

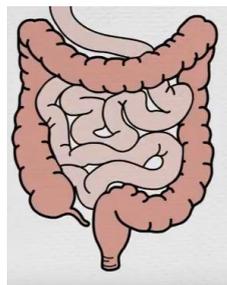
Judges 3:7-31

v7	Israelites	(p.n.)	people of the nation of Israel
v7	Baals	(p.n.)	Baal was worshipped as the supreme god in ancient Canaan. He was worshipped as a fertility god.
v7	Asherahs	(p.n.)	Ashtoreth/Asherah was worshipped as the chief female god in ancient Canaan, Phoenicia and Syria. Ashtoreth was worshipped as a god of war and love.
v8	Aram	(p.n.)	a nation north-west of Israel. (see map)
v8	subject	(adj)	under the power of someone
v9	deliverer	(n.)	someone who saves you from danger
v10	judge	(n.)	a military leader
v10	overpowered	(v.)	defeated and brought under control
v12	Moab	(p.n.)	a nation south-west of Israel
v15	Benjamite	(p.n.)	someone from the tribe of Benjamin

v16 sword (n.)



v16	cubit	(unit)	a unit of length, equal to approx. 45cm
v16	strapped	(v.)	fastened in place with a narrow piece of leather, cloth or other material
v17	tribute	(n.)	a payment from a lesser ruler to a higher ruler, as acknowledgement of their higher position
v22	handle	(n.)	the part of the sword that you hold on to
v22	blade	(n.)	the part of the sword that cuts
v22	bowels	(n.)	intestines



v22	discharged	(v.)	poured out its contents
v23	porch	(n.)	a sheltered area at the entrance of a building
v24	'relieving himself'		going to the toilet
v28	fords	(n.)	a shallow place in a river or stream where it is possible to cross safely without a boat
v28	the Jordan	(p.n.)	a large river in Israel. (see map)

v29	Moabites	(p.n.)	people from Moab
v29	vigorous	(adj.)	healthy, strong and full of energy

Judges 3:7-31 (New International Reader's Version)

⁷ The Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. They forgot the LORD their God. They served gods that were named Baal. They also served female gods that were named Asherah. ⁸ So the LORD was very angry with Israel. He handed them over to the power of Cushan-Rishathaim, the king of Aram Naharaim. For eight years Israel was under his rule. ⁹ They cried out to the LORD. Then he provided someone to save them. The man's name was Othniel, the son of Kenaz. He was Caleb's younger brother. ¹⁰ The Spirit of the LORD came on Othniel. So he became Israel's leader. He went to war. The LORD handed over to him Cushan-Rishathaim, the king of Aram. Othniel won the battle over him. ¹¹ So the land was at peace for 40 years. Then Othniel, the son of Kenaz, died.

¹² Again the Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD gave Eglon power over Israel. Eglon was the king of Moab. ¹³ He got the Ammonites and Amalekites to join him. All of them came and attacked Israel. They captured Jericho. Jericho was also known as The City of Palm Trees. ¹⁴ For 18 years the Israelites were under the rule of Eglon, the king of Moab.

¹⁵ Again the Israelites cried out to the LORD. Then he provided someone to save them. The man's name was Ehud, the son of Gera. Ehud was left-handed. He was from the tribe of Benjamin. The Israelites sent Ehud to Eglon, the king of Moab. They sent him to give the king what he required them to bring him. ¹⁶ Ehud had made a sword that had two edges. It was about a foot and a half long. He tied it to his right leg under his clothes. ¹⁷ Eglon, the king of Moab, was a very fat man. Ehud gave him the gift he had brought. ¹⁸ After that, Ehud sent away those who had carried it. ¹⁹ When he came to the place where some statues of gods stood near Gilgal, Ehud went back to Eglon. He said, "Your Majesty, I have a secret message for you."

The king said to his attendants, "Leave us!" And all his attendants left him.

²⁰ Then Ehud approached him. King Eglon was sitting alone in the upstairs room of his palace. Ehud said, "I have a message from God for you." So the king got up from his seat. ²¹ Then Ehud reached out his left hand. He pulled out the sword tied to his right leg. He stuck it into the king's stomach. ²² Even the handle sank in after the blade. Eglon sagged and fell to the floor. Ehud didn't pull out the sword. And the fat closed over it. ²³ Ehud went out to the porch. He shut the doors of the upstairs room behind him. Then he locked them.

²⁴ After he had gone, the servants came. They found the doors of the upstairs room locked. They said, "Eglon must be going to the toilet in the inside room of the palace." ²⁵ They waited for a long time. They waited so long they became worried. But the king still didn't open the doors of the room. So they took a key and unlocked them. There they saw their king. He had fallen to the floor and was dead.

²⁶ While Eglon's servants had been waiting, Ehud had gotten away. He passed by the statues of gods and escaped to Seirah. ²⁷ There in the hill country of Ephraim he blew a trumpet. Then he led the Israelites down from the hills.

²⁸ "Follow me," Ehud ordered. "The LORD has handed your enemy Moab over to you." So they followed him down. They took over the only places where people could go across the Jordan River to get to Moab. They didn't let anyone go across. ²⁹ At that time they struck down about 10,000 men of Moab. All those men were strong and powerful. But not even one escaped. ³⁰ That day Moab was brought under the rule of Israel. So the land was at peace for 80 years.

³¹ After Ehud, Shamgar became the next leader. He was the son of Anath. Shamgar struck down 600 Philistines with a large, pointed stick used to drive oxen. He too saved Israel.



2 Corinthians 4:1-6

v1	mercy	(n.)	kindness to punish someone who deserves it
v1	ministry	(n.)	service of God
v2	renounced	(v.)	declared publicly that you will no longer behave a certain way
v2	deception	(n.)	the act of deliberately causing someone to believe something false
v2	distort	(v.)	represent a fact or idea in an untrue way
v2	conscience	(n.)	inner sense of right and wrong
v3	veiled	(adj.)	disguised; covered with a thin soft cloth (a veil)
v3	perishing	(adj.)	dying (that is, those who have not trusted in Jesus)
v4	gospel	(n.)	the good news that people can be in right relationship with God through trusting in Jesus
v4	glory	(n.)	fame, admiration

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 (New International Reader's Version)

¹ So because of God's mercy, we have work to do. He has given it to us. And we don't give up. ² Instead, we have given up doing secret and shameful things. We don't twist God's word. In fact, we do just the opposite. We present the truth plainly. In the sight of God, we make our appeal to everyone's sense of what is right and wrong. ³ Suppose our good news is covered with a veil. Then it is veiled to those who are dying. ⁴ The god of this world has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They can't see the light of the good news that makes Christ's glory clear. Christ is the likeness of God. ⁵ The message we preach is not about ourselves. Our message is about Jesus Christ. We say that he is Lord. And we say that we serve you because of Jesus. ⁶ God said, "Let light shine out of darkness." He made his light shine in our hearts. His light gives us the light to know God's glory. His glory is shown in the face of Christ.