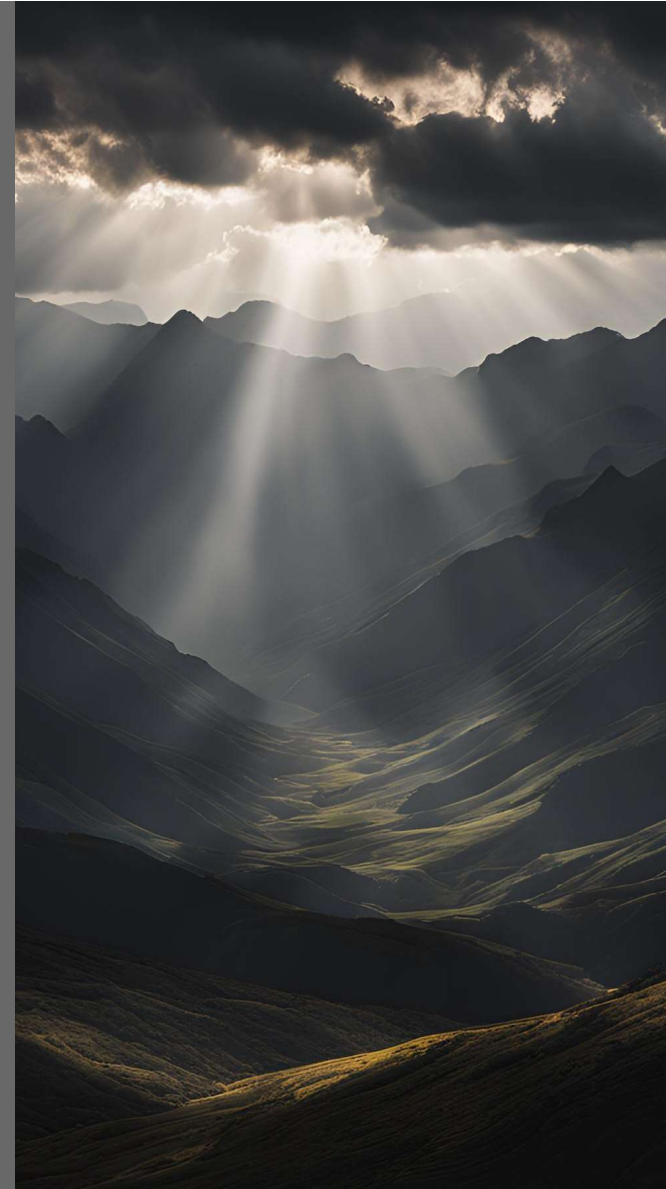
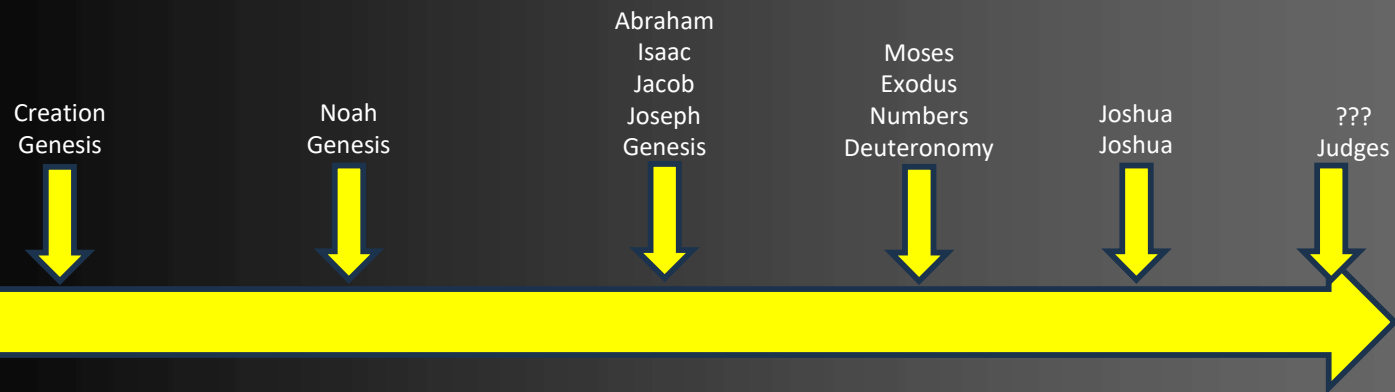




JUDGES

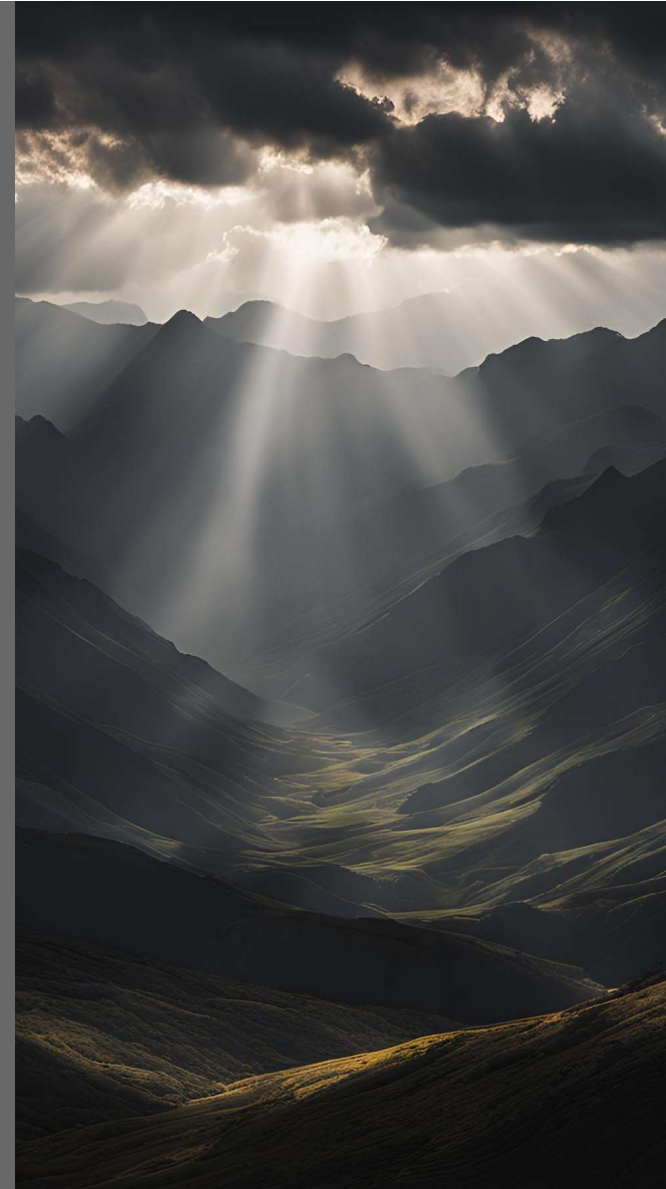
DOWN TO THE DEPTHS

Review



Review

- The person we should want leading us is God!
- When God Gives a command, we must obey 100%
- Cycling Down



The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape featuring silhouetted mountain ranges. A bright light source, likely the sun, is positioned behind the mountains in the upper center, creating a powerful sunburst effect with rays of light filtering through the clouds and illuminating the scene from above.

Judges 10

After Abimelech there arose to save Israel Tola the son of Puah, son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, and he lived at Shamir in the hill country of Ephraim. 2 **And he judged Israel twenty-three years.** Then he died and was buried at Shamir.

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Judges 10

3 After him arose Jair the Gileadite, **who judged Israel twenty-two years.** **4** And he had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkeys, and they had thirty cities, called Havvoth-jair to this day, which are in the land of Gilead.
5 And Jair died and was buried in Kamon.

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Judges 10

6 The people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroath, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the Ammonites, and the gods of the Philistines. And they forsook the Lord and did not serve him.

Judges 10

7 So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the Ammonites, **8** and they crushed and oppressed the people of Israel that year. For eighteen years they oppressed all the people of Israel who were beyond the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead. **9 And the Ammonites crossed the Jordan to fight also against Judah and against Benjamin and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was severely distressed.**

Judges 10

10 And the people of Israel cried out to the Lord, saying, “We have sinned against you, because we have forsaken our God and have served the Baals.” 11 And the Lord said to the people of Israel, “Did I not save you from the Egyptians and from the Amorites, from the Ammonites and from the Philistines? 12 The Sidonians also, and the Amalekites and the Maonites oppressed you, and you cried out to me, and I saved you out of their hand.

Judges 10

13 Yet you have forsaken me and served other gods; therefore I will save you no more. 14 **Go and cry out to the gods whom you have chosen; let them save you in the time of your distress.** 15 And the people of Israel said to the Lord, “We have sinned; do to us whatever seems good to you. Only please deliver us this day.” 16 So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the Lord, and he became impatient over the misery of Israel.

The background of the slide is a dramatic landscape featuring a range of dark, silhouetted mountains under a sky filled with heavy, dark clouds. Bright light rays, resembling sunlight breaking through, emanate from behind the clouds in the upper center, creating a powerful and atmospheric effect. The overall color palette is dark, with shades of grey, black, and muted blue, punctuated by the bright white and yellow of the light rays and the text.

Judges 10

17 Then the Ammonites were called to arms, and they encamped in Gilead. And the people of Israel came together, and they encamped at Mizpah. 18 And the people, the leaders of Gilead, said one to another, “Who is the man who will begin to fight against the Ammonites? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.”

Judges 11

Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty warrior, but he was the son of a prostitute. **Gilead was the father of Jephthah.** 2 And Gilead's wife also bore him sons. And when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out and said to him, **“You shall not have an inheritance in our father's house, for you are the son of another woman.”** 3 Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob, and **worthless fellows collected around Jephthah and went out with him.**

Judges 11

4 After a time the Ammonites made war against Israel. 5 And when the Ammonites made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to bring Jephthah from the land of Tob. 6 And they said to Jephthah, **“Come and be our leader, that we may fight against the Ammonites.”** 7 But Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, **“Did you not hate me and drive me out of my father's house? Why have you come to me now when you are in distress?”**

Judges 11

8 And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "That is why we have turned to you now, that you may go with us and fight against the Ammonites and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead." 9 Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "If you bring me home again to fight against the Ammonites, and the Lord gives them over to me, I will be your head." 10 And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, **"The Lord will be witness between us, if we do not do as you say."** 11 So Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and leader over them.



Judges 11

12 Then Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites and said, “What do you have against me, that you have come to me to fight against my land?” 13 And the king of the Ammonites answered the messengers of Jephthah, “Because Israel on coming up from Egypt took away my land, from the Arnon to the Jabbok and to the Jordan; now therefore restore it peaceably.”

Judges 11

21 And the Lord, the God of Israel, gave Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them. So Israel took possession of all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country. 22 And they took possession of all the territory of the Amorites from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan. 23 So then the Lord, the God of Israel, dispossessed the Amorites from before his people Israel; and are you to take possession of them?

Judges 11

24 Will you not possess what Chemosh your god gives you to possess? And all that the Lord our God has dispossessed before us, we will possess. 25 Now are you any better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever contend against Israel, or did he ever go to war with them? 26 While Israel lived in Heshbon and its villages, and in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities that are on the banks of the Arnon, 300 years, **why did you not deliver them within that time?**

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Judges 11

27 I therefore have not sinned against you, and you do me wrong by making war on me. **The Lord, the Judge, decide this day between the people of Israel and the people of Ammon.”**
28 But the king of the Ammonites did not listen to the words of Jephthah that he sent to him.

Judges 11

29 Then the Spirit of the Lord was upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh and passed on to Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed on to the Ammonites. 30 And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord and said, **“If you will give the Ammonites into my hand, 31 then whatever comes out from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the Ammonites shall be the Lord's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.”**



Judges 11

32 So Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites to fight against them, and the Lord gave them into his hand. 33 And he struck them from Aroer to the neighborhood of Minnith, twenty cities, and as far as Abel-keramim, with a great blow. **So the Ammonites were subdued before the people of Israel.**



Judges 11

34 Then Jephthah came to his home at Mizpah. **And behold, his daughter came out to meet him with tambourines and with dances.** She was his only child; besides her he had neither son nor daughter. 35 And as soon as he saw her, he tore his clothes and said, “Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low, and you have become the cause of great trouble to me. **For I have opened my mouth to the Lord, and I cannot take back my vow.”**

A dramatic landscape featuring a range of mountains under a sky with sunbeams breaking through clouds. The scene is dark and atmospheric, with the sunbeams creating a strong contrast against the darker sky and mountains.

Leviticus 18:21

21 You shall not give any of your children to offer them to Molech, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.

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Leviticus 20:2-3

2 “Say to the people of Israel, Any one of the people of Israel or of the strangers who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech shall surely be put to death.

Deuteronomy 12:29-31

29 “When the Lord your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land, 30 take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do the same.’ 31 You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the Lord hates they have done for their gods, **for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.**

The background of the slide is a dramatic landscape featuring a range of dark, silhouetted mountains under a cloudy sky. Sunlight rays are visible breaking through the clouds, creating a high-contrast, atmospheric effect. The overall tone is somber and majestic.

Judges 12

The men of Ephraim were called to arms, and they crossed to Zaphon and said to Jephthah, **“Why did you cross over to fight against the Ammonites and did not call us to go with you? We will burn your house over you with fire.”**

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Judges 12

2 And Jephthah said to them, “I and my people had a great dispute with the Ammonites, and when I called you, you did not save me from their hand. 3 **And when I saw that you would not save me, I took my life in my hand and crossed over against the Ammonites, and the Lord gave them into my hand.** Why then have you come up to me this day to fight against me?”

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Judges 12

4 Then Jephthah gathered all the men of Gilead and fought with Ephraim. And the men of Gilead struck Ephraim, because they said, “You are fugitives of Ephraim, you Gileadites, in the midst of Ephraim and Manasseh.” **5 And the Gileadites captured the fords of the Jordan against the Ephraimites.**

Judges 12

And when any of the fugitives of Ephraim said, “Let me go over,” the men of Gilead said to him, “Are you an Ephraimite?” When he said, “No,” 6 they said to him, **“Then say Shibboleth,” and he said, “Sibboleth,” for he could not pronounce it right. Then they seized him and slaughtered him at the fords of the Jordan.** At that time 42,000 of the Ephraimites fell. 7 Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died and was buried in his city in Gilead.

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Judges 12

8 After him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel. 9 He had thirty sons, and thirty daughters he gave in marriage outside his clan, **and thirty daughters he brought in from outside for his sons.** And he judged Israel seven years. 10 Then Ibzan died and was buried at Bethlehem.

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Judges 12

11 After him Elon the Zebulunite judged Israel, and he judged Israel ten years. 12 Then Elon the Zebulunite died and was buried at Aijalon in the land of Zebulun.

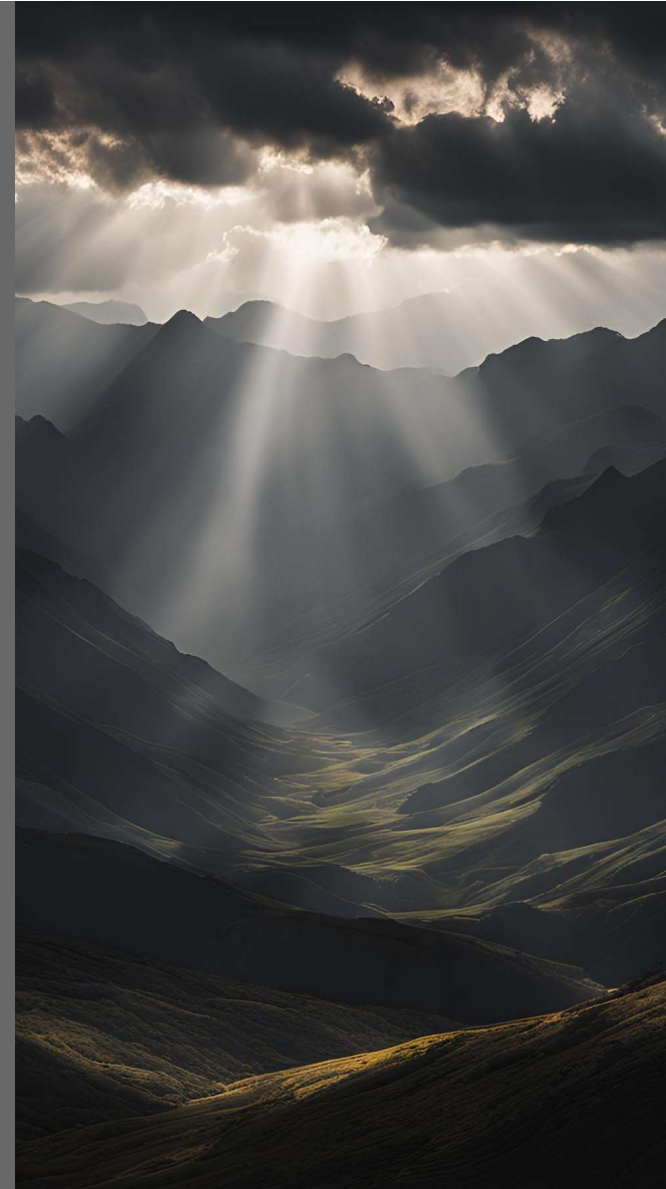
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Judges 12

13 After him Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite judged Israel. 14 He had forty sons and thirty grandsons, who rode on seventy donkeys, and he judged Israel eight years. 15 Then Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died and was buried at Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the hill country of the Amalekites.

So What?

- Don't Swear!
- God's people are called to be counter cultural
- Rejoice with those who rejoice



TIME OF GIVING

Online giving is also available on our church website,
www.westmiddlebury.org, and on our Tithely app.

Offering boxes are
available at both entrances.

2 Corinthians 9:7

