

ANCIENT HEROES

August 5, 2018

Pastor Neil Redenbaugh

Judges 3.7-31 God vs. People Who Forget

Here are four questions to help you lean in to the scripture today:

1. *What connections are there between the book of Judges and our culture?*

2. *What do the stories of Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar reveal about God's way of working to save the world?*

3. *Because of what I've heard today, I want to find out the answer to this question (write down one question you have from the text or sermon):*

4. Because of what I've heard today, I would like to...(write down what you sense God invites you to do):

Digging Deeper

Do you wonder why there's so much God-endorsed killing and nasty stuff in the book of Judges? This is a very significant question and it makes sense to wrestle with this (although, it is interesting to observe that the only answer given by the biblical writers is that the killing is punishment for people's wickedness – e.g. Leviticus 18.24-26; Deuteronomy 9.4-5. To the biblical writers, it seems, this is a sufficient answer).

Here are two blog posts and one book to help you as you think through this question:

1. <https://www.ligonier.org/blog/why-did-god-command-children-israel-kill-every-man-woman-and-child-promised-land/>
2. <https://musingsonscience.wordpress.com/2015/04/16/more-from-iain-provan-on-dangerous-religion/>
3. *Can God Be Trusted*, John Stackhouse

This week's passages:

Monday – Judges 1

Tuesday – Judges 2

Wednesday – Judges 3

Thursday – Judges 4

Friday – Judges 5

Weekend – Review the most meaningful passages of the week.

Each day this week you are invited to read the day's passage and then respond to the following questions. Take special note of what God is saying to you. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. Read the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. Record or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you.
3. Reflect and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. Respond by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word (*"Be doers of the word and not hearers only"* James 1:22).