

Discovered:

- Israel did evil & was handed over to Philistines for 40 years.
- An angel appeared to Zorah's wife and told her if she avoided strong drink and unclean foods, she would give birth to a son who was to be a Nazirite from birth & would rescue Israel. They tried to thank the angel, but he told them to offer a burnt offering. He went up into heaven in the flame of the offering.
- Samson, a son is born. The Lord blessed him.
- On his way to marry a Philistine woman, he killed a lion by ripping it apart. A few days later when he passed by the carcass, there was a beehive & honey which he ate.
- At a feast, Samson challenged the men to a riddle in exchange for 30 linen garments & 30 changes of clothes to the winner. No one could figure it out so they coerced her to get the answer from him. In anger, because they had been devious, Samson went to Ashkelon, killed 30 men, paid his debt w/spoils & returned home. His wife given away.
- When Samson found out his wife was given to another, he caught 300 foxes, tied their tails to torches & burned grain & olive orchards. He fled to Judah where they handed him over to Philistines, but he broke his ropes and killed 1,000 Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey. Samson judged Israel 20 years.
- Samson loved Delilah & the Philistine lords agreed to pay her if she could find the source of his strength. 1st ask: he told her to use fresh bowstrings, but they were easily snapped. 2nd ask: use fresh ropes, but he broke free, 3rd ask: tie up his hair, that didn't work. 4th ask: she guilted him & he finally told the truth, cut/shave my hair. Samson was captured, blinded and put in bronze shackles.
- To celebrate his capture, they brought him to entertain 3,000 Philistines. He begged the Lord for strength & knocked down the building's pillars, killing himself & 3,000.
- Micah, from Ephraim, stole 1,100 pieces of silver from his mom & fearing the curse she put on the thief fessed up. She had 2 idols made from the money. A Levite man came to Micah's house & was invited to be his personal priest.
- Danites sought out land because they lacked faith to take their inheritance. On their way to take over Laish, they stole the idols & promoted Micah's priest, Jonathan over their tribe.
- A Levite fetched his concubine from her father's house after she ran away. While traveling back they stopped at Gilbeah, Benjaminite town instead of Jebus (foreign city). No one took them in until an old man from Ephraim took them in. Wayward men demanded to have the Levite but instead were given his concubine. They raped & murdered her leaving her on the doorstep. The levite took her body home, divided it into 12 parts & sent a part to each tribe.
- In response, all Israel except Benjamin assembled to seek justice. The Benjaminites refused to give up their brothers & 26,700 Benjaminites went to war against 400,000.
- 1st attack, Israel lost 22,000. 2nd attack, Israel lost 18,000 after fasting they were told by God to attack a 3rd time: all but 600 Benjaminites survived.
- Israel realized they had all but destroyed a tribe, so worked to find brides for them.

Help me to remember:

Without You we are quick to make poor decisions, to stray away from Your Law.

Lord, I ask that

I am surrounded & encouraged by others to walk in Your ways, serve and love You with my heart & soul

Heavenly Father, I am thankful for...
my King of Kings!