

“Ehud believed himself to be accomplishing the Divine mandate, and so his words were true in a certain sense. But it was also a stratagem to cause the king to rise, that the thrust might be sure. The king rose at once, in true Oriental respect for a Divine message...”

Barnes—Barnes Notes: Exodus to Esther; pg. 422.

‘his entrails came out’—literally, his intestines (14)_____.

‘attending to his needs/embarrassed’—Eglon’s servants delayed finding out about the assassination, allowing Ehud to escape, because they thought he was taking his time using the bathroom.

Detail #4: Details of a Determined Nation v. 27-30

Judges 3:27-30—“27 And it happened, when he arrived, that he blew the trumpet in the mountains of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mountains; and he led them.” Then he said to them, “Follow me, for the LORD has delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand.” So they went down after him, seized the fords of the Jordan leading to Moab, and did not allow anyone to cross over. 29 And at that time they killed about ten thousand men of Moab, all stout men of valor; not a man escaped. 30 So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest for eighty years.”

BATTLE STRATEGY: They (15)_____ the Moabites inside of Israel.

The ‘weak’ Israelites, with the right (16)_____, killed 10,000 distinguished warriors of Moab.

Spiritual Leadership + Spiritual Obedience = Spiritual (17)_____.

Additional Notes: _____



Today’s message will be available online at www.ffc.org, both to view as an archived message and to download from a podcast. To purchase today’s message on CD for \$5 or on DVD for \$10, please stop by the First Family Inspiration Book and Gift Store located in the Grand Foyer.

Answers: 1-incense 2-Esau 3-faith 4-fighting 5-Jericho 6-18 7-delivery 8-monthly 9-12-18 10-security 11-pacify 12-restroom 13-blessing 14-spilled out 15-trapped 16-leader 17-Rest

First Family Church 7700 W. 143rd St, Overland Park, KS 66223 913-681-3341 www.ffc.org



JUDGES: The Problem Land
“When Faith Meets Obedience”
Pastor Christian Newsome’s Sermon
Wednesday, September 23, 2009
Message #3 in the series

Bible Text: Judges 3:12-31

“Enjoying Ehud”

4 Details that Develop the Narrative

Detail #1: Details of the Demise v. 12-14

Judges 3:12-14—“And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD strengthened Eglon king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD. 13 Then he gathered to himself the people of Ammon and Amalek, went and defeated Israel, and took possession of the City of Palms. 14 So the children of Israel served Eglon king of Moab eighteen years.”

PAST FAILURES HAUNT ISRAEL:

‘Moab/Ammon’—These countries were the descendents of Lot’s (1)_____ relationships with his daughters.

Gen. 19:30-37—“Then Lot went up out of Zoar and dwelt in the mountains, and his two daughters were with him; for he was afraid to dwell in Zoar. And he and his two daughters dwelt in a cave. 31 Now the firstborn said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is no man on the earth to come in to us as is the custom of all the earth. 32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve the lineage of our father.” 33 So they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. 34 It happened on the next day that the firstborn said to the younger, “Indeed I lay with my father last night; let us make him drink wine tonight also, and you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve the lineage of our father.” 35 Then they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose and lay with him, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. 36 Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father. 37 The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day. 38 And the younger, she also bore a son and called his name Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the people of Ammon to this

Watch First Family TV, Monday – Saturday nights on KPXE TV – 50, 10:30 – 11:00p.m. / Sundays @ 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. KMCI TV – 38.

day.”

‘Amalek’—The grandson of (2) _____, Abraham’s grandson. cf. **Gen. 36: 12; 16**)

The Amalekites were the tribe that Israel refused to defeat by (3) _____, and failed to defeat by (4) _____.

Numbers 14:39-45—“Then Moses told these words to all the children of Israel, and the people mourned greatly. 40 And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, “Here we are, and we will go up to the place which the LORD has promised, for we have sinned!”

41 And Moses said, “Now why do you transgress the command of the LORD? For this will not succeed. 42 Do not go up, lest you be defeated by your enemies, for the LORD is not among you. 43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have turned away from the LORD, the LORD will not be with you.”

44 But they presumed to go up to the mountaintop. Nevertheless, neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses departed from the camp. 45 Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who dwell in that mountain came down and attacked them, and drove them back as far as Hormah.”

‘City of Palms’—This was the city of (5) _____, once the prized ‘war’ possession of the nation Israel.

Notice the Downward Spiral: Israel went from being in bondage 8 years to being in bondage (6) _____ years.

Detail #2: Details of the Deliverer v. 15a

Judges 3:15a—“15 But when the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for them: Ehud the son of Gera, the Benjaminite, a left-handed man.”

“When the people of Israel finally began to cry to the Lord, he raised up Ehud, a member of the Gera clan of the tribe of Benjamin. He was left-handed, as were many of the soldiers of his tribe (Jdgs. 20:16). He supervised the delivery of the tribute to Moab, which probably included oil, wine, animal skins, and wool.”

--LBBC: Vol. 4, pg. 99

Ehud was a (7) _____ boy whose dominant hand and faith in God set him apart.

I Corinthians 1:26-29—“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. 27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; 28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, 29 that no flesh should glory in His presence.”

Detail #3: Details of the Delivery v. 15b-26

Judges 3:15b-27—“ By him the children of Israel sent tribute to Eglon king of Moab. 16 Now Ehud made himself a dagger (it was double-edged and a cubit in length) and fastened it under his clothes on his right thigh. 17 So he brought the tribute to Eglon king of Moab. (Now Eglon was a very fat man.) 18 And when he had finished presenting the tribute, he sent away the people who had carried the tribute. 19 But he himself turned back from the stone images that were at Gilgal, and said, “I have a secret message for you, O king.”

He said, “Keep silence!” And all who attended him went out from him.

20 So Ehud came to him (now he was sitting upstairs in his cool private chamber). Then Ehud said, “I have a message from God for you.” So he arose from his seat. 21 Then Ehud reached with his left hand, took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly. 22 Even the hilt went in after the blade, and the fat closed over the blade, for he did not draw the dagger out of his belly; and his entrails came out. 23 Then Ehud went out through the porch and shut the doors of the upper room behind him and locked them. 24 When he had gone out, Eglon’s servants came to look, and to their surprise, the doors of the upper room were locked. So they said, “He is probably attending to his needs in the cool chamber.” 25 So they waited till they were embarrassed, and still he had not opened the doors of the upper room. Therefore they took the key and opened them. And there was their master, fallen dead on the floor.

26 But Ehud had escaped while they delayed, and passed beyond the stone images and escaped to Seirah.”

‘tribute’—The (8) _____ payment of the Israelites to Eglon to stay alive and live in the land.

‘dagger’—A small sword/knife between (9) _____ inches long.

‘right-thigh/left-hand’—This ‘unique’ feature allowed Ehud to sneak his weapon past (10) _____.

‘very fat man’—“The principal target of the irony is the tyrant king, Eglon, whose physique would presumably have done credit to a sumo wrestler.”

Ogilvie—TCC: Vol. 7, pg. 71-72.

‘secret’—Oftentimes a gift above and beyond the tribute meant to (11) _____ the king or gain favors for the servant.

‘cool private chambers’—Usually a room on the roof of the palace in a shaded area where one took afternoon naps or where one used the (12) _____—the context distinguishing between the two—sometimes both were together.

‘a message from God’—A phrase reserved for a divine (13) _____ given to a king.