

JUDGES

AT-A-GLANCE



O.T. BOOK #7



AUTHOR: PROPHET SAMUEL
(most likely)



WRITTEN: AROUND 1050 BC

Covering the time period of 1350 - 1050 BC

7

Old Testament: 39 Books

New Testament: 27 Books

CLAIMS TO FAME: Contains stories of a famous female judge and a female assassin.

FAMOUS STORIES INCLUDED:

- Judge Deborah and Barak defeat their enemies at Canaan. (Judges 4)
- Gideon defeats the Midianites with only 300 men. (Judges 6)
- Delilah deceives Samson and steals his strength. (Judges 16)

MOST FAMOUS VERSES:

So he told her everything. "No razor has ever been used on my head," he said, "because I have been a Nazirite dedicated to God from my mother's womb. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as any other man."
Judges 16:17

Important Points about the Book:

- There was a time when God wanted to be head of Israel and for the people to trust in him instead of in a king. The Book of Judges covers that time period.
- During those 300 years, Israel was served by a series of 15 judges. Some were very good, like Deborah and Samuel. Some were very evil like Abimelech who had 70 of his half-brothers killed in a conspiracy to become king.
- The judges often made poor, unethical choices because they didn't seek God for their decisions but did things on their own. However, they had God as their king, which kept them out of deep trouble.