

EPISODE 6: Canaanites and Philistines (Joshua and Judges)

Joshua 1-2; 15-16; Judges 1-2, 17-18; 1 Samuel 4-5

10/5-10/6

1. The World Situation
2. The Cousins: East of the Jordan
   1. Edom:
      1. Genesis describes the Edomites as descendants of Esau. *These are the generations of Esau (that is, Edom). (Genesis 36:1)*
      2. The Hebrew word Edom means "red", “ruddy.”
      3. Worshipped El, but other pagan deities as well.
   2. Moab
      1. According to Genesis-Joshua, the Moabites descended from an ancestor named Moab. Lot’s son/grandson (Gen 19:37), and their land was inhabited in earliest times by a race of giants known as the Emim (Deut 2:10).
      2. ***36****Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father.* ***37****The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day.* ***38****The younger also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi. He is the father of the Ammonites to this day. [[1]](#footnote-1)*
      3. The plains of Moab provide the setting for a considerable portion of the Genesis–Joshua narrative, therefore, from Numbers 21 through Joshua 3.
      4. Other passages indicate that there was constant interchange between the Israelites and Moabites including intermarriage. The genealogical record at the end of the book of Ruth is especially noteworthy in this regard.
      5. Chemosh emerged as the national god of the Moabites, and was understood to have the same special relationship with them that Yahweh had with the Israelites. Jeremiah refers to the Moabites as “the people of Chemosh” (48:46; see also Num 21:29).
      6. 2 Kings 3 has Moabite King Mesha resorting to child sacrifice (see, e.g., 2 Kgs 16:3).
   3. Ammonites / Amorites

1. Joshua and The Conquest of Canaan:
   1. Joshua 1:1–3: *After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, 2 “Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.*
   2. Jericho: *“And it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city…. And they burnt the city with fire and all that was therein” (Josh. 6).*
      1. Dr. Kathleen M. Kenyon declared: *“Jericho can lay claim to being by far the oldest city in the world.”*
      2. Jericho was the first strong point to be overcome on the way to the Promised Land. According to her findings the walls of Jericho had to be rebuilt during the Bronze Age no less than seventeen times. The walls were repeatedly destroyed either by earthquakes or by erosion.

1. The Judges
   1. The Book of Judges
      1. Judges 2:7–8: *And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the Lord had done for Israel. 8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of 110 years.*
      2. Judges 2:11–13: *And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. 12And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. 13 They abandoned the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth.*
      3. Judges 2:14, 16: *So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them….16Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them.*
   2. *The Temptation of Canaanite Culture.*
   3. The Judges, their tribes and oppressors

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| **Judge** |  | **Tribe** | **Encounter** |  |  |  |
| Othniel | 3:7–11 | Judah | Mesopotamians |
| Ehud | 3:12–30 | Benjamin | Moabites |
| Shamgar | 3:31 |  | Philistines |
| Deborah | chs. 4–5 | Ephraim | Canaanites |
| Gideon | chs. 6–8 | Manasseh | Midianites |
| Tola | 10:1–2 | Issachar |  |
| Jair | 10:3–5 | Gilead-Manasseh |  |
| Jephthah | 10:6–12:7 | Gilead-Manasseh | Ammonites |
| Ibzan | 12:8–10 | Judah or Zebulun? |  |
| Elon | 12:11–12 | Zebulun |  |
| Abdon | 12:13–15 | Ephraim |  |
| Samson | chs. 13–16 | Dan | Philistines |

1. A Snapshot of Israelite and Canaanite Life (Judges 17-18)

**NEXT WEEK: THE PHILISTINES!**

1. [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/esv?ref=BibleESV.Ge19.36&off=0&ctx=+or+when+she+arose.+~36%C2%A0Thus+both+the+dau). (2016). (Ge 19:36–38). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)