophet

1 Sam. 10:6, “Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man.”

1 Sam. 10:10, “When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

1 Sam. 10:11, “And it happened, when all who knew him formerly saw that he indeed prophesied among the prophets, that the people said to one another, ‘What is this that has come upon the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?’

1 Sam. 10:12, “Then a man from there answered and said, ‘But who is their father?’ Therefore it became a proverb: ‘Is Saul also among the prophets?’

1 Sam. 10:13, “And when he had finished prophesying, he went to the high place.”

1 Sam. 18:10, “And it happened on the next day that the distressing spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied inside the house. So David played music with his hand, as at other times; but there was a spear in Saul’s hand.”

1 Sam. 19:20, “Then Saul sent messengers to take David. And when they saw the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as leader over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.”

1 Sam. 19:23, “So he went there to Naioth in Ramah. Then the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on and prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah.

1 Sam. 19:24, “And he also stripped off his clothes and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, ‘Is Saul also among the prophets?’ ”

1 Chron. 25:2, “Of the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah, and Asharelah; the sons of Asaph were under the direction of Asaph, who prophesied according to the order of the king.”

נבא *nva'* nif

part masc sing

abs to

prophecy

Judg. 5:1, “Then Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam sang on that day, saying:

Judg. 5:2, “ ‘When leaders lead in Israel, when the people willingly offer themselves, bless the LORD!’”

Judg. 5:6, “In the days of Shamgar, son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were deserted, and the travelers walked along the byways.

Judg. 5:7, “Village life ceased, it ceased in Israel, until I, Deborah, arose, arose a mother in Israel.

Judg. 5:8, “They chose new gods; Then there was war in the gates; Not a shield or spear was seen among forty thousand in Israel.”

Judg. 4:4, “Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, was judging Israel at that time.”

“Lapidoth” “torches, flashes”

Judg. 4:5, “And she would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim. And the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.”

In the format of the narrative, the people cry out to God and then Deborah is introduced as the one who will give God’s judgment on the matter of the oppression of Jabin.

Judg. 4:5, “And she would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim. And the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.”

לְמִשְׁפַּט *lemishpat*

מִשְׁפָּט *mishpat*

comm masc sing abs

judgment

She sat under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in . . . Ephraim



Central Benjamin Plateau (aerial view from the south)

She sat under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in . . . Ephraim



Central Benjamin Plateau (aerial view from the south)

She sat under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in . . . Ephraim



Date palm trees near the Dead Sea

Judg. 4:5, “And she would sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the mountains of Ephraim. And the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.”

לְמִשְׁפַּט *lemishpat*

מִשְׁפַּט *mishpat*

comm masc sing abs

judgment

1 Sam. 2:12, “Now the sons of Eli were corrupt; they did not know the LORD.

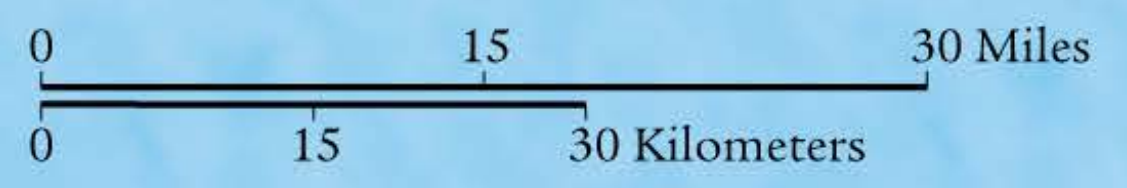
1 Sam. 2:13, “And the priests’ custom with the people was that when any man offered a sacrifice, the priest’s servant would come with a three-pronged fleshhook in his hand while the meat was boiling.”

Judg. 4:6, “Then she sent and called for Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, ‘Has not the LORD God of Israel commanded, “Go and deploy troops at Mount Tabor; take with you ten thousand men of the sons of Naphtali and of the sons of Zebulun;” ’ ”



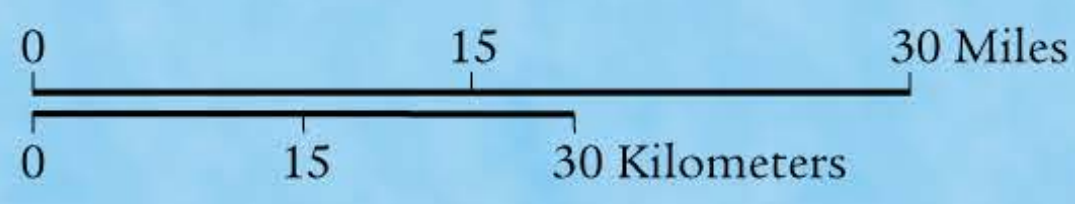


Territory shared by the tribes of Judah and Simeon



MEDITERRANEAN
SEA





MEDITERRANEAN SEA

