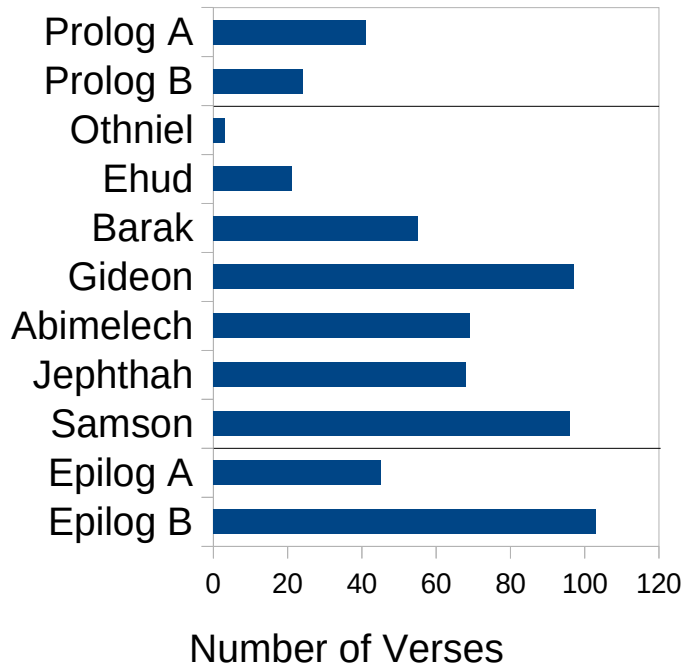


Judges and Hebrews

Heb. 11:32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of **Gedeon**, and of **Barak**, and of **Samson**, and of **Jephthae**; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: ... 34 out of weakness [they] were made strong ...

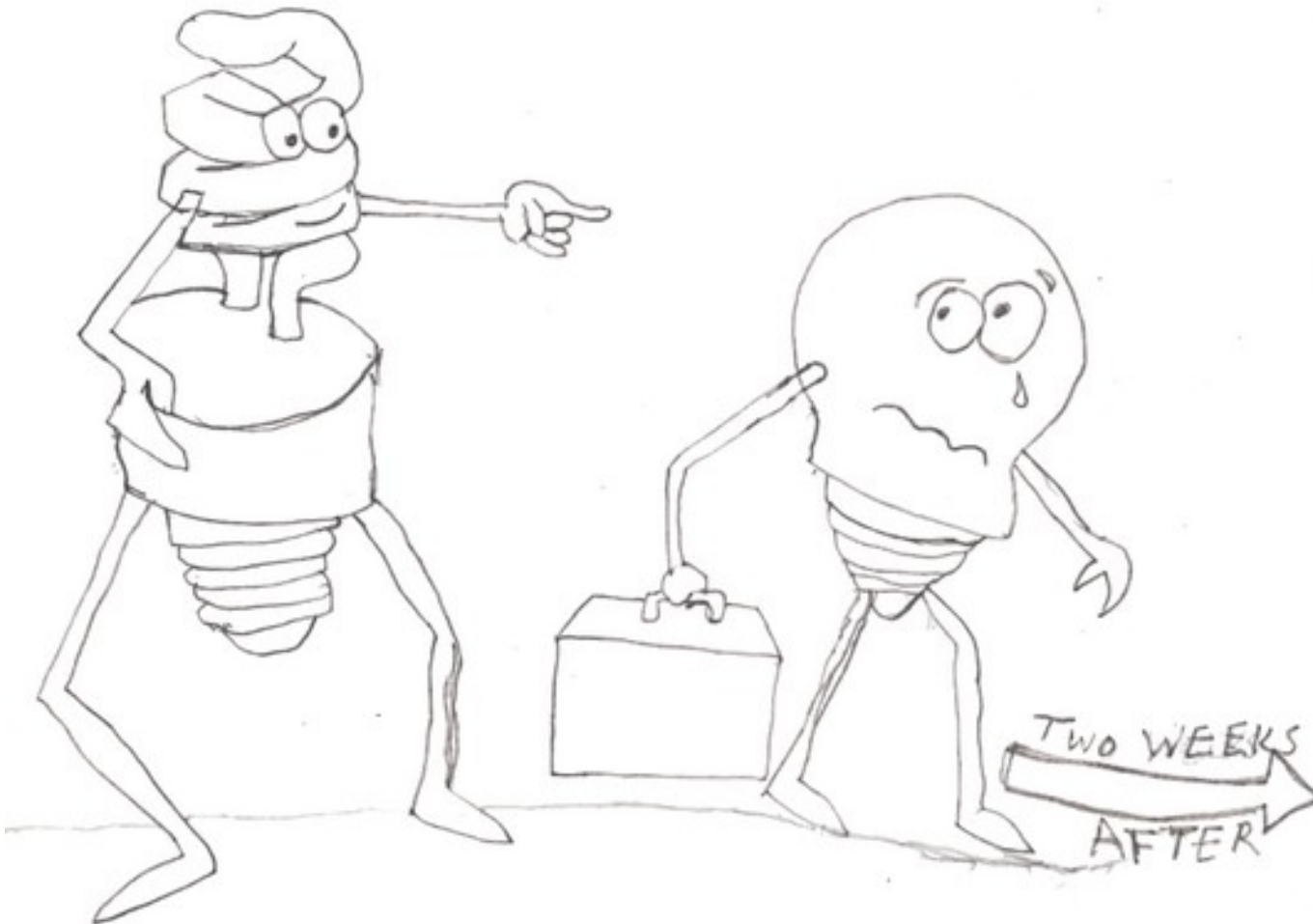


Hero	Weakness	Remedy	Victory	Final Failing
Othniel			Chushan	
Ehud			Moab	
Barak	Uncertain about the Lord's will	Godly counsel	Canaanites under Sisera	
Gideon	Fearful for lack of resources	Exercises	Midian	Kills Israelites Idolatry
Abi-melech	Proud and domineering			
Jephthah	Rejected by countrymen	Pressure on others	Ammon	Kills Israelites
Samson	Rebellious teenager	Chastisement	Philistines	

Hebrews 11:34 Out of weakness were made strong

34 quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

- Who to seek in time of struggles and difficulty?



Barak: Uncertain about the Lord's Direction

Judg 4:4 And Deborah, a **prophetess**, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time. 5 And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment. 6 And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedeshnaphtali, and said unto him, **Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded**, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men ...

Judg 4:8 And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go.

Judg 4:10 And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and he went up with ten thousand men at his feet: ... 12 And they shewed Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam was gone up to mount Tabor. 13 And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon. 14 **And Deborah said unto Barak, Up**; for this is the day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the LORD gone out before thee? So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him.

Judg. 4:9 And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman.

Rom 14:5 Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

Act 17:10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they **received the word** with all readiness of mind, and **searched the scriptures** daily, whether those things were so.

Gideon: Fearful about Resources

Judg 6:14 And the LORD looked upon [Gideon], and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?
15 And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, **wherewith shall I save Israel?** behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least¹ in my father's house.

Judg. 6:21 Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and **there rose up fire out of the rock**, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.

Judg. 6:25 And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and **throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath**, and cut down the grove that is by it:

Judg. 6:34 But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him. 35 And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also **was gathered** after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and **they came up** to meet them.

Judg. 6:36 And Gideon said unto God, **If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand**, as thou hast said, 37 Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; ...

Judg. 7:2 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, **lest Israel vaunt themselves** against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me. ... 7 And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the other people go every man unto his place.

Judg. 8:16 And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of Succoth. 17 And he beat down the tower of Penuel, and **slew the men** of the city.

Judg. 8:27 And Gideon made an ephod thereof, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah: and **all Israel went thither a whoring** after it:

Jephthah: Rejected by his People

Judg. 11:1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he was the son of an harlot: and Gilead begat Jephthah. 2 And Gilead's wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and **they thrust out Jephthah**, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman. 3 Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him.

Judg. 11:5 And it was so, that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead **went to fetch Jephthah** out of the land of Tob: 6 And they said unto Jephthah, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of Ammon.

Psa 37:7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

Judg. 12:4 Then Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead, and **fought with Ephraim**: and the men of Gilead smote Ephraim, ... 6 ... and there fell at that time of the Ephraimites forty and two thousand.

Samson: A Rebellious Teenager

Judg. 14:1 And Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines. 2 And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife. 3 Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, **Get her for me**; for she pleaseth me well.

Judg 4:19 ... And his anger was kindled, and **he went up to his father's house**.

Judg. 15:1 But it came to pass within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife with a kid; and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in. 2 And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her.

Judg. 15:4 And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails. 5 And when he had set the brands on fire, he let them go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards and olives. 6 Then the Philistines said, Who hath done this? And they answered, Samson, the son in law of the Timnite, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion. And the Philistines came up, and burnt her and her father with fire. 7 And Samson said unto them, Though ye have done this, yet will I be avenged of you, and after that I will cease. 8 And he smote them hip and thigh with a great slaughter:

Judg. 15:18 And he was sore athirst, and called on the LORD, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance [**salvation**] into the hand of **thy servant**: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised?

The Warning of Jephthah and Gideon

1Co 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Heb 10:32 But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions; 33 Partly, whilst ye were made a gazingstock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used. 34 For **ye had compassion of me** in my bonds, and **took joyfully the spoiling of your goods**, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

Heb 10:35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. 36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. 37 For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. 38 Now the just shall live by faith: but **if any man draw back**, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. 39 But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.