

Lesson 6 Answers for OTS101

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Major Themes: I started this paper this week and I am very glad I did! I will be out of town Aug. 10-14 and away from a computer. I proofed this lesson better and pages and paragraphs etc. should line up.

Logos Educator's Network Video #6:

The Bible books of history are Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings, 1-2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther. God's purpose for the nation of Israel was to advance His redemptive purpose and plan upon the earth. Jesus Christ would come from Israel. God wants the church to fulfill the Great Commission, preaching the gospel to the lost. The periods of history for the nation of Israel given by Pastor Huffman are Primeval, Patriarchal, Theocratic, Monarchial. We don't know who actually wrote some of these books unless they were written from a first-person perspective like Nehemiah.

Joshua became the leader after Moses. Joshua had been Moses' armor bearer and probably led in many ways similar to Moses. The book of Joshua could be called "The Book of Conquest". God told Joshua to "Be strong and of good courage". The miracle that confirmed the leadership of Joshua was the receding of the waters of the Jordan River. God commanded the complete destruction of the nations in the Promised Land because the Canaanite culture was completely corrupt and wicked such as using human sacrifice to heathen gods. God gives humankind opportunity and time to repent and then often brings a nation against them to bring judgment. Rahab makes a confession of faith in God. Her character is different than others in the city and she was someone God could redeem. The scarlet cord symbolized the saving protecting power of the blood of Jesus. Rahab married Salmon and they had Boaz and therefore she was in the lineage of Jesus Christ. Rahab's great-great-great grandson was King David.

Joshua conquered the Promised Land in 3 campaigns: central, north and south. The Captain of the Lord's Host met with Joshua before the Israelites captured Jericho. This was a possible theophany. Our strength is in God, not ourselves.

The second part of Joshua is about dividing the Promised Land among the 12 tribes by lot determined by their size. The Levites did not receive an allotment of land, but rather cities to dwell in. A foundational problem for the nation of Israel is that the tribes did not drive out all the pagans from the lands they inherited and it corrupted them. Judges 21:25b says, "every man did that which was right in his own eyes". Pastor Huffman characterizes the book of Judges as dark, depressing and negative. There was compromise and failure. The "law of divine retribution" is outlined in Dt.: There are blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience. God brought judgment on Israel by bringing judgment on the land around them such as drought. Land was connected to the covenant. The cycle illustrated in Judges was as follows: the people served God, they later turned to idolatry and sin, a nation was sent in judgment who took them as slaves, they repented to God, God raised up a judge to deliver them and they returned to serving God for a season. The problem was perpetuated because the people returned to sin and idolatry

eventually. This cycle revealed the “heart” of Israel which was given to moral relativism seen in the culture of the pagans around them rather than to God’s morality.

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The theme of the book of Ruth is grace. Esther is also a book named for a woman. Ruth reveals God’s purpose which is to deliver His people. Ruth made the choice to make a profession of faith in God and follow Naomi to the Promised Land. Boaz was a relative of Naomi and a kinsman redeemer. He redeems Naomi and her family back into the fold. Jesus is our kinsman redeemer by the power of His blood. He redeems all of mankind back into His family if we will accept Him.

The last judge of Israel was Samuel. Some of the important things that Samuel did was found a school of prophets and he traveled around the land in his office as Judge. Samuel ushered in the era of the Monarchy. Saul fails as king as his heart is not towards God. He is more of a people pleaser. Samuel anoints King Saul and King David. The kings of Israel broke the Law in Deuteronomy 17 by amassing horses for an army, marrying many wives that led them to idolatry and amassing fortunes. Pastor Huffman characterizes this period of judges as spiritual apostasy or turning from God.

The Book of Joshua

Note: This podcast was N/A on itunes or anywhere online. None of the Charles Swindoll links work correctly. This class needs to be updated by whoever designed it. I answered the questions the best I could using the bible, textbook and internet:

Joshua is about the Israelites conquering, dividing and settling the Promised Land. In the Old Testament, material inheritance was given through bloodline. Jewish inheritance laws are given in Numbers 27:11. Most often the bible speaks of inheritance that is theological. Inheritances mentioned in the Old Testament include the land of Canaan for Abraham and His descendants, Israel is mentioned as God’s inheritance and God is called the inheritance of the nation. (*biblestudytools.com*) The last two chapters of Joshua cover Joshua’s final address to Israel and the death of Joshua. The final address of chapter 24 was important. Joshua reminded Israel of all God had done for them throughout their history and encouraged them to commit themselves fully to God. He made a covenant with them, confirming prior covenants. The last chapter is important because it speaks of 2 deaths and burials; Joshua and Eleazar and Joseph’s bones are buried also.

Encountering the Old Testament gives 3 themes of Joshua: Joshua commissioned as Moses successor, Canaan: its conquest and division and the faithfulness of God to his promise to give Israel the Promised Land. God used Israel as an instrument of judgment toward the Canaanites in conquering the Promised Land. The iniquity of its inhabitants was full. This is a judgment pattern often seen in the bible. Keeping their inheritance in the land was conditional for Israel and expressed by Joshua in chapter 23:15 and 24:19-20. If the people were disobedient and turned from God to serve strange gods, God would bring evil upon them. The Israelites had to physically fight battles to possess the land. They also had to destroy the people and their cities that they fought against. They needed to continue to trust and obey God through

it all. Joshua fulfilled the mandate to go in and possess the Promised Land. It was essential the Israelites continued to follow the Torah as they never destroyed all inhabitants of their inherited land and therefore were around pagan customs. We know that by the time of Judges, they backslid because of this problem.

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According to *insight.org* Joshua was written as a historical account to the Israelites who settled in Canaan. It serves as the connecting narrative between the times of Moses and the times of the Judges.

Exodus 15:3 is clear that God is a warrior, “The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is his name”. God wars against evil. Jesus came to destroy the (evil) works of the devil. If we are not warring (today through our prayers) against the devil, we are not doing our job as Christians! The Canaanites were clearly reprobates if God told Israel to destroy them. A Christophany is a pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus Christ. God fought for Israel in 2 ways. God gave battle instructions and the obedience of Israel in following them would ensure their success. In the natural, God moved during the actual war and even if supernatural means were necessary, God made sure Israel won! Israel was taught about the Torah verbally. There were some written copies but oral teaching was most important.

Joshua Overview Chart:

In chapters 1-5, the Israelites invaded Canaan. Joshua was commissioned and the people were prepared. In chapters 6-12, the enemy was conquered and the land subjected. In chapters 13-22, the spoils were divided and the land was distributed among the tribes. This is the largest section of Joshua. Chapters 23-24 is the conclusion and warning for the victors. According to Charles Swindoll, the key theme of Joshua is that obedient faith brings abundant blessing. Christ is typified in Joshua in Joshua himself whose names means “Yahweh is salvation” and seen in the symbolism of Rahab’s red cord which saved her family from being destroyed with Jericho.

Judges for You:

The book of Judges is about God offering His grace to the undeserving people who do not seek or appreciate it. It is also about our need for a Savior. The people of Israel were not able to overcome their tendency for pride, rebellion and selfishness. The last verse in Judges is, “In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did that which was right in his own eyes”. Western society is similar to the time of Judges because we live in a (spiritually) pluralistic society and it causes “Christians” to compromise their principles. We have idols of individualism, consumerism and self and we need to be constantly on our guard not to fall into worldliness.

The Book of Judges:

The purpose of the book of Judges is to show that God will judge sin, but if we repent, God will forgive and restore our relationship to Him. Bruce Kaiser breaks out the contents of the book as follows: The military failure of Israel (chapters 1-3), The rescue of Israel by the Judges (chapters 3-16) and The moral failure of Israel (chapters 17-21). We should seek to live in consistent obedience to God and His ways. Samson is in chapter 13-16. Kaiser actually

states that Samson's strength came from God at minute 2:58 before he talks about the strength coming from his hair. God's working upon earth are done through the Holy Spirit. Kaiser's cycle of disobedience and deliverance is as follows: the spiritual compromise and decline of Israel led to decay or moral downfall of the people. God then sent evil oppressors to punish the Israelites which caused them to be defeated and eventually repent before God. God raised up godly men that He put His Holy Spirit in to the deliver them until the compromise affected

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them again and the cycle repeated. Pastor Huffman's cycle is basically the same but he used different wording.

Judges Overview Chart:

Judges can be divided into Causes of Failure (1-2), Course of Failure (3-16) and Curses of Failure (17-21). The cycle in Judges is described as follows: disobedience to bondage to misery to liberation and rest to compromises. Gideon was the judge during the time of struggle against the Midianites. Samson was the judge during the time of struggle against the Philistines. The key theme is compromise brings failure.

A Loyal Love

Our refuge is the loyal love of God. We find in the words of Ruth words of human loyalty and kindness toward Naomi and also faith and commitment to living under the Lordship of God. God will be loyal and guide us through even the worst of circumstances and make our lives purposeful and blessed for His kingdom.

Ruth: Under the Wings of God:

Naomi and her family left Judah due to the famine and moved to Moab. Naomi's husband and sons died and they left behind pagan wives. She forgot that God was plotting for her glory. Blessings that came forth were the end of the Judean famine, Ruth staying with her and God keeping Boaz for Ruth to marry. Boaz heard that Ruth had left her country and family to take care of Naomi. We sense behind the story a merciful providence. Boaz is a wealthy man of God and a relative of Naomi's dead husband. Ruth takes the initiative to work for both herself and Naomi to support them. She is humble in her approach to find work and industrious when she finds it. "Merciful providence" can be seen in Proverbs 16:9, "A man's mind plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps". In 2:10, Ruth asks Boaz, "Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that though shouldst take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?". We should humbly ask this same question of God. God is showing mercy to Ruth. The picture of God and Ruth the writer of Psalm 57 shows us, is that because Ruth sought refuge in God from the beginning, God provided protection and blessing for Ruth and Naomi. God's honor caused Him to be merciful. All of God's heart is engaged when we plead God's value as the source of our hope instead of pleading our value. Ruth probably left home to go with Naomi because she sensed the refuge of God in Naomi and she heard God's call to go with her. God is looking for people who will humble themselves and take refuge under His wings.

Ruth Overview Chart:

The four main sections of the book of Ruth are chapter 1 - Ruth's choice, chapter 2 - Ruth's service, chapter 3 - Ruth's claim and chapter 4 - Ruth's marriage. Naomi and Ruth had mutual grief in chapter 1. Naomi, Ruth and Boaz had mutual pursuit in chapters 2 and 3. Boaz and Ruth had mutual love in chapter 4 in marriage. By the end of the book, all three characters are rejoicing at their gain! The major theme of the book is God's redemption and provision during hard times for those who trust Him. Christ is portrayed in the book of Ruth as the kinsman-redeemer.

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David Firth Introduces the Books of Samuel:

The books of Samuel tell us how Israel first comes to have a king; Saul followed by David. The book of Judges (where there was no king) leads into the book of Samuel. The author starts with the story of Hannah giving birth to Samuel. In Hannah's song is found most of the main themes of 1 and 2 Samuel. She sings about a king who does not yet exist. Eli hears from Samuel that his house is being brought down. God will bring down the strong (i.e. Eli's house) and raise up the weak. A priest will not be the king. Samuel will become Israel's prophet. Yahweh twice defeats the Philistines on His own by sending plagues and tumors of mice and by making cows pull the cart to Beth-Shemesh. They get scared and send the Ark back. The Philistines are later defeated by God again when he thunders against them. The elders want a King like the neighboring nations have who will lead them in their battles (a king who would have ultimate authority over the people instead of God).

1 Samuel Overview Chart:

The two major sections in 1 Samuel are Samuel the last judge in chapters 1-12 and Saul the first king in chapters 13-31. 1 Samuel begins with Samuel's godliness, purity and national hope and trust and ends in public disillusionment and Saul's apostasy and suicide. Samuel was God's chosen prophet and judge. Saul was impatient, rash, disobedient and murderous. Saul rebelled against God and was eventually rejected. David is chosen, trained, tested and protected. The major theme of the 1 Samuel is, "Though leaders and nations change, God's purposes always move forward". Christ is typified in both Samuel (prophet, priest, judge) and David (shepherd, king and born in Bethlehem).

2 Samuel Overview Chart:

The three major parts of 2 Samuel are David's Triumphs, David's Troubles and the Appendix. David had trouble with himself, his family and his nation. The theme is: blessings or consequences follow every action. Jesus is foreshadowed in David's kingship and the Messiah; the Son of David will come through David's line and sit on David's throne forever.