

# The Redemption Stories of Judges

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*From Victor to Vanquished to Victor*

*And the LORD God of Israel delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them. Thus Israel gained possession of all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country.*

*They took possession of all the territory of the Amorites,  
from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to  
the Jordan. And now the LORD God of Israel has  
dispossessed the Amorites from before His people  
Israel; should you then possess it?*

Call to the Word / Jdg 11:21-24

*Will you not possess whatever Chemosh your god gives you to possess? So whatever the LORD our God takes possession of before us, we will possess.*

Call to the Word / Jdg 11:21-24

# introduction

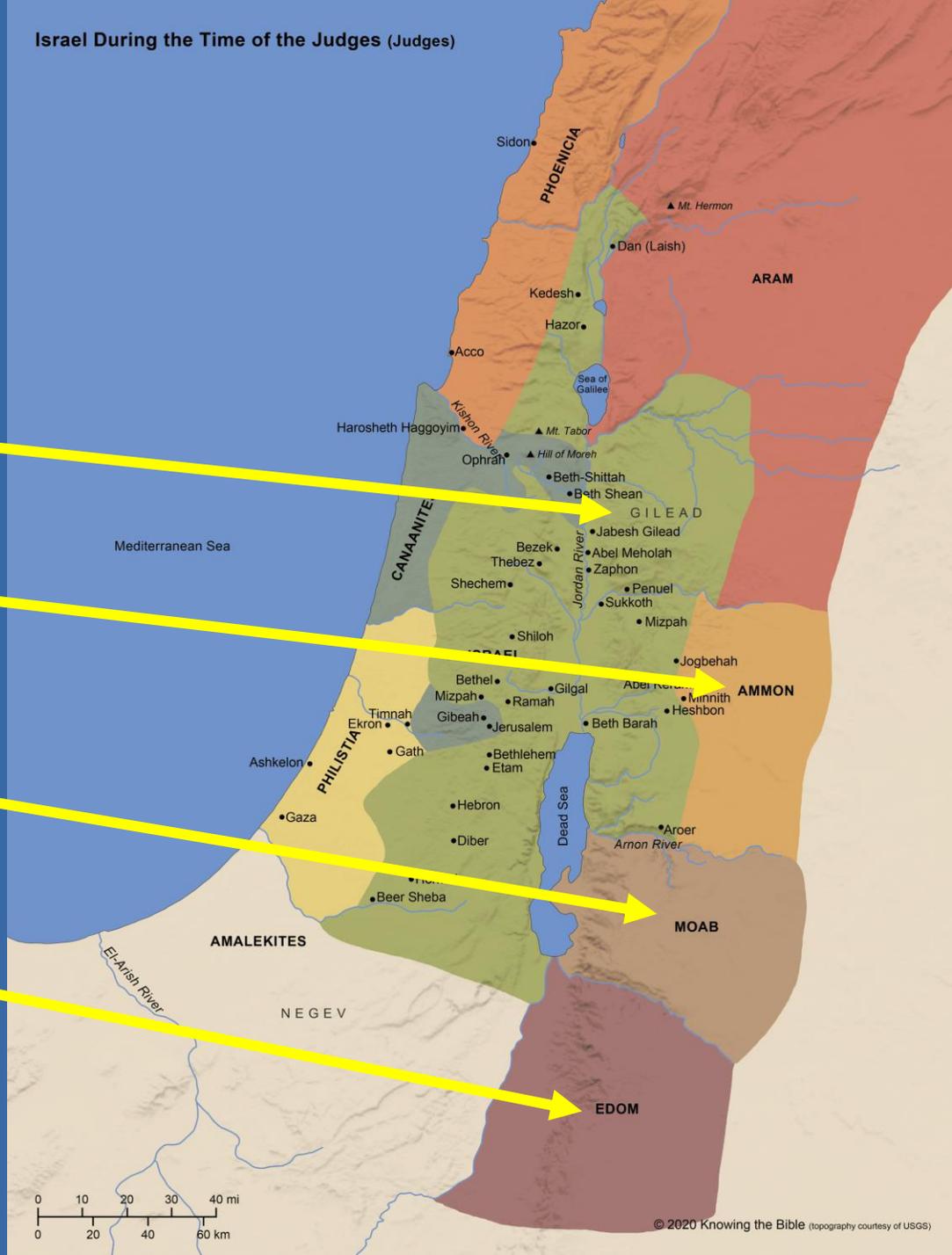
“The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy.” — *Psalms 145:8*



*“Time doesn't wear out His mercy — it only deepens His compassion.”*

# introduction

Gilead  
Ammonites  
Moabites  
Edomites



The human heart can live a long time in bondage before  
it's truly ready to turn back to God.

He specializes in turning rejection into redemption and  
outcasts into overcomers.

introduction

Jephthah– “Yahweh Opens”

“Mighty man of valor...”: proven  
in battle, courageous under  
pressure.

Descended from Manasseh,  
son of Joseph (Numbers 26:29)



Judges 11:1-2

V2: “...the drove him out...” – “forcefully cast him out”

The very man Gilead rejected is the one God raised up to deliver Gilead.

That's grace in motion — a God who loves to redeem the outcast and turn rejection into redemption.

Judges 11:2

“Fled”: to flee, escape, run away (usually from danger or pursuit); a strong verb — not casual travel, but an act of urgent escape from threat, shame, or violence.

“Before God ever uses a person publicly, He refines them privately.”

Judges 11:3

*“after a time.”*

Something's been simmering beneath the surface when  
memories turn into grudges —  
the Ammonites decided it was payback time  
It was a **theological war**. Each side believed their god  
was fighting for them.

Judges 11:4-

This moment is more than a military deal — it's the beginning of a political shift.

Jephthah is functioning like a proto-king — not crowned, but clearly ruling.

Israel's hunger for stable leadership is growing, and Jephthah becomes a preview of what's coming later with Saul and David.

**Judges 11:10**

Redemption through Rejected Servants of God

Joseph — Rejected by His Brothers, Raised to Rule

Moses — Rejected by His Own People, Then Called to  
Lead Them

David — Overlooked by Family, Chosen by God

Jeremiah — Despised Prophet, Faithful Witness

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Judges 11:10

Redemption through Rejected Servants of God

Esther — Orphaned Exile, Queen of Deliverance

Nehemiah — Exiled Servant, Rebuilder of a Nation

Jesus — The Ultimate Rejected Leader —

God loves to take the outcast, the overlooked, the unlikely — and make them the very instruments of His redemption.

Judges 11:10

To do something before the Lord means we're living or acting consciously in His presence — with an awareness that He sees, knows, and is near. It's living with a constant awareness that your life is being lived in God's presence — He's not distant or distracted.

Judges 11:10

Before the Lord: in the awareness of God's presence.

HOW: He made his covenant or agreement publicly, in God's presence, acknowledging Him as witness and judge.

Mizpah represents the turning point where Jephthah's past rejection gives way to God's restoration and calling. It's where he stands spiritually: reconciled, reappointed, and ready to lead under God's direction.

Judges 11:11

*“You’re living on stolen land...”*

First off: everything belongs to God — not just Israel, not just the heavens, but the whole earth and everything in it.

We don’t own the world; we’re managers of what God owns. Everything on this earth is God’s — we’re just His caretakers.”

Ps 24:1-2      1Cor 10:26

Deut 10:14.    1Chr 29:11

Job 41:11.     Col 1:16-17

Judges 11:12-13

It's a gracious but firm reminder: Israel was living in what God had rightfully placed in their hands.

*“For three hundred years Israel's been living here — building homes, raising families — and you never said a word until now. If Balak didn't claim it back then, why are you suddenly making a fuss now?”*

Judges 11:23–24

# Faith over Fear

Zech 4:6

*Jephthah teaches us how to lead with truth, humility, and trust — reasoning before reacting, standing firm without arrogance, and leaving the results to the Lord.*

Judges 11:23–24

Acknowledge the Struggle

Ps 6:6

Remind Yourself – you are not alone.

Ps 34:18

Reframe the Battle

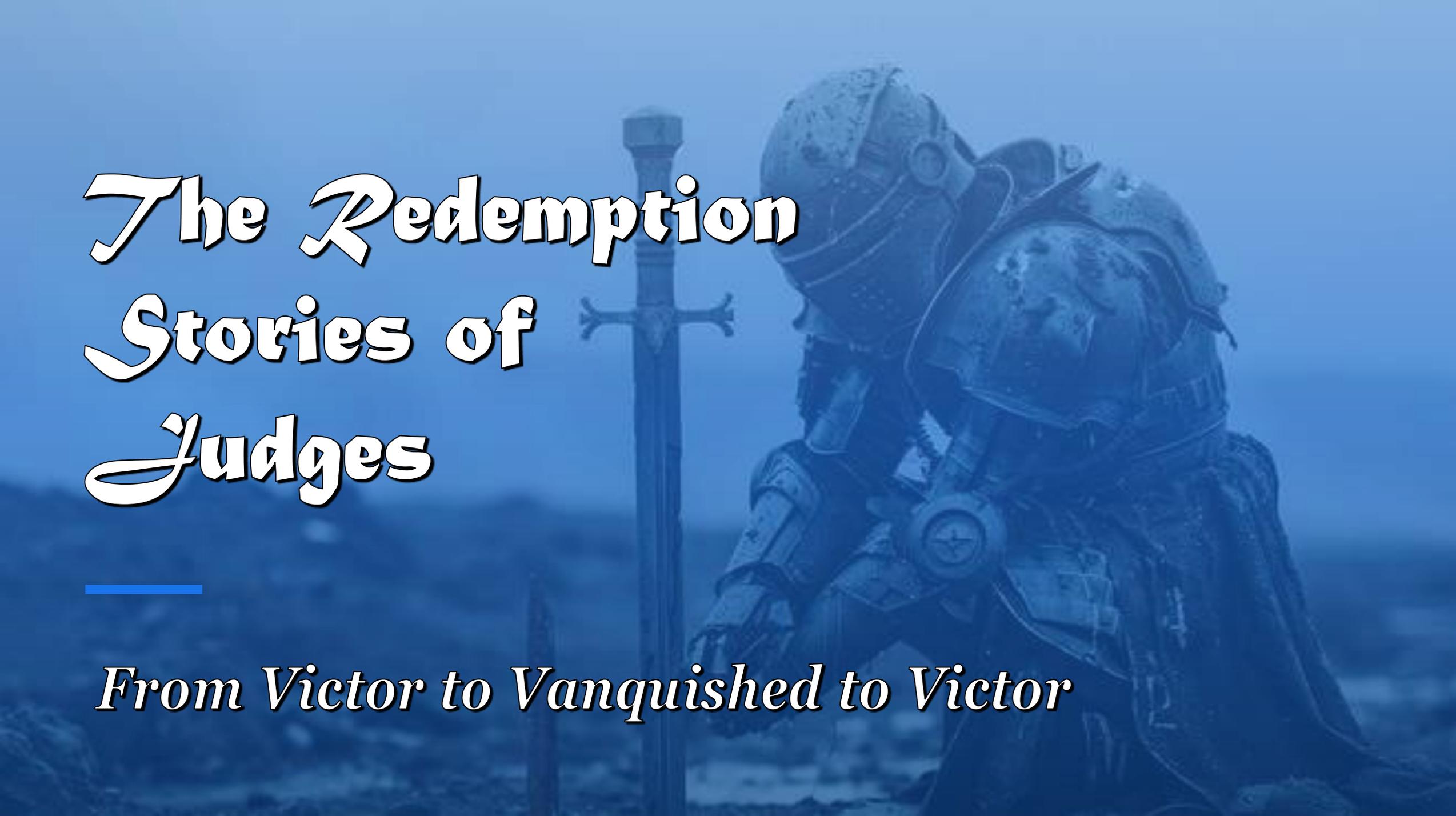
Pro 20:30, 1Pet 5:10

Reflection

“If you’re getting hammered, maybe it’s because God’s forging something strong in you. A sword doesn’t get shaped on silk — it’s shaped on an anvil.”

“Don’t give up. The fire you’re in might just be the forge where God’s preparing your next victory.”

Reflection



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