

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

JUDGES 2

Judges 2

Judges two is the continuation of Joshua twenty-four. Before entering the Book of Judges, it is worthy to note that the nation kept the oath sworn to Joseph, who was used by God to save the nation while in Egypt. God likes this and made sure Joseph's wishes were honored.

"The bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel had brought up out of Egypt, they buried at Shechem, in the plot of ground which Jacob had bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for one hundred pieces of silver, and which had become an inheritance of the children of Joseph." (Joshua 24:32)

The Book of Judges covers a period that lasts for over three hundred and fifty years. The book records the sinfulness of man and the gracious, compassionate heart of God. There is a vicious cycle that runs throughout the book. God gave His people victory and rest from their enemies. God blessed the people with prosperity and every sort of blessing, but while they would be at rest, they would become complacent and disobedient and would turn to serve other Gods. God would discipline the

people by allowing their enemies to come and take control of the land and to oppress the people and enslave them. They would then call upon God to have mercy and because of the affliction and hardship that God allowed to come upon them they would repent, and God would raise up a judge to deliver them and rescue them from their oppressors. God in mercy and grace would restore them to prosperity and blessing, only for them in their restored and restful condition to repeat the same cycle once again. This continued for three hundred and fifty years. The people would only stay faithful to God until the Judge/Leader died and then they would rebel again. Sometimes the period of rest and blessing would last only a short time, but during other centuries it would last for decades. The cycle simplified is: Rest, Rebellion, Retribution/Discipline, Repentance/Return to God, Raise up a Judge, Restore the People and then repeat this cycle three hundred and fifty years.

Prayer and Action Steps

Do you always walk with God on a consistent basis, or do you find yourself living in a vicious cycle as described above? God, fill me with your Word and Your Spirit, that I might consistently walk with you.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____

