

Treasure Hunt Judges Introduction

- Nate: How does the role of the Judges differ from that of the Supreme Court?
- Caitlin: How does the noun “judge” differ from the verb in its application?
- How do the judges differ from Moses, Joshua, and David?
- Kyria: From what part of Israel do they come?
- Faith: How many years does Judges describe?
- Elijah: How can we fit these into the available 300 or so years?
- Ben: Why did God leave the nation without a central government?
- Gabriel: How were such weak men able to achieve so much?
- Michael: How is the period of the Judges like the age in which we live?

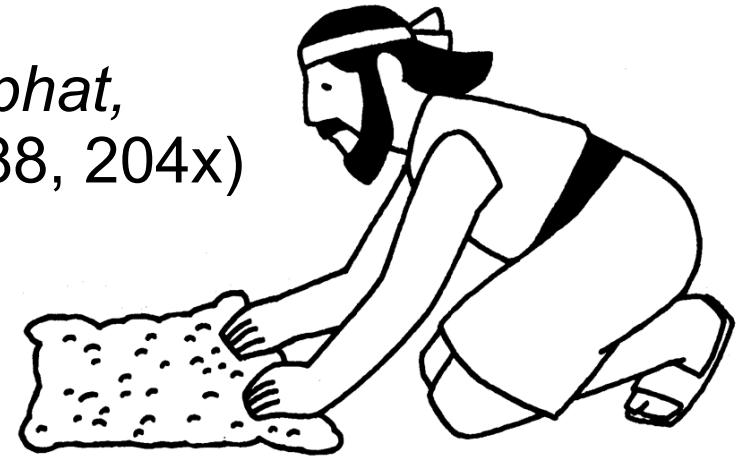
What is a Judge?



<https://www.kissclipart.com/drawing-of-a-judge-clipart-judge-drawing-lawyer-lbw3it/>

דין (*deen*,
H1777, 23x;
never in
Judges!)

שפט
(*shaphat*,
H8188, 204x)



<http://clipart-library.com/clipart/19-BTgZrKoT8.htm>

שפט Verb: God, Moses, Eli, Samuel, kings, Messiah. E.g., 1Kings 3:9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to **judge** thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to **judge** this thy so great a people?

שפט Noun: mostly local leaders. E.g., Deut. 16:18 **Judges** and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment.

Where did they Judge?

Reuben, Gad, Simeon, and Asher are not represented.

Green: Named in Heb 11:32

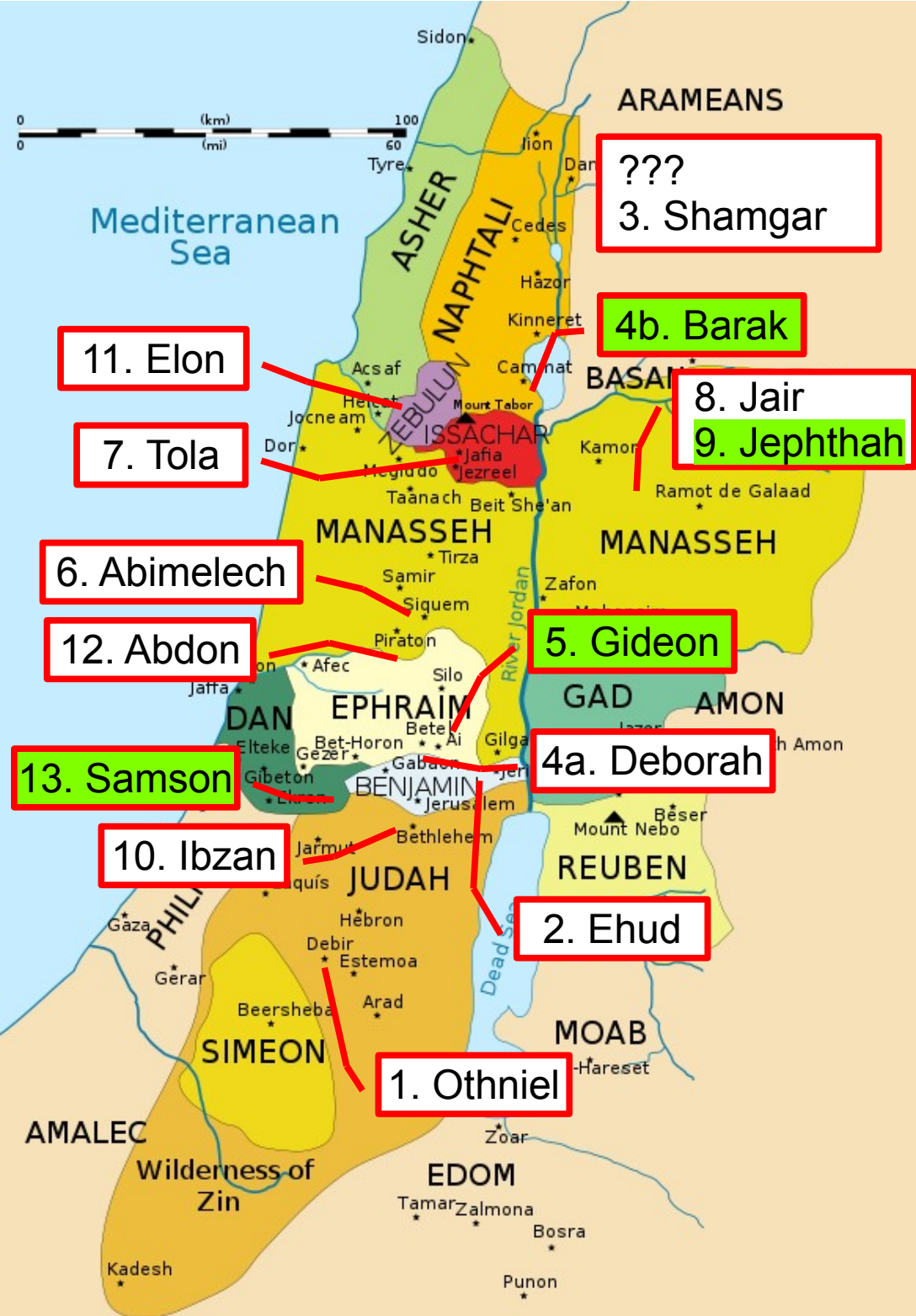
When? A recognized period:

Ruth 1:1 Now it came to pass in **the days when the judges ruled [judged]**, that there was a famine in the land.

2Kings 23:22 Surely there was not holden such a passover from **the days of the judges that judged Israel**, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:12_Tribes_of_Israel_Map.svg

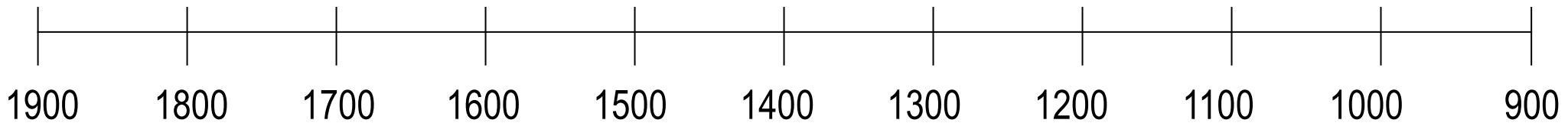
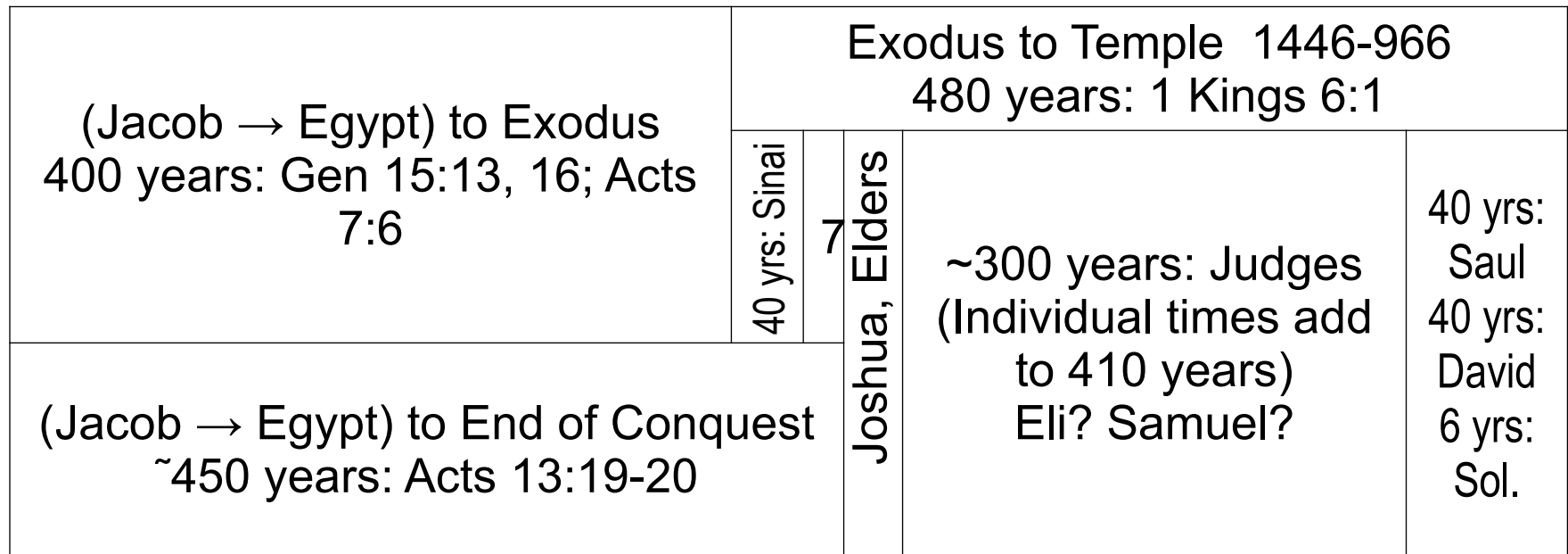
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Timeline of Judges

Gen. 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them **four hundred years**;

1Kings 6:1 And it came to pass in the **four hundred and eightieth year** after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, ... that he began to build the house of the LORD.



For further study:

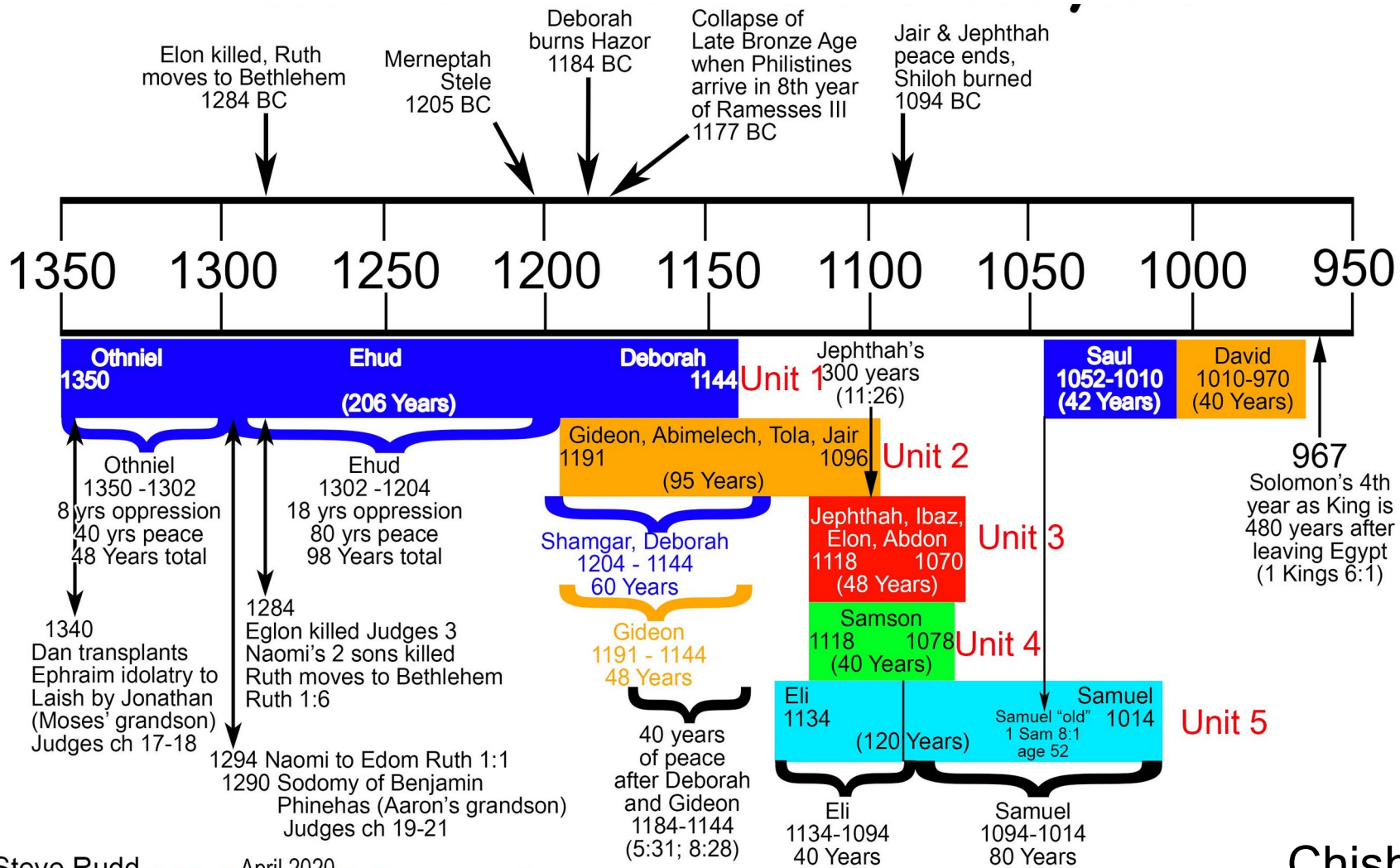
R.A. Chisholm, Jr., *JETS* 52/2 (June 2009) 247–55

<https://www.bible.ca/archeology/bible-archeology-exodus-route-date-chronology-of-judges.htm>

M. Anstey, *The Romance of Bible Chronology*

A. Edersheim, *Bible History: Old Testament*, Vol. III ch. 18

Possible Overlaps between Judges



Steve Rudd April 2020

www.bible.ca/chronology

Cf. Edersheim

Chisholm:

Othniel, Ehud, Deborah
Gideon - Samson

How did they Judge?

Judg. 3:10 And **the Spirit of the LORD** came upon [Othniel], and he judged Israel, and went out to war: and the LORD delivered Chushanrishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand;

Judg. 6:34 But **the Spirit of the LORD** came upon Gideon, ...

Judg. 11:29 Then **the Spirit of the LORD** came upon Jephthah,

Judg. 13:25 And **the Spirit of the LORD** began to move [Samson] at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Judg. 14:6 And **the Spirit of the LORD** came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid,

Judg. 14:19 And **the Spirit of the LORD** came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil,

Judg. 15:14 And when he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and **the Spirit of the LORD** came mightily upon him,

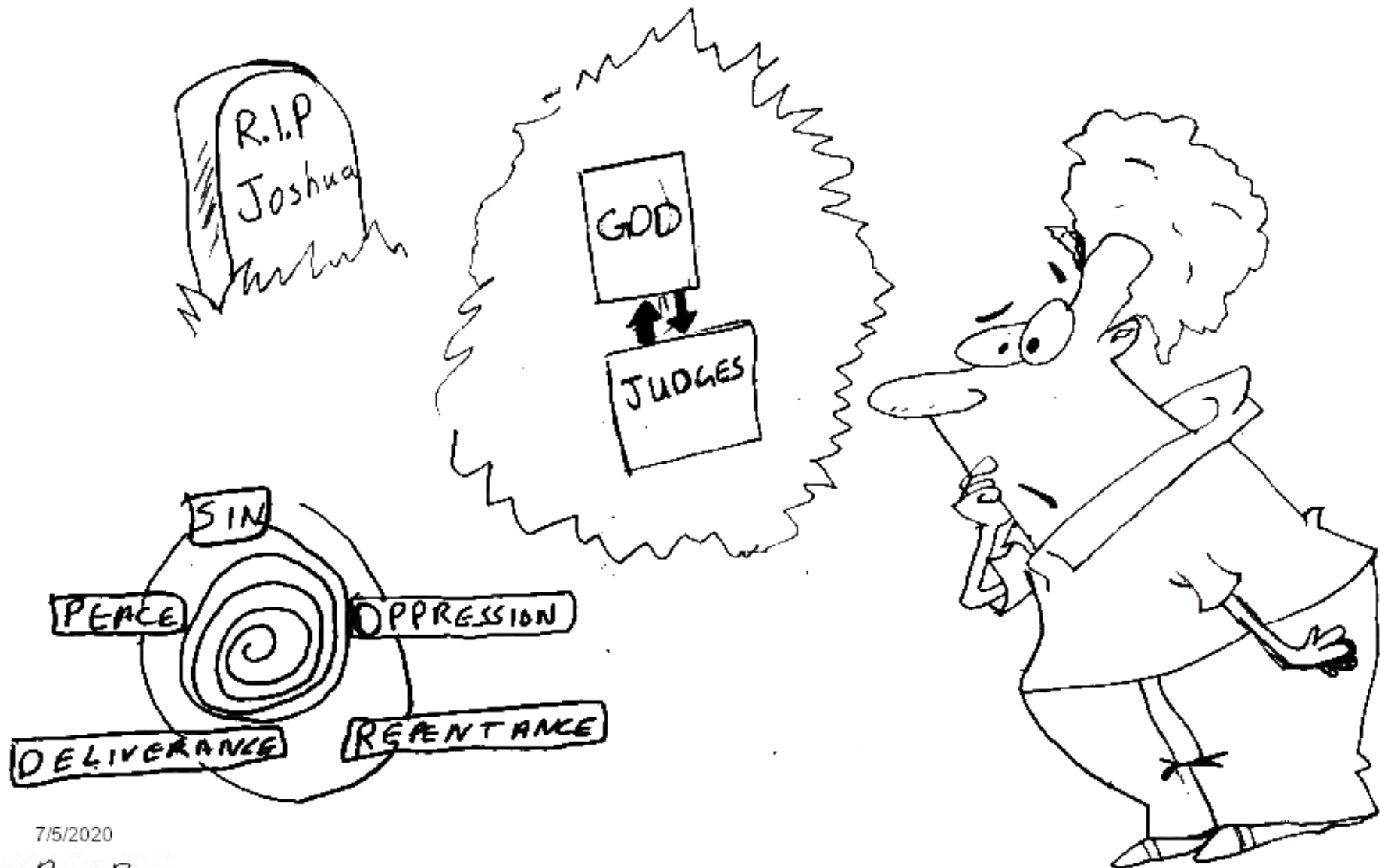
Comparison with “this present evil world (age)” Gal 1:4

Question	Judges	Today
When?	Between Joshua (conquest) and David (kingdom)	Between Jesus = Joshua (conquest) and Millennium
Why?	To teach the people war (like Joshua)	To make us like our Lord Jesus
What?	Leaders, not just legal referees	Importance of assembly leadership
Where?	Local, distributed, no central organization	Autonomous local churches, no hierarchy
How?	By the Holy Spirit	By the Holy Spirit

An important contrast:

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth **with** you, and shall be **in** you.

JUDGES



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Brian Potts