

“God’s Gracious Pursuit of Wayward Worshippers”

Judges 2:6-3:6 / Sunday, July 5, 2015



Introduction: Judges 2:6-3:6 runs parallel to Judges 1-2:5.

- In Judges 1, the failures of Israel and God’s judgment are described **chronologically** and **physically**, Israel’s view of things.
- In Judges 2, it is described **spiritually**, God’s view of things!

In Israel’s Apostasy we find three spiritual realities to revamp our perspective on our sin and God’s gracious intervention.

Reality #1: The **Forgetful** Nature of Man. (2:6-13)

- **Scripture:** Ephesians 3:17-19; Job 42:5

The “next generation” lacked an **intimate** and **experiential** knowledge of God.

“Amnesia produces apostasy.”

Dale Ralph Davis

As this generation abandoned the Lord, God lovingly pursued them...in discipline and kindness.

Reality #2: The **Gracious** Nature of God. (2:14-18)

- a. God is for His people as He **disciplines** in His righteous anger (2:14-15, 20-23)
 - **Scripture:** Jeremiah 29:11-13
- b. God is for His people as He **rescues** in His gracious kindness.(2:16, 18)

Superficial repentance leads to **CRISIS FAITH**. **Scriptures:** Proverbs 26:11; Romans 2:4

Instead of seizing the opportunities provided by the grace of God, we often persistently surrender to the dominating nature of sin.

Reality #3: The **Dominating** Nature of Sin (2:19-3:6)

A progressive **spiritual deterioration** is revealed, each successive cycle being characterized by a greater descent into apostasy and corruption, and by a more **superficial repentance** than the one preceding.

- **Scripture:** Proverbs 4:18-19:

The Israelites gave themselves away to the **lowest** bidders, gods that could give **nothing** in return!

- **Scriptures:** John 10:10; Matthew 11:28-30

What you worship will rule you.

Will you worship a cruel master or a caring Lord?

Conclusion:

The message of Judges: We need a perfect, eternal, complete Savior to deliver the **soul**, as well as the **body**.

Respond to these realities with Spirit-enabled personal examination:

- **Relating:** Are you growing in knowing and experiencing God firsthand?
 - Ephesians 3:17-19; 2 Peter 3:18; 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- **Responding:** Are you recognizing and responding to God's discipline or rescue?
- **Repenting:** Are you excusing sin in your life?

Part 2 of "Judges: Imperfect Saviors and a Wayward People"

Pastor Stephen Schultze

“God’s Gracious Pursuit of Wayward Worshipers”

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- In Judges 2, it is described _____, God’s view of things!

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Reality #1: The _____ Nature of Man. (2:6-13)

- **Scripture:** Ephesians 3:17-19; Job 42:5

The next generation lacked an _____ and _____ knowledge of God.

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Reality #2: The _____ Nature of God. (2:14-18)

- c. God is for His people as He _____ in His righteous anger (2:14-15, 20-23)
 - **Scripture:** Jeremiah 29:11-13

- d. God is for His people as He _____ in His gracious kindness.(2:16, 18)

Superficial repentance leads to _____.

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A progressive _____ is revealed, each successive cycle being characterized by a greater descent into apostasy and corruption, and by a more _____ than the one preceding.

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- _____: Are you growing in knowing and experiencing God firsthand?
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