

God Strengthens His People

Judges 6:36-40; 7:1-9





Key Concept

God Almighty strengthens us in our weakness.

**Joshua leads Israel into the
Promised land
(Josh 1 – 24)**

**Today's Lesson
Gideon defeats Midian with
300 Soldiers
(Jud 6 – 8)**

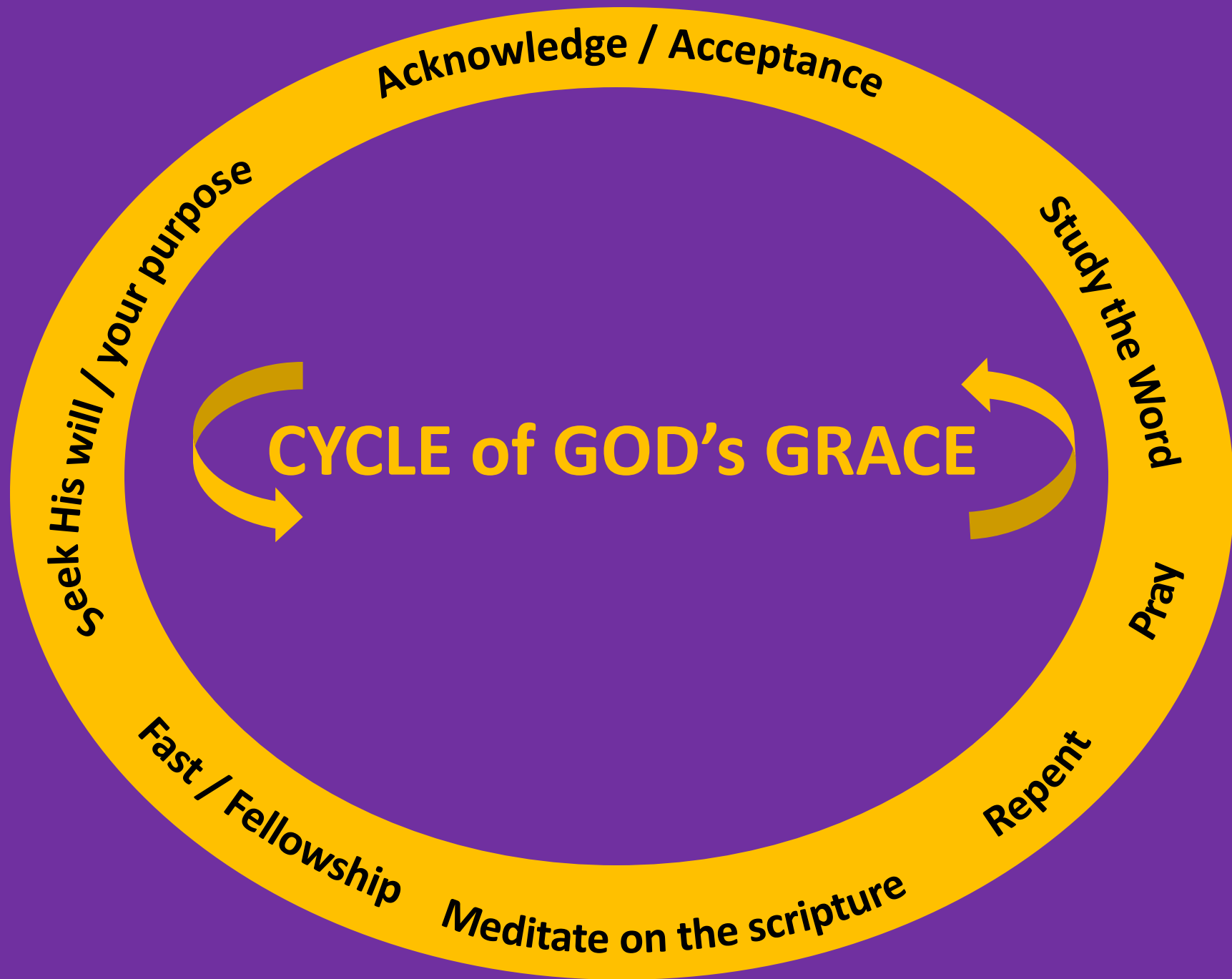
**Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar Judge
Israel
(Jud 3)**

**The cycle of disobedience and
oppression begins
(Jud 1 – 2)**

**Deborah judges Israel;
Barak defeats Sisera's
army
(Jud 4 – 5)**

THE JUDGES





Chronology of Judges Timeline

1350 - 1014 BC for a total of 336 years.

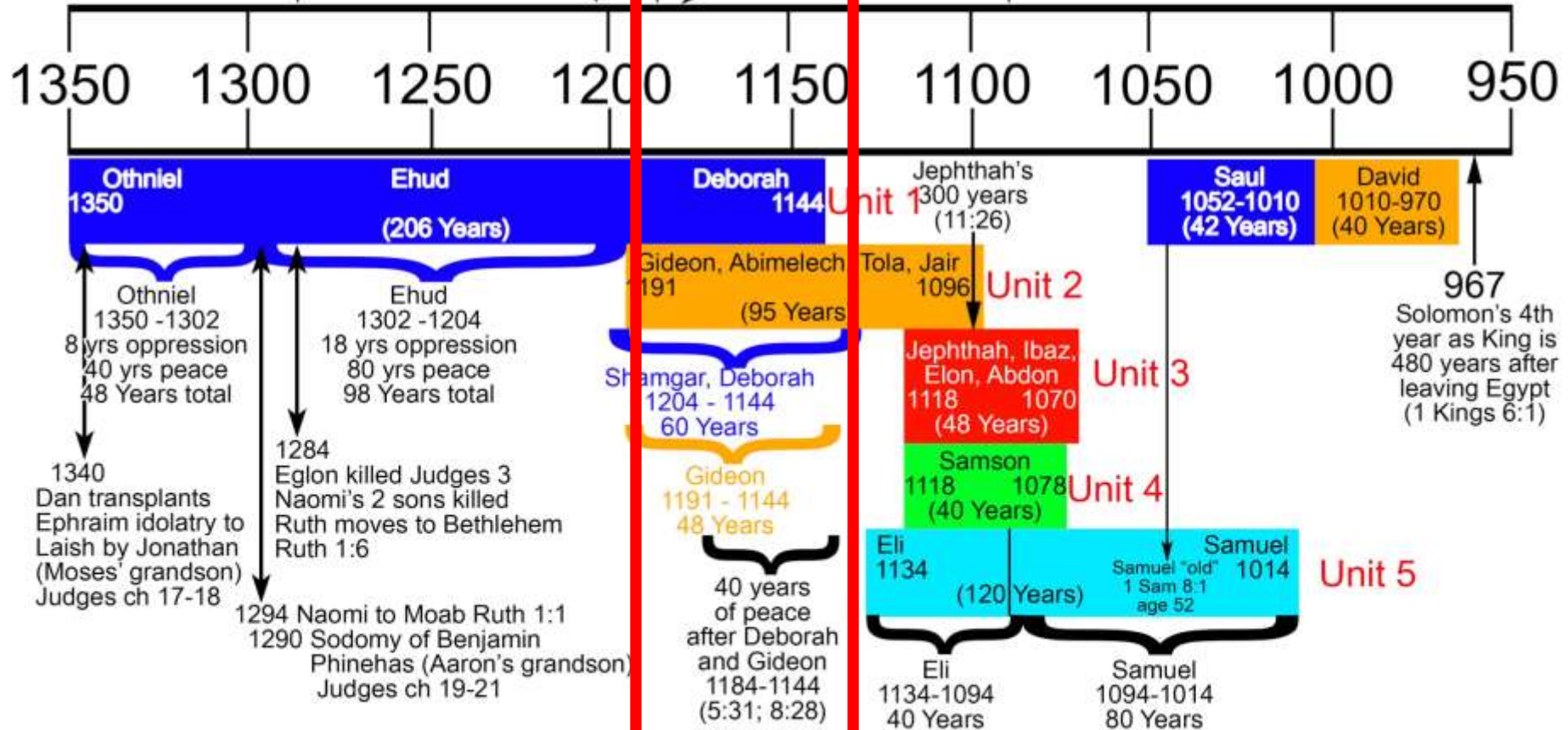
Elon killed, Ruth
moves to Bethlehem
1284 BC

Merneptah
Stele
1205 BC

Deborah
burns Hazor
1184 BC

Collapse of
Late Bronze Age
when Philistines
arrive in 8th year
of Ramesses III
1177 BC

Jair & Jephthah
peace ends,
Shiloh burned
1094 BC



OTHNIEL	Aram, he went to war and delivered Israel.	40
EHUD	After 18 years of oppression from King Eglon of Moab, he killed Eglon, went to war against Moab, and was victorious	80
SHAMGAR	Killed 600 of the Philistines with an ox goad	?
DEBORAH	After 20 years of oppression from King Jabin of Canaan, she convinced Barak to attack and was victorious.	40
GIDEON	After 7 years of Midianite oppression, he defeated the Midianites with only 300 men, using trumpets and jars.	40
TOLA	The son of Puah son of Dodo from the tribe of Issachar. He lived in Ephraim	23
JAIR	A man from Gilead who had 30 sons who rode 30 donkeys, and they had 30 towns in Gilead	22
JEPHTHAT	After 18 years of Ammonite oppression, he delivered Israel after making a vow with the Lord.	6
IBZAN	From Bethlehem, he had 30 sons and 30 daughters	7
ELON	From the tribe of Zebulun	10
ABDON	Son of Hillel, he had 40 sons, 30 grandsons and rode on 70 donkeys	8
SAMSON	A Nazarite with superhuman strength. He killed 1,000 Philistines with a jawbone; destroyed the Philistine temple while blinded and shackled	20

Ancient Wine Press



Spring of Harod (Gideon's Spring) today at the base of Mount Gilboa



JUDGES OF ISRAEL



Gideon's Battles



Food for Thought:

**God can do much with little
because He is the one at work.**

Discovery

In 2021, archaeologists unearthed an inscription at Khirbet al-Ra'i in southern Israel, bearing the name "Jerubbaal" (a name for Gideon in the Book of Judges). The inscription is dated to around 1100 BC.

- What was Gideon doing with a wine press when God appears to him?

Threshing wheat

- What did Gideon use to test God's promise to defeat the armies of Midian and Amalek? **A wool fleece**

- What three items did Gideon arm his soldiers with? **Trumpet, Clay Jar, Torch**

- What did Gideon request as plunder for defeating the armies?

**A gold earring collected
from the fallen enemies**

- How much gold did Gideon receive and use to make a sacred ephod? **43 lbs.**

- What was in the jars that Gideon's warriors smashed? **A torch**

- What was the test God said to observer of the 300 warriors chosen by Gideon?

How they drank from the stream

- After the angel appeared to Gideon in the wine press, he had to complete his first task of what?

Destroy the idols and pagan objects of his father

•How does the three items Gideon's army used related to Jesus?

- 1. Trumpet – Jesus call to repentance and proclamation of the Gospel**
- 2. Torch – light of God's truth**
- 3. Jar – When broken, symbol of the old system and ushering in the new covenant**