

JUDGES 4

THE BOOK OF



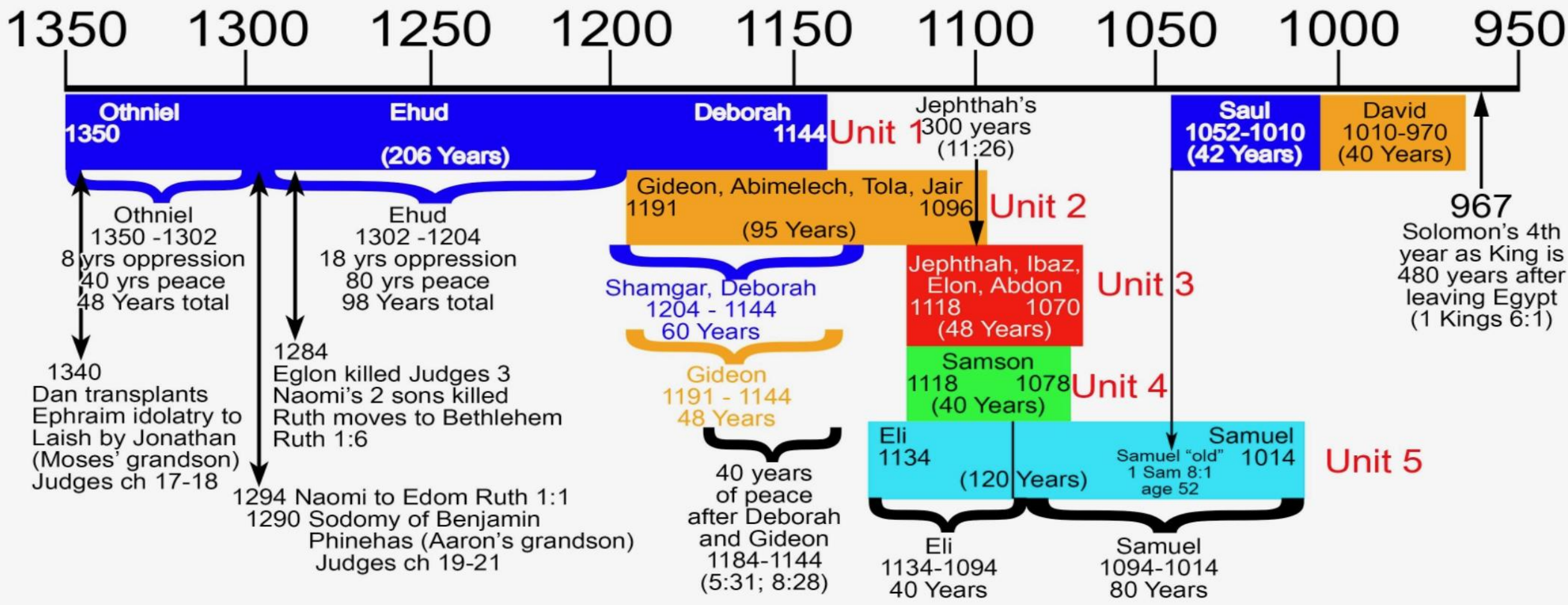
JUDGES

FORSAKEN YET FAITHFUL

Where have we been so far...

- Jesus is the King we desperately need
- Jesus brings lasting peace...
 - Habits of Grace
 - Scripture, Prayer, Worship, Fellowship
 - Avoid being B.U.S.Y.

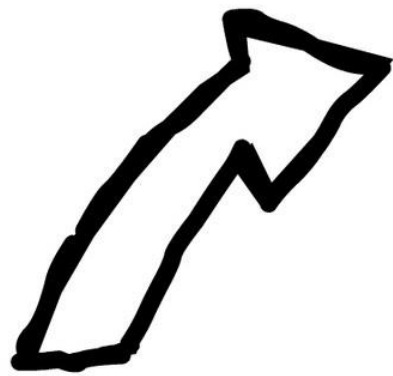
Timeline



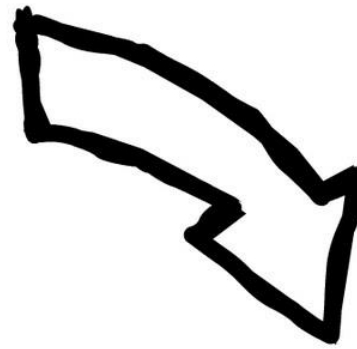
Key verse

“In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” (Judges 21:25)

- Being wise in our own eyes is different than being wise or seeking wisdom



Turn
away



Period of peace

God disciplines



**The
Cycle**



God sends a deliverer

People cry out



Judges 4:1-2

And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD after Ehud died...

“When the cat is away, the mice will play”

Judges 4:3

Then the people of Israel cried out to the LORD for help, for he had 900 chariots of iron and he oppressed the people of Israel cruelly for twenty years.

- Pharaoh - 600 chariots against all of Israel
(Ex 14:7)

Judges 4:4-5

Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time...

- Deborah “judges” like Moses (Ex 18:15-16)
- Exegete w/author’s intended audience
- It's so bad...

Judges 4:6-7

She sent and summoned Barak ...and said to him, “Has not the LORD, the God of Israel, commanded you, ‘Go, gather your men at Mount Tabor...

- God picks a commander - delivers the plan

Judges 4:8

“If you will go with me, I will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go.”

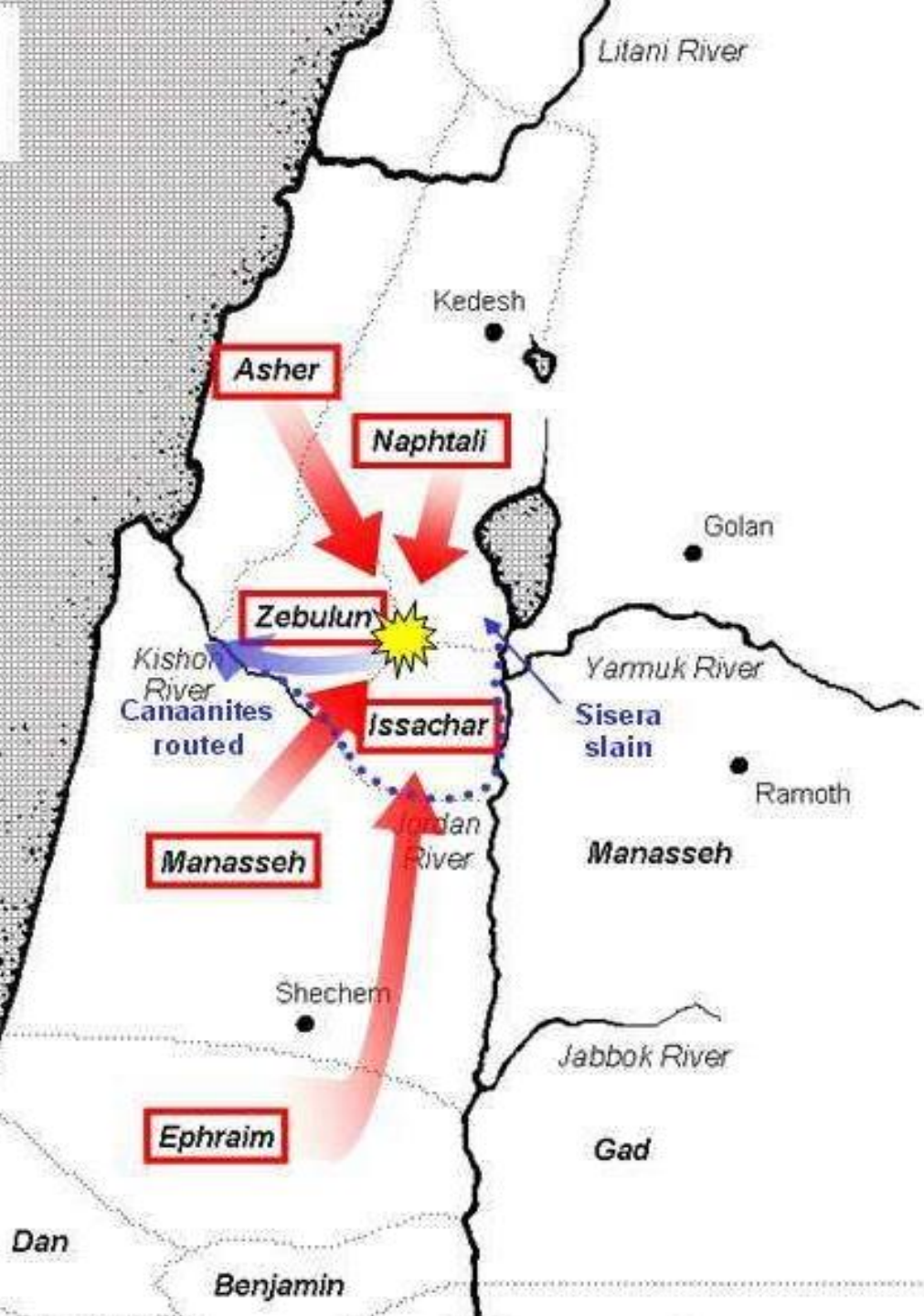
- This is our fearless “hero” (Heb 11:32)?
- Doing what he thinks is “best” but that’s the problem!

Judges 4:9-10

*And she said, "I will surely go with you.
Nevertheless, the road on which you are
going will not lead to your glory...*

• *Be strong and courageous...for the Lord
your God is with you wherever you go.*

(Josh 1:9)



Judges 4:11-23

- Kenites have moved north
- Battle goes as God said
- Enemy general flees
- Kenite woman kills Sisera, the enemy general

Jael – the “woman of the hour”

- Jael is just like Ehud
 - Her tribe has a treaty with the enemy
 - She assassinates the leader

Again, it's so bad...

Let's summarize

- People sin – “do what is right in their eyes”
- God uses Jabin to discipline them
- People cry out and God raises up a judge
- God subdues Jabin
- Romans 15:4 - Story > than historical Israel

Othniel

Ehud

Shamgar

Deborah

Gideon

Tola

Jair

Jephthah

Ibson

Elon

Abdon

Samson

Downward spiral

- Religious license
- Political uncertainty
- Moral anarchy

- How do we recover?

POWER
TO THE
PEOPLE



How do we “recover the aircraft”?

- Read the Word
- Understand the Word
- Do the Word

No different for law enforcement,
medical professionals, teachers,
athletes, musicians and students

What is “right in your own eyes”?

“Rights”

- 1 Cor 8:9-13
- 1 Cor 10:23...33
- Phil 2:1-4

My “own eyes”

- Prov 3:5-8
- 1 Cor 3:18-20
- Rom 12:14-16

Barak’s mistake was being wise in his own eyes!

What is your “thing”?

Jesus lived and taught this – John 8:31

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples...”

Are you living in radical obedience to God?

THE BOOK OF



JUDGES

FORSAKEN YET FAITHFUL