

# Sermon Outline

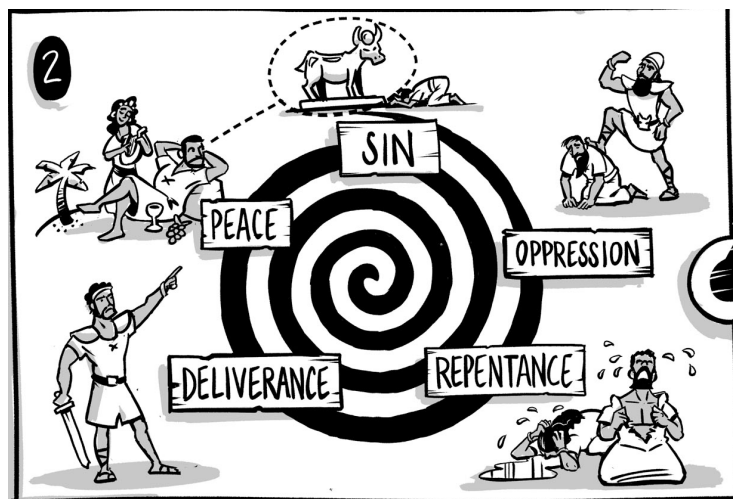
“NOT-SO-GOOD JUDGES IN ISRAEL ...” | Geoff Lin

Bible Reading: Judges 6:1-6; 6:7-16; 6:17-40; 8:22-27 (p.346ff)

Deep Dive (730pm, Thu 3 April), "The Trustworthy Word" with Dr Luke Wisley (BCSA)

Judges: who will lead us?		
9/3	"The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD ..."	Judges 1-3
16/3	Unexpected judges in Israel: Deborah/Barak	Judges 3-5
23/3	Not-so-good judges in Israel: Gideon	Judges 6-12
30/3	Frankly-pretty-bad judges in Israel: Samson	Judges 13-16
6/4	"In those days Israel had no king ..."	Judges 17-21
13/4	When Ruth met Boaz ...	Ruth

## 1. The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD (6:1-6)



(Source: The Bible Project)

## 2. God calls Gideon (6:7-16)

- "the angel of the LORD" (v11) vs "the LORD" [= Yahweh] (v12) vs "my lord" (v12)

- "the LORD is with you, mighty warrior" (v12)

## 3. Gideon accepts God's call ... (6:17-40)

(cf Moses' commissioning at the not-burning bush?)

i. Gideon asks God for a sign (vv17-24)

ii. Gideon does obey God's command (vv25-32)

iii. Gideon asks for another sign (twice!) (vv33-40)

Judges 7-8: Gideon defeats the Midianites

- from 32000 to 300 (vs 135,000!)

- Jdg 8:28 Thus Midian was subdued before the Israelites and did not raise its head again. During Gideon's lifetime, the land had peace forty years.

## 4. Gideon's decline and fall (8:22-27)

- the golden ephod (cf the golden calf?)

## 5. Reading Judges today

i. How to read the Old Testament (mistakes to avoid vs examples to follow)

Heb 4:11 Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.

ii. Beware of always wanting God to give you a "sign"

Mt 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

Mt 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**Homework:** please read Judges 13-16 (Samson)