

BOOK OF JUDGES
WHAT HAPPENED?-PT 1
JUDGES 2:1-23

Introduction

I saw in world news this week that a plane crashed in Nepal last Sunday killing all 72 people on board the plane. It was that country's most deadly airline disaster in the last 30 years. The black box was recovered from the crash site and will be delivered to France for inspection to figure out the cause of the crash. Was it a mechanical issue? Was it pilot error? Or was it something else.

When a disaster happens, in the aftermath of the disaster, we often see a variety of investigators swing into action to try and figure out together "***What Happened?***" to cause the tragedy so that whatever happened might be avoided in the future!

Tonight we begin to look at a national tragedy that happened to the nation of **ISRAEL** after settling into the **PROMISED LAND!** (*Vs 7-13*)

After wandering in the wilderness for 40 years (because their parents could not **TRUST** the **LORD GOD** to do what **HE** said **HE** would do), somewhere in the neighborhood of about 2 million **ISRAELITES** had crossed **JORDAN** with **JOSHUA** as their leader.

This was a **HIGHLIGHT** in the life of every person who participated in that accomplishment. They had witnessed the **MIGHTY POWER** and **WONDER** of **GOD** all throughout their **CONQUEST OF CANAAN!** (*vs 7*)

However, **one generation later, this same nation is in deep trouble!** (*vs 10*)
What we see here begs for an examination to the answer to this question:
What happened? I want us to look see exactly ***what happened!***

A follow up question: **Could what we see that happened here in JUDGES 2 happen again?**

Many of us have witnessed the **MIGHTY POWER** and **WONDER OF GOD** since we've come to know the **LORD**. But, in your mind don't you question what is in store for the **CHURCH** in the **NEXT GENERATION?** We should be concerned!

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WHAT HAPPENED? Who or what "**FAILED**" in this situation to cause this great **TRAGEDY** that we see here?

I. THE LORD GOD DID NOT FAIL HIS PEOPLE! (*Judges 2:1*)

A. The LORD'S PROMISES Never Fail!

1. The LORD GOD Redeemed ISRAEL From Egypt Just As HE Promised ABRAM!

Genesis 15:13-14—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; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

2. The LORD GOD Brought Them To Canaan Land Just As HE PROMISED!

a. The LORD PROMISED The Land To ABRAHAM. (*Genesis 13:14-17;15:18;17:6-8*)

b. The LORD PROMISED The Land To ISAAC! (*Genesis 26:1-5*)

c. The LORD PROMISED The Land To JACOB! (*Genesis 28:13-15; 46:3ff*)

d. The LORD PROMISED The Land To The Children of ISRAEL Through JOSEPH! (*Genesis 50:24-25*)

e. The LORD PROMISED The Land To The Children Of ISRAEL Through MOSES! (*Exodus 3:6-8, 15-17; 6:6-8*)

3. The LORD GOD Kept HIS COVENANT With Them ALL Just As HE PROMISED!

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Aren't you glad the **LORD'S PROMISES** never fail?
Romans 4:21 says that **ABRAHAM** was "**fully persuaded that, what he [the LORD GOD] had promised, he was able also to perform.**"

Now, let's pause here and understand that just as **ISRAEL** had some **PROMISES**, so do we as **BELIEVERS!**

We have the LORD'S PROMISE of ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST!

1 John 2:25—"And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life."

1 John 5:11-13—"11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. 13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."

We have the LORD'S PROMISE of the INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT as BELIEVERS!

John 14:16-17—"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."

Ephesians 1:13—"...after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise"

We have the LORD'S PROMISE that HE is coming back one day!

2 Peter 3:4—"Where is the promise of his coming?"

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2 Peter 3:9—"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

Hebrews 10:36-37—"For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry."

We have the LORD'S PROMISE of a NEW HEAVEN and a NEW EARTH!

2 Peter 3:13—"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." (**JOHN** saw it in **Revelation 21:1ff**)

The LORD'S PROMISES Never Fail!

B. The LORD'S PURPOSE Never Fails!

Isaiah 14:24, 27-28—"The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand:" 27 "For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?"

Ephesians 1:11—"In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:"

2 Timothy 1:9—"Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began"

The LORD GOD DID NOT FAIL!
(HIS PROMISES Nor HIS PURPOSES Ever Fail)

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II. The LORD GOD'S PEOPLE DID FAIL!

A. The Grandparents Failed!

You would think that some valuable lessons would have been taught to their children and grandchildren while they wandered in the wilderness waiting to die. Here are a few lessons:

1. **TRUST GOD** to do what **HE** says **HE** will do!

2. To go against what **GOD** says to do is **REBELLION** and **GOD** takes **REBELLION** seriously!

3. **REBELLION** is **SIN** and **GOD** will **JUDGE** and **CHASTEN SIN!**

4. The wages of **SIN** is **DEATH!**

Conclusion

That's our Bible Study for this evening. Next week, LORD willing, we'll come back and look at how the Parents Failed as well. (Let's see a preview in *Judges 2:1-2*)