

GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sermon by Ray Reynolds

YOU BE THE JUDGE: A SERIES ON THE BOOK OF JUDGES

Lesson Two = War, Peace, & Compromise

Judges 2:11-3:6

Introduction: Our last lesson on the book of Judges reflected an attitude of empathy toward God's enemies and revealed the downward spiral of the children of God. The people of God were on the edge of great blessings but they sold and forfeited God's favor. Now God has warned them again to do battle with His enemies. God calls for war! But the people of God look for peace and compromise instead.

Discussion:

I. God Forsakes His People (2:11-13)

- A. Sinfulness of God's people
- B. Substitutes for gods
- C. Sacrifices to idols
- D. Suffering of God's people

II. God Disciplines His People (2:14-15)

- A. God's anger toward His people
- B. God's action against His people
- C. God's agreement with His people
- D. God's anticipation for His people

III. God Hears His People (2:16-19)

- A. Response from God
- B. Rescue from suffering
- C. Recognition of sin
- D. Refusal to change

IV. God Tests His People (2:20-23)

- A. God's grace is rejected
- B. God's enemies are rescued
- C. God's people are rebuked
- D. God's people could have been restored

V. God Abandons His People (3:1-6)

- A. God's people compromise with His enemies
- B. God's people live with His enemies
- C. God's people intermarry with His enemies
- D. God's people worship with His enemies

Conclusion: As we conclude, it is clear by Judges 3:1-6 that God's people have completely forsaken Him. The Israelites refused to go to war and sought peace with God's enemies. They chose to marry and worship with these evil nations. People who have not learned to trust God will not worship Him or obey Him. We cannot forget to teach the next generation of Christians about the need to follow God's commands. What happens next? We will see