# **OT3 Joshua**

Dr. Marvin J. Effa

**Author**: Joshua

**Date of writing: 1406 B.C. – 1370 B.C.**



**Purpose**: To record the conquest of Israel and the division of the land.

**Idea**: Israel’s military success depends upon God’s favor.

**Development:**

1. Preparation for invasion, Joshua 1-5.
2. The battle plans for the land:
	1. Central Canaan, Joshua 6-8.
	2. Southern Canaan, Joshua 9-10.
	3. Northern Canaan, Joshua 11.
3. Division of the land, Joshua 13-24.

**Key Passage Exegesis:**

* Eastern tribes must also fight, Joshua 1:12-18.
* Rahab’s lie rewarded, Joshua 2:3-7.
* A miraculous Jordan River crossing for the new generation, Joshua 3.
* The real captain is always Jesus, Joshua 5:13-15.
* The battle is ultimately a spiritual one, Joshua 6.
* After a victory, beware of defeat, Joshua 7.
* Always check with the Lord: Gibeonites, Joshua 9.
* God can change the course of history, Joshua 10:12-14.

# **OT3 Judges**

**Author**: Unknown

**Date of writing**: The date or writing is unknown, but the period of time covered is from 1380 to 1050 B.C.

**Purpose**: Under Joshua the land was conquered, but strongholds remained throughout the region; each tribe was responsible for destroying peoples God had placed “under the ban.” Judges graphically demonstrates the consequences of disobedience.

**Idea**: Following one’s own unbiblical thinking is devastating.

**Development:**

1. An overview of the period: some success, but mostly failure, Judges 1:1-3:6.
2. Specific judges and oppressing nations, Judges 3:7-16:31.
3. Two classic illustrations of syncretic thinking, Judges 17:1-21:25.



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| **A Suggested Chronology of Oppressing Nationsand Delivering Judges** |
| *Oppressor* | *Dates* | *Judge* | *Dates* |  | *Scripture* |
| Mesopotamia | 1361–1353 | Othniel | 1353–1313 | 40 years |  3:7–11 |
| Moab | 1313–1295 | Ehud | 1295–1215 | 80 years |  3:12–30 |
| Philistia | ? | Shamgar | ? | 10 years |  3:31 |
| Canaan | 1215–1195 | Deborah and Barak | 1195–1155 | 40 years |  4:1–5:31 |
| Midian | 1155–1148 | GideonAbimelech | 1148–11081108–1105 | 40 years3 years |  6:1–8:28 9:1–57 |
| Ammon | 1105 | Jephthah | 1105–1099 | 6 years |  10:6–12:7 |
| Philistia | 1099–1059 | Samson | 1085–1065 | 20 years |  13:1–16:31[[1]](#footnote-1) |

**Key Passage Exegesis:**

* Women’s ownership of property, Judges 1:14-15.
* The role of The Angel of the Lord, Judges 2.
* Women in leadership and warfare, Judges 4-5.
* Gideon’s unbelief, Judges 6-8.
* Jephthah’s rash vow, Judges 11:30-31.
* Samson, Judges 14-16.
* False religion, Judges 17-18.
* Perversion, Judges 19-21, Note: Judges 21:25.

# **OT3 Ruth**

**Author**: Unknown, but some Bible scholars suggest Samuel.

**Date of writing**: Given the genealogy at the end of the book that includes David as well as certain customs explained by the author, a date at the beginning of David’s reign is possible.



**Purpose**: To demonstrate that not everyone living during the period of the Judges apostatized.

**Idea**: Everyone (whether male or female, Jew or gentile, rich or poor) who seeks help from the Lord will receive it.

**Development:**

1. The decline of a Jewish family in Moab, Ruth 1:1-22.
2. God’s provision and protection of a destitute, gentile woman, Ruth 2:1-23.
3. Ruth’s request for marriage within Israel, Ruth 3:1-18.
4. The resolution and celebration of Ruth’s aggressive pursuit of the Lord, Ruth 4:1-17.
5. The genealogy of Perez to David, Ruth 4:18-22.
1. Ryrie, C. C. (1995). *Ryrie study Bible: New American Standard Bible, 1995 update* (Expanded ed., p. 372). Chicago: Moody Press. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)