

A Salute to Women

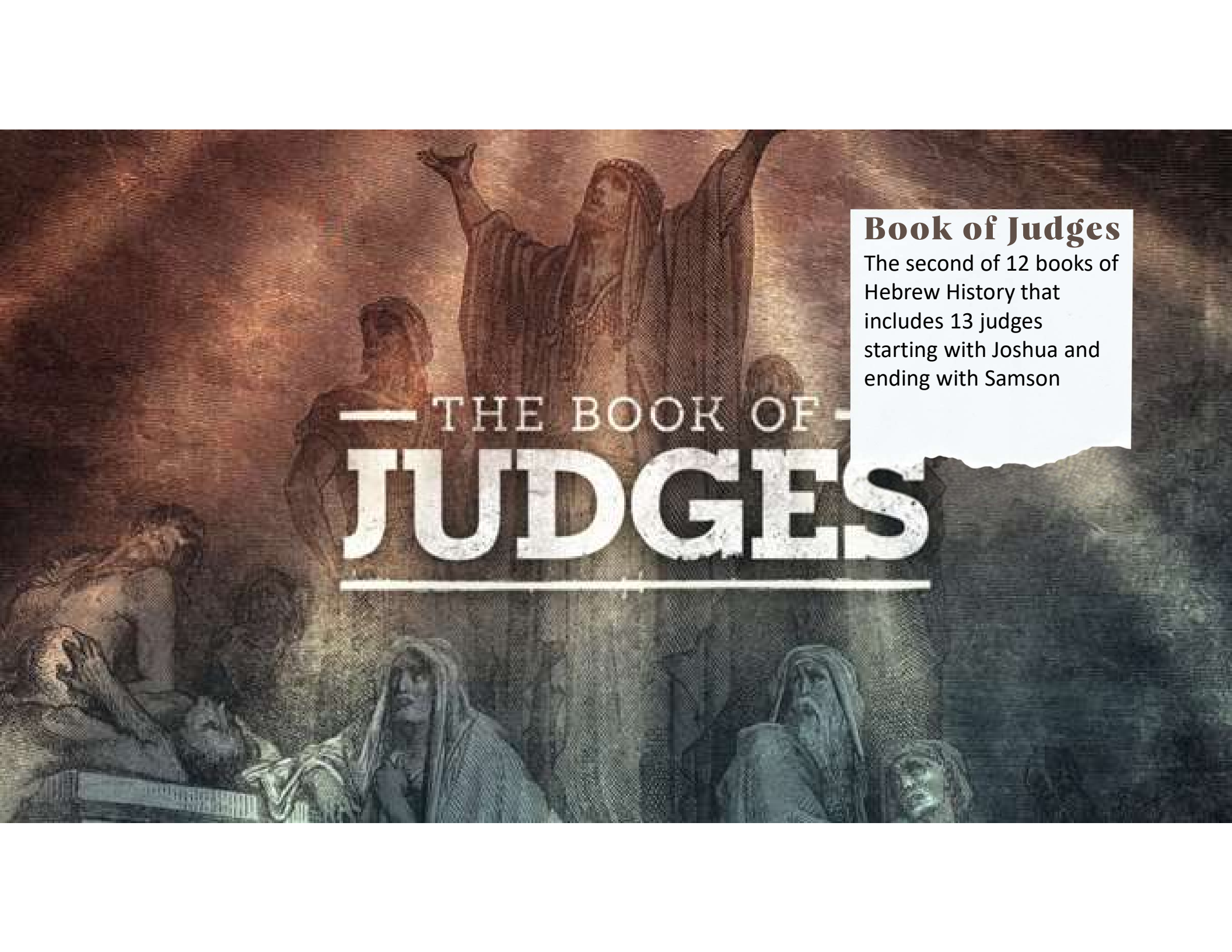
A Sermon by
Bishop Andy C. Lewter, D. Min

A DIFFERENT WORLD

Introduction

While on Sabbatical, I found myself binging on the 1980's television series "It's a Different World" causing me to acknowledge how different is is for women





— THE BOOK OF — JUDGES

Book of Judges

The second of 12 books of Hebrew History that includes 13 judges starting with Joshua and ending with Samson



OTHNIEL



EHUD



SHAMGAR

The First Three
The book starts with the stories of Othniel, Ehad and Shamgar and then amazingly pivots to the fourth judge, Deborah, who happens to be a woman


DEBORAH

A woman with dark skin and hair, wearing a headband and a shawl, looks off to the side with a serious expression. In the background, a large group of people in ancient clothing are gathered in a field, some holding spears, suggesting a military or significant event.

She Led Israel to Victory

Significance

This is a patriarchal society where women were not considered equal to men. For Deborah to be included is to suggest that she must have been both special and powerful

An open Bible with text overlaid. The text is in white with a black outline, set against a background of an open Bible with yellowed pages and a dark cover. The text is arranged in a block on the left side of the image.

**And the children of Israel
again did evil in the
eyes of the LORD, when
his anger was kindled
against them, and he
was dead.**

And Again...

The story begins the same way as it does for the male judges. And again, the children of Israel do evil in the eyes of God

—Judges 4:1



Justice

Chapter 4 says that Deborah distributed justice beneath a palm tree between Ramah and Bethel, where she is approached by the people



For 20 Years
The children of God
suffered under the king
Jabin of the
Canaanites. Like so
many times before,
God heard their cries
and came to their aid



Go Tell Barak
The man after whom
the first Black
president is named is
told by Deborah to take
10,000 men to Mt.
Tabor to face Sisera
and his army



I Won't Go
Barak refuses to go unless Deborah goes with him. Deborah tells Barak that he won't get the credit, but God will get the glory at the hands of a woman

