

The children of Israel were faithful to God all the days that Joshua lived and as long as Joshua's friends lived, but as soon as they all died, they did something that God punished them for. They worshiped other gods and idols. Something they should have NEVER done because they knew that God was the Only Living True God. There were people living around them who worshiped these false gods. So, they decided to **ABANDON** God and instead worship the false gods like their neighbors. They married people who didn't

love God. They forgot all about Him! They did not keep His commandments, and they did not serve Him! God was extremely angry! He had brought the people out of Egypt and out of slavery, He had given them a beautiful land that flowed with milk and honey,

and the people forgot Him! Bad things began to happen. Their neighbors came and robbed them and took their belongings. Some of the people were sold as slaves. They ended up in **BONDAGE**. Life was so bad! Then, the people remembered God and **CRIED OUT** to

Him and were sorry. God listened. He would raise up a judge to **DELIVER** or rescue them from their enemies. God raised up judges to be rulers and military conquerors for Israel. They were known for their leadership and fighting skills and God was with them and used them to save Israel, and to point the Israelites back to Him. Totally different from what we think of as judges today! He would raise up a judge and for a time there would be peace. Then their disobedience would set in, and the cycle would begin again. They would **ABANDON** God, end up in **BONDAGE**, **CRY OUT**, and God would **DELIVER** or rescue them. God's deliverance through the judges is a powerful demonstration of His love and mercy towards His people. CRY OUT to Him today, He is listening to our prayers!

Have a Blessed Week!



Bible Verse: "Worship the Lord your God And serve HIM only." Luke 4:8



We Prayed: Dear God,

Thank you for the book of Judges that shows us how we still need to be faithful, even if everyone else around us is not. Thank you God for Your love, thank you for Your Son Jesus, thank you for caring for us and providing such a beautiful world for us to live in, and thank you for giving us Your Word - the Bible so we can know how to live and learn what pleases You. We love You!

In Jesus' name, amen.

