

OVERVIEW OF THE JUDGES

JUDGE	REFERENCE	TRIBE	OPPRESSOR	PERIOD OF OPPRESSION	PERIOD OF REST	TOTAL LENGTH OF TIME
Othniel of Debir	1:11-5; 3:1-11 (Joshua 15:16-19; 1 Chronicles 4:13)	Judah Son of Kenaz, younger brother of Caleb	Shushan-Rishathaim, King of Mesopotamia	8 years (3:8)	40 years (3:11)	48 years
Ehud	3:12-4:1	Benjamin Son of Gera	Eglon, King of Moab Ammorites, Amalekites	18 years (3:14)	80 years (3:30)	98 years
Shamgar	3:31; 5:6	Perhaps foreign Son of Anath	Philistines			
Deborah & Barak	4:1-5:31 (Hebrews 11:32)	Ephraim (Deborah) Naphtali (Barak) Son of Abinoam	Jabin, King of Canaan Sisera, Commander of the Army	20 years (4:3)	40 years (5:31)	60 years
Gideon Also called Jerubbal (6:32; 7:1); Jerubesheth (2 Samuel 11:21)	6:1-8:32 (Hebrews 11:32)	Manasseh Son of Joash the Abiezrite	Midianites, Amalekites "People of the East"	7 years (6:1)	40 years (8:28)	47 years
Abimelech	8:33-9:57 (2 Samuel 11:21)	Manasseh Son of Gideon by concubine	Civil War			Abimelech ruled over Israel 3 years
Tola	10:1,2	Issachar Son of Puah			23 years (10:2)	23 years
Jair	10:3-5	Of Gilead in East Manasseh			22 years (10:3)	22 years
Jephthah	10:6-12:7 (Hebrews 11:32)	Of Gilead in East Manasseh Son of Gilead by a harlot	Philistines, Ammonites Civil War with the Ephramites	18 years (10:8)	6 years (12:7)	24 years
Ibzan	12:8-10	Judah or Zebulun Bethlehem-Zebulum (cf. Joshua 19:15)			7 years (12:9)	7 years
Elon	12:11,12	Zebulun			10 years (12:11)	10 years
Abdon	12:13-15	Ephraim Son of Hillel			8 years (12:14)	8 years
Samson	13:1-16:31 (Hebrews 11:32)	Dan Son of Manoah	Philistines	40 years (13:1)	20 years (15:20; 16:31)	60 years

Note that added together the total length of time (column above) of Judges is 410 years. However, many of the episodes in Judges overlap each other while unfolding in different parts of the land. While the practical result of that overlapping is the affording to us a more complete picture of the events of the period we are not able to accurately discern their duration and dating.