Murray Baptist Church – 10/13/20 – Bible Study Outline – Judges

**Judges -**

Othniel – First Judge

Judges 3:7-11

* When the people cried out, God sent a deliverer
* Caleb’s nephew
* He became Israel’s judge and went to war
* Resulted in 40 years of peace

Key events in Cycle of Israel’s behavior

3:7

* the children of Israel “did evil in the sight of the Lord”
* they “forgot the Lord and served…”

3:8

* God’s anger was ignited – His response: sold them into the hands of an enemy

3:9

* Children of Israel cried unto the Lord
* Lord raised up a deliverer to the Children of Israel who delivered them

Ehud – Second Judge (Judges 3:12-30)

* The cycle of behavior continues (vs. 12-14)
* Introduction of Ehud (v. 15), context for giving the gift to King Eglon
* Strategic Thinker
* Stands as an example of how God can use the uncommon and make it valuable
* Left-handed soldier – (see Judges 20:15-16; 1 Chronicles 12:2). Interesting note: Left-handedness seems to be a trait or attribute traced back to the Benjamites.
* Carried out an assassination of Eglon
* Ehud led Israel and the land had 80 years of peace

Shamgar – Third Judge

* Not disclosed how long he served
* Known for killing 600 Philistines with an oxgoad. An oxgoad was a long stick with a small flat piece of iron on one side and a sharp point on the other. The sharp side was used to drive the oxen during times of plowing. The flat end was used to clean the mud off of the plow.

Deborah – Fourth and only Female Judge

* Familiar notes – Judges 4:1-3
* Deborah was a prophetess before she became a judge
* She was someone known for settling disputes, reminiscent of Moses, typical of the type of judges were expecting
* Deborah didn’t seek the spotlight – she was in charge of administration rather than being a field general vs (4-20)
* Connection w/ Barak – Note: When God will bring about his will, he can do it even if all participants are not willing participants – however there is a consequence (vs. 8-9, 21)
* V23 – Who accomplished the victory? While God has leaders in place, when they execute his will, they realize that it was God who granted victory.
* V.24 – When God grants victory, his people prevail and prosper

Judges 5 – Songs of Deborah and Barak – reminders of who did what in the battles.

* Songs are a way to remember things and them along in a memorable way
* The tell of God, they tell of individuals in the battles, they tell of the 12 tribes of Israel