

ESTHER CHAPTER CONTENT

OUTLINE	Chapter	SUMMARY
I. The Decent into the valley of death (1-5).	1	The background conditions - A Royal Problem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent of Ahasuerus power (1:1-4) • The limit to Ahasuerus power – A disobedient Queen at a Provincial Party (1:5-18) • Ahasuerus fires his queen (1:19-22).
	2	The bold champions – A Royal Promotion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A search for the new Queen (2:1-4) • Mordecai and Esther are introduced. Esther is chosen as a candidate for new queen and keeps her Jewish heritage a secret (2:6-14) • Esther is chosen Queen and gains approval of all her know her (2:15-20). • Mordecai saves the Kings life by uncovering a plot (2:21-23).
	3	The absurd crisis – A Repulsive Plot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Haman is promoted and requires people to bow to him. Mordecai refuses to bow (3:1-5). ▪ Haman plots to destroy all the Jewish people in the realm because Mordecai does not bow (3:6-9) ▪ The King upholds Haman’s plan to destroy all the Jewish people in Persia on the day chosen by Purim (dice 3:10-15)
	4	The fearful climax – A Relative’s Prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mordecai asks Esther to beg for the life of their people (4:1-10). • Esther tells him that it may cost her life (4:11-12). • Mordecai asks her to risk her life and yet God will deliver with or without her (4:13-14) • Esther asks everyone to pray for her (4:15-17)
	5	The fearful climax – A Valiant Plea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esther appears before the King . . . and is admitted access (5:1-3). • Esther requests the king and Haman come to her banquet (5:4-9). • Haman love the attention and plans to hang Mordecai (5:10-14)
II. The Ascent out of the Valley (6-10).	6	An Ironic Twist – The murdered is honored. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sleepless night causes the King to read his memoirs and he finds that he needs to honor Mordecai for saving his life (6:1-5). • Haman tells King Ahasuerus how he should be honored, and the King asks him to honor Mordecai (6:6-10). • Haman leads Mordecai through the streets honoring him (6:11-14).
	7	An Ironic Twist – The murderer is killed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esther has the banquet for Haman and the King and reveals that Haman is trying to kill her and her people (7:1-6) • Haman pleads Esther for his life and the King mistakes the plea for violence and sentences him to death on the gallows that he made for Mordecai (7:7-10).
	8-10	An Ironic Twist – The oppressed are victors.

- Esther appeals on behalf of the Jewish people so that they would not be murdered (8:1-8)
- The Jewish people are permitted to fight against their attackers and win great victory over their opponents (8:8-9:25)
- A feast was celebrated and established to be celebrated from that time forward for the Jewish people (9:26-32)
- Mordechai prospers under Ahasuerus rule (10).

Esther: God Providentially Protects His People

Ezra / Nehemiah / Esther Timeline

Chapter	Time Period	Circumstance
Pre-Ezra/Nehemiah	Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (586 BC)	Jerusalem is destroyed, and exiles are taken captive into Babylon
Ezra 1	Cyrus (539-530 BC)	Decree to Zerubbabel: You are free to go back to Jerusalem. Go up! (<i>First Major Wave of Return of Exiles</i>)
Ezra 6	Darius I (522-486 BC)	Decree to Exiles: You can begin reconstruction of Temple again.
Esther	Ahasuerus (Xerxes) Reign (486-465)	Esther and Mordechai continue to live a life of faith in Exile.
Ezra 4	Appeals to Ahasuerus and Artaxerxes and probably everyone in between (515-460 BC)	Please make them stop building, they are going to cause trouble for you! (At times, the letter is heard and the Temple building project stops).
Ezra 7	Artaxerxes (458 BC)	Appeal to Ezra and others to return. (<i>Second Major Wave of Return</i>)
Nehemiah 1	Artaxerxes (445 BC)	Nehemiah gains permission to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls (Third Major Wave of Return)
Nehemiah 13	Artaxerxes (433 BC)	Nehemiah goes back and forth from Babylon back to Jerusalem.

EZRA OUTLINE

I. Exiles Return – God works on behalf of His people to mercifully build His promises.

A. God works through sovereign kings (1-2).

1. A Prophesied Decree (1:1-4)
2. Some Prophesied Details (1:5-11)
3. Some Prophesied Descendants (2)
4. A Prophesied Dedication (3)

B. God Works through opposition to bring about His purposes.

1. Ecumenical Opposition (4:1-4)
2. Official Opposition (4:4-24)

II. Ezra Returns: God works through leadership to mercifully build His people.

A. Ezra teaches the Word (7 – prayer of praise).

B. Ezra prays through danger (8 – prayer for protection).

C. Ezra preaches the Word (9-10 – prayer of confession).

1. Prayer/preaching of Confession (9).
2. Acts/preaching Repentance (10).

1. Chronicles Content		
I. 1-6 – The Return of the Exiles – God is in Control.	1	A Royal Decree to Action
	2	A list of those who returned from captivity.
	3	The Exile who Returned build the altar and begin to sacrifice. They culminate the institution of the temple foundation by celebrating with a praise service for God’s faithfulness.
	4	Opposition Arises. There is ecumenical pressure to combine forces. When the exiles refuse, they are faced with opposition. The opposition appeals to King Artaxerxes to keep stop them from building. Artaxerxes discontinues the building.
	5	Resilience: The Prophets encouraged the people to ignore the edict and continue building. They also file an appeal to Darius to allow them to continue building appealing to an earlier political decision.
	6	Opposition turned into Help – An appeal to Darius turns the King’s edict to change from opposition to support. He asks the antagonists to help and to fund the cost of re-building Jerusalem and the Temple.
II. 7-10 The Return of Ezra – God deserves our obedience.	13	David encourages Israel to seek the Lord through bringing up the ark of the covenant symbolizing a desire to remain faithful to God’s covenant. Uzza die while trying to steady the ark of the covenant showing God’s zeal for His presence and commitment to abiding by His Law.
	14	David is established as king with treaties of peace through marriage and military victory over the Philistines.
	15	The ark of the Covenant is brought into Jerusalem with great celebration.
	16	As the Ark of the Covenant comes into Jerusalem, David institutes a new hymn of praise to sing that focuses on God’s Covenant Promise about the Land given to Israel (vv 4-22 – Praise God for His glory in His dealings with Israel; vv. 23- 36 Praise God for His glory in His dealings with all the earth).
	17	David asks the Lord to allow Him to build a temple (vv. 1-3). God says no but promises David with an everlasting house. His descendant will have an eternal reign (vv. 4-15). David responds to God’s favor in a prayer of praise and thanksgiving (vv. 16-27).
	18	David’s military conquests expand his kingdom and raise financial provision for the Temple.
	19	Ammon starts war with David and hires the Arameans to help the fight against Joab and David. They cry out to God for help, and God gives them the victory
	20	God gives David repeated military victories. David no longer goes up to battle.
	21	David sins in numbering the people and God punishes through the angel of the Lord slaying 7000 men with a pestilence. A sacrifice is given so that the destroying angel does not destroy angel. The sacrifice is on the very place that the Temple will one day stand.
	22	David begins to gather supplies for the temple.
	23	The descendants of Levi who serve in the temple.
	24	The descendants of Aaron who serve at the Alter.
	25	The descendants of Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman who were to sing in the Temple.
	26	Lots were cast to determine the guards of different locations in Israel.
27	Listing of the commanders and heads of the children of Israel.	
28	David charges the leaders of Israel that Solomon will build a Temple in Jerusalem.	
29	David charges all the assembly to help Solomon build a Temple. The officers and rulers bring a collection to help pay for the building. They make Solomon king a second time.	

	27	Listing of the commanders and heads of the children of Israel.
	1	Following a day when Solomon offered 1,000 sacrifices, God asks him what he would like Him to give Solomon. Solomon asks for wisdom. He wants grace to do what God has called him to do.
	2	Solomon makes a treaty with the King of Tyre to provide supplies for his palace and the Temple.

2. Chronicles Content

<p>III. A place is built for God's people to seek Him (Solomon: 2 Chronicles 1-9).</p>	4	Solomon builds the furnishings for the Temple	
	5	The Ark is brought into the Temple, and following the singing of praise, and offering of sacrifice, God's glory fills the Temple.	
	6	Solomon prays, dedicating the Temple, and asking mercy for when the people sin. If they pray, please hear and have mercy on them (see especially 36-40)	
	7	God answers Solomon's prayer saying He will have mercy if people repent. He also offers Solomon the covenant given to David, if he continues to seek the Lord.	
	8	Solomon's kingdom expands as well as his city building.	
	9	The Queen of Sheba is taken with Solomon's wisdom and wealth. A recounting of Solomon's annual revenue and wealth. Death of Solomon.	
	10	Solomon's son, Rehoboam mistreats Israel through driving them to hard and loses 8 tribes to Jeroboam. Israel leaves David's royal line.	
	11	Rehoboam's rule. God tells him not to war with Jeroboam and the remaining tribes that did not follow him.	
	12	Although Rehoboam had a time of humbling (when under duress), overall, he did not seek the Lord to obey Him.	
	<p>IV. God's people do not consistently seek Him in the place He provided (Rest of the Kings: 2 Chronicles 10-36)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial Kings lead God's people to seek Him (2 Chronicles 10-20). <p>D. Subsequent Kings are half-hearted and backslid and back.</p>	13	Abijah's rule in Judah. He seeks the Lord for deliverance from Jeroboam's military might and God delivers him (13-15)
		14-16	Asa sought the Lord in trial and the Lord blessed his reign in Judah. See especially, 14:11 and 15:2 (Only in his final years did he not seek the Lord in illness).
		17-20	Jehoshaphat seeks the Lord for help in trial. He is nearly destroyed by partnering with Ahab, King of Israel - the Northern Tribes that did not seek the Lord at all. Jehoshaphat finds help in God against Moab and Amon (See 20:20). And yet, Judah did not seek the Lord completely as they were permitted to practice idolatry.
21		Jehoram, follows his father in law, Ahab to turn away from God and lead Judah into wickedness. Elijah prophesies against him.	
22		Ahaziah and then his wicked mother, Athaliah's reign in Judah. Joash is rescued from assassination by Athaliah and hidden in the Temple.	
23		Jehoiada, the priest brings Joash out of hiding to make him king in the place of wicked Queen Athaliah.	
24		Joash brings the Temple vessels back to the Temple and repairs the Temple to restore Judah's worship. Joash turns away from God when the priest, Jehoiada dies.	
25		Amaziah rules in Judah. He does not seek the Lord whole-heartedly, but he does not rely on wicked Israel to defeat enemies. He brings the defeated kingdom's (Edomites) idols back to worship.	
26		Uzziah seeks the Lord and becomes powerful but turns away from the Lord in pride when he is powerful.	
27		Jotham followed the Lord but not wholeheartedly by not entering into Temple worship, and not leading the people to seek God.	
28		Ahaz did evil in God's eyes, he sought help from other countries, closed up the Temple and worshiped idols (see 22-23).	
29-31		Hezekiah did right in God's eyes, re-establishing worship in the Temple and asking Israel to seek the Lord (29-Establishing Temple Worship; 30-Celebrates Passover; 31-prepare for future worship)	
32		Sennacherib threatens Hezekiah. Hezekiah seeks the Lord and the Lord delivers him (32:20);	
33		Manasseh and Amon do what is evil in God's eyes, leading Judah away from God. God brings Manasseh to captivity for his evil and he repents bringing God's mercy. Amon does not repent.	
34	Josiah does what is right in God's eyes, seeking God. He purifies the Temple again.		
35	Josiah celebrates the Passover and reinstates Temple worship.		
36	The reigns of wicked kings Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, Zedekiah, and the fall of Jerusalem. An appeal to obey the call from Cyrus to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple and seek God whole-heartedly.		

Concluding Appeal – Seek God in His place!		

A LOOK AT ONE BOOK – 1 and 2 Chronicles

3. Chronicles Content		
III. People are placed in a land to seek God (Genealogies: 1 Chronicles 1-10).	1	Genealogical record from Adam to Abraham (v. 1 takes us from Adam to the flood!) The author puts the primary focus on the line to Abraham.
	2	Genealogical record from Abraham’s children to David especially following Judah’s line (Sons of Israel and surrounding families).
	3	The sons of David and Solomon
	4	Genealogical record of Judah and Simeon (Notice the special attention given to the geography – 4:9-11, 40-43)
	5	Genealogical record of Reuben and half of Manasseh (Notice the special attention given to the geography – 5:9-11; 20-26)
	6	Genealogical record of Levi (The men who ministered in sacrifice, song and their dwelling places.)
	7	Genealogical record of Issachar, Benjamin, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim and Asher with emphasis on the numbers of men ready for battle.
	8	Genealogical record of Benjamin.
	9	The first group back from the Exile (Political leaders – vv. 1-9; Priests and Levites – vv. 10-16; Gatekeepers and Temple Help – vv. 17-34) and Saul’s genealogy.
II. Preparations made to build a place for people to seek God. • David rises to prominence and prepares for the Temple (1 Chronicles 10-21). • David passes Temple men to Solomon	10	The Philistines defeat Israel in Battle, death of King Saul
	11	Israel makes David King (vv. 1-3); David conquers the Jebusites, inhabits Jerusalem, and makes it a stronghold (vv. 4-8); David’s mighty warriors (vv. 9-47).
	12	Numbers of soldiers from each tribe that came to help make David king over Israel.
	13	David encourages Israel to seek the Lord through bringing up the ark of the covenant symbolizing a desire to remain faithful to God’s covenant. Uzza die while trying to steady the ark of the covenant showing God’s zeal for His presence and commitment to abiding by His Law.
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	2	Solomon makes a treaty with the King of Tyre to provide supplies for his palace and the Temple.
	3	Solomon begins construction on the Temple – measurements of foundation, the holy place and the most holy place.
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Concluding Appeal – Seek God in His place!	36	The reigns of wicked kings Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, Zedekiah, and the fall of Jerusalem. An appeal to obey the call from Cyrus to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple and seek God whole-heartedly.

SUMMARY – Seek God wholeheartedly and He will enable you to accomplish His will. Go up!

A LOOK AT ONE BOOK – 1 and 2 Samuel

1 Samuel Content		
Samuel – A God-given leader: We need a lasting King	1	Hannah's Prayer of Petition asking for a son; Eli's Promise; Samuel's Birth; Hanna's sacrifice dedicating Samuel
	2	Hannah's Prayer of Praise; Samuel serves faithfully in the Temple; Eli's sons serve wickedly; Eli confronts his sons and they do not listen.
	3	God speaks through Samuel and tells him that Eli's sons will die.
	4	Israel falls to the Philistines and 34,000 die. The ark of the covenant is captured, Eli's sons die, and Eli dies after hearing the news. His daughter in law dies giving birth after hearing the news and names the child – Ichabod.
	5	The Ark of God devastates the Philistines in whatever city they try to house it. They decide they have to get rid of it.
	6	After seven months of difficulty, the Philistines send the ark back to Israel being carried by cows who had just given birth. 70 from Beth-Shemesh are killed when they look in the ark. The ark stays in Kiriath-Jearim (20 years).
	7	Samuel compels Israel to turn from idols to worship Yahweh. Israel obeys and gathers with Samuel at Mizpah to fast, offer sacrifice and pray. The Philistines gather to defeat Israel and the Lord gives Israel military victory. This victory brought a time of peace for Israel:
	8	Samuel's Sons tarnish their dad's legacy and work motivated by greed, perverting justice. Israel demands a king instead of Samuel as judge. Samuel warns Israel of the dangers of having a king.
Saul – A Leader Spoiled by Pride: We	9	In search of his dad's lost donkeys, Saul is led to Samuel who tells him he will be the future ruler of Israel.
	10	Saul is anointed king and prophesies. Samuel gathers Israel to announce Saul's kingship while Saul hides from the attention.
	11	Saul leads Israel to rescue the city of Jabesh-Gilead from the king of Ammon who threatened to gouge out all of the men's right eyes.
	12	Chapter 12 – Samuel's final charge and sermon to Israel. (His innocence, Israel's rebellion). Samuel prays for Israel because they asked for a king. He warns them that if they disobey God, they will be swept away even with a king.
	13	Chapter 13 – Saul summons the entire Israelite army at Gilgal and waits for Samuel to come to request God's blessing. The Philistines gather near and the army of Israel starts to diminish with their waiting. Saul offered up the sacrifice and is dismissed from being king.
	14	Chapter 14 – Saul's son, Jonathan, secures a valiant victory for Israel but his victory is shortlived by Saul's lack of discernment in not allowing the army to eat. He threatens to kill Jonathan for eating honey but is saved from following through on his threat.

David – A Leader after Gods Heart We need a perfect King.	15	Saul does not completely obey regarding the killing of the Amalekites. Saul is rejected from being king and Samuel kills Agag.
	16	Samuel anoints the boy, David, as king. Man looks on the outward appearance but God looks on the heart. The Spirit of God leaves Saul and came powerfully on David. David serves as a musician for Saul.
	17	In an errand for his brothers, David is the only one who stands up to Goliath. David publicly acknowledges his trust in the Lord for deliverance and secures victory for Israel’s army.
	18	David gains the trust and praise of Israel, Jonathan’s friendship, Saul’s jealousy, Saul’s daughter, Michael’s hand in marriage through a plot from Saul to kill him.
	19	Saul tries to kill David and both Jonathan and Michael work to save David’s life. David runs from Saul to Ramah.
	20	Jonathan encourages his friend David to come back to eat at his father’s table. They design a plan to see if Saul still plots David’s and find that he does. Jonathan and David enter a covenant of friendship for their descendants.
	21	David escapes from Saul with weapons and food from Ahimelech the priest and flees to the Philistines.
	22	People begin to gather to David in the wilderness. Saul kills Ahimelech the priest for giving food and a weapon to David.
	23	David delivers a city from the Philistines, Saul tries to capture and kill David. David is warned again to leave.
	24	David is delivered from the hand of Saul and his army again. David has the opportunity to kill Saul and shows his faithfulness by sparing his life.
	25	Samuel dies. David spares Nabal’s life even though he mistreats David. David enacts mercy as Saul shows him no mercy.
	26	Saul again traps David and David is delivered while sparing Saul’s life. David respects the Lord’s anointed even if the anointed wants to kill him.
	27	David moves to live among the Philistines and start to battle against them from within their borders.
	28	David is called upon to join a large battle against Israel. Saul asks a witch to summon up Samuel so he can hear from the Lord.
	29	The Philistines refuse to go up to battle with David against Israel because they don’t trust him.
	30	David’s camp is raided so he takes it back with a great victory, showing justice and discernment with his ragtag army.
	31	The Philistine attack Israel at Mount Gilboa and Saul and three of his sons (including Jonathan) die.
	2 Samuel Content	
	1	David kills the man who killed Saul and mourns the death of a hero in Israel. (Interesting side note that Saul is killed ultimately by an Amalekite).
	2	David seeks the Lord’s direction about where to stay and moves to Hebron. Civil war ensues with Abner choosing Ishbosheth, Saul’s son as the new king. David’s troops win, but Abner kills Asahel, Joab’s brother who is the commander of David’s army.
	3	Abner leave’s Saul’s side of the civil war and joins David’s army unifying Israel. Joab kills Abner by stealth and David lays upon Joab’s house the blood of Abner.
	4	Ishbosheth (Saul’s son) is assassinated and his head is brought to David.
	5	David is anointed king in Hebron by all Israel. He is blessed because he is following the “Lord of Heaven’s Armies.” His kingdom expands through military conquest, and war. David secures Jerusalem.
	6	David tries to bring the ark of God to Jerusalem. Uzza is struck dead for trying to steady the ark. The ark is brought to Obed-Edom and blessed. David brings the ark into Jerusalem as required by Law. As it enters Jerusalem, David dances with all his strength.
	7	Davidic Covenant – David wants to build a house for God, a Temple and God states that David kingdom and rule will have no end. This is a reference to a coming leader a Messianic reign. David offers a song of praise for the Lord’s overwhelming mercy and grace.
	8	The Lord continues to expand David’s kingdom through military conquest over Philistines, Hadedezzer, and the Edomites.
	9	David shows kindness to Mephibosheth, Jonathan’s son and all the property that belonged to Saul.
	10	The Ammonite king disgraces David’s ambassadors who come in peace. Joab’s army fought and defeated both the Ammonite army and the Aramean army that came to help the Ammonites securing military superiority for Israel in the ancient Middle East.
	11	David, lazy, successful, and selfish looks out at Bathsheba, wife of Uriah, one of his soldiers and commits immorality with her. To cover up, he places Uriah in the heat of the battle so that he will die. Uriah is more faithful drunk than David is sober.
	12	Nathan the prophet confronts David’s immorality, injustice, murder and treason. David repents and asks forgiveness. He begs God to spare the life of his child. The baby dies and David and Bathsheba give have another son named Solomon.

13	David continues to reap the consequences of his son. His son Amnon rapes his daughter Tamar (Absalom's sister). Absalom avenges his sister by killing his brother Amnon two years later. Absalom fled from his Father David.
14	Absalom works his way back into king David's presence through Joab's influence.
15	Absalom wins the people of Israel over to himself as a leader. He ousts David from the throne. David flees weeping while walking over the Mt. of Olives. He leaves Hushai a counselor and two priests (Zadok and Abiathar) as spies. Ahithophel, David's previous advisor sides with Absalom.
16	David is blessed by Saul's servant, Ziba, and cursed by Saul's servant. Absalom follows Hushai's counsel, and waits to try to unite all the tribes against David. He sleeps with David's wives in the presence of all Israel (most likely on the same rooftop that David saw Bathsheba).
17	Absalom follows Hushai's advice instead of Ahithophel and David escapes from his son into the wilderness. Ahithophel kills himself, Absalom starts to move in to conquer his dad.
18	David's army kills Absalom and David grieves for the life of his son.
19	David returns to Jerusalem as king.
20	Sheba begins another revolt asking the ten tribes of Israel to follow him instead of David. The tribes of Israel follow Sheba. Joab and Abishai overcome Sheba.
21	Israel reaps the consequences of Saul's sin against the Gibeonites. God sends rain after they
22	David's song of praise for deliverance from Saul's sword.
23	David's last words and inner circle of warriors.
24	David sins again in self-reliance by numbering the tribes of Israel. God has mercy in answer to David's prayer.

SUMMARY - God leads us to long for a perfect Leader who will lead us to enjoy God's glory permanently.

A LOOK AT ONE BOOK – JUDGES

		Summary	Content
SETUP FOR FAILURE – INCOMPLETE OBEDIENCE	1	Judah is given the torch and asked to lead in continuing to possess the land, but Israel does not continue with complete obedience.	1-7 – Judah's promising beginning – military victories. 9-12 – Caleb leads the charge and encourages military victory. 13-34 – Judah, Manasseh, Ephraim, Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali and Dan did not drive out the inhabitants of the Promised Land.
	2	The remnants left in the land cause Israel to sin.	1-5 – The Angel of the Lord rebukes Israel for incomplete obedience and tells them that they will not be able to fulfil their promise. 6-10 – Death of Joshua 11-23 – Summary of the cycle of the remainder of the book – rebellion, punishment, repentance, deliverance.
CYCLE OF FAILURE –	3	Israel falls into rebellion and idol worship and God sends three different deliverers.	1-6 – As Israel begins to marry people in the land who do not worship the Lord, they begin to worship their idols and rebel against God. 7-11 – Othniel delivers from Cushan-rishathaim. 12-30 – Ehud delivers from Eglon King of Moab victory over 31 – Shamgar delivers from Philistines.

SUM MIT OF FALL	4	God uses Deborah and Barak to deliver Israel from Jabin king of Canaan.	1-10 – Deborah calls Barak to join her in leading Israel to military victory. 11-16 – God gives victory over Sisera, the military captain for Jabin’s army. 17-22 – Jael kills Sisera by driving a spike through his temple.
	5	Deborah and Barak sing a song of praise for victory from Israel’s Enemy.	
	6	God uses Gideon to deliver Israel from the Midianites	1-6 – Israel rebels again. 7-10 – A prophet explains to Israel why they were being oppressed by the Midianites. 11-32 – God calls Gideon to serve mightily, Gideon serves secretly, tearing down family idols. 28-32 – Gideon asks the Lord for a sign before going to battle – Gideon’s fleece.
	7		1-8 – The Lord tests Gideon’s faith by shrinking his army to 300 men. 9-18 – The Lord gives Gideon confidence through overhearing the fear in the enemy camp. 19-25 – The Lord gives Gideon victory over the Midianites.
	8		1-12 – Gideon pursues and defeats Ziba and Zalmunna, kings of Midian. 13-21 – Gideon destroys those in Israel who did not help him. 22-35 – Gideon mixes true worship with his own ideas and leads Israel to sin. Israel rebels again.
	9	Abimelech rules Israel by killing all his brothers.	1-6 – Abimelech takes control of Israel by killing 70 brothers. The youngest, Jotham escapes into hiding. 7-21 – Jotham’s story against Abimelech’s reign. 22-50 – Abimelech overthrows a conspiracy against his reign in Sechem by destroying the tower in Shechem with fire, fulfilling the prophecy of Jotham in verse 20. 50-57 – God returns the violence of Abimelech upon himself and he is killed by a tower
	10	Tola, Jair, and more rebellion.	1-2 – Summary of Tola as judge. 3-5 – Summary of Jair as Judge. 6-18 – Israel rebels and serves Baal. God sends judgement through delivering Israel into the Philistines and Ammonites and Israel cries out for mercy.
	11	God raises up Jephthah to give deliverance.	1-33 – Jephthah delivers from Ammonites. 34-40 – Jephthah devotes his daughter to sacrifice.
	12	Jephthah battles his own Israelites. Summary of three more Judges.	1-7 – Ephraim on the West side of the Jordan picks a fight with Jephthah on the West Side and Jephthah kills Ephraimites. 8-10 – Summary of Ibzan as Judge. 11-12 – Summary of Elon as Judge. 13-15 – Summary of Abdon as Judge.
	13	Sampson judges Israel.	1 – Israel again returns to idolatry. 2-20 – The Angel of the Lord (Jesus) appears to Sampson’s parents and tells them that their son will deliver Israel from the Philistines.
	14		1-9 Sampson marries a Philistine woman. 10-20 – Sampson kills 30 Philistines because of losing a bet.
	15		1-8 – Sampson burns the Philistines grain because they gave his wife to someone else. 9-19 – Sampson kills 1,000 Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey.
	16		1-17 – Sampson marries Delilah and is deceived four times and he tells her the secret to his strength. 18-31 – Sampson is captured but kills more in his death than in his life.
	17	The idolatry of Micah.	1-6 – Micah steals his mom’s fortune and makes an idol. 7-19 – Micah hires a Levite to try to earn God’s blessing.
	18	The idolatry of Dan	1-26 – The tribe of Dan takes the idol and the priest away from Micah.

			27-31 – Dan takes advantage of a peaceful city and sets up a place of worship.
	19	The wickedness of the Benjamites.	1-20 – A Levite travels with his concubine through the tribe of Benjamin. 21-28 – The men of the city rape and murder his concubine till morning. 29-30 – The Levite delivers her body to the 12 tribes asking Israel to do something about the violence in Benjamin.
	20	Israel rises up and destroys the tribe of Benjamin.	Three cities set aside as cities for people to flee to await a trial once they are accused of murder.
	21	Israel provides wives for the tribe of Benjamin	

SUMMARY - God patiently punishes and delivers His people.

		Summary	Content
CONQUEST – INTRODUCTION TO A SERMON	1	Rebellion Summarized	1-5 - Place and Setting 6-46 - The Rebellion 6-18 Recounting the Division of Labor/Leaders 19-46 Recounting the Spies and Rebellion
	2	Conquest Begins!	1-8 -Don't bother the Edomites the descendants of Esau 9-23 - Don't bother Moab, the descendants of Lot. 24-25 - A command to cross over to occupy. 26-37 - Edom and Moab allows them to pass, but Sihon and Og refuse and declares war. Israel gains its first victory.
	3	East of Jordan Conquest	1-22 – Two Amorite kings East of the Jordan come up against Israel to take them and God gives victory, providing land and inheritance for Ruben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh. 23-29 – Moses pleads to see the Lord conquest the other side of the Jordan. God says no.
COMMANDS – EXHORTATION AND INSTRUCTION IN A	4	An urgent appeal to obey and a prophecy that they will not obey.	1-25 – A warning to obey God's commands. 26-31 – A prophecy that they will disobey and be dispossessed and then turn to God and God will bring them back.
	5	Moses preaches again the ten commandments recounting their setting.	1-20 – Setting of and 10 Commandments preached 21-27 – People ask Moses to get the words from God for He is to holy and glorious. 28-32 - Application – Obey, stay on the path.
	6	Do not follow the idols of the land you are possessing.	1-22 – God is great to give you this land and to cast out all these other people groups. But be sure to follow God
	7	An appeal not to be influenced by the nations that they drive out.	1-16 – Don't marry, or allow the lands you are driving out influence you to flee from God. 17-26 – Encouragement based on the character of God in past history that they are able to take lands stronger and more powerful than them.
	8	When you get into the land that is rich, don't let the richness turn you from God.	

9	Your entrance into the land is not by works, but by Grace.	1-6 – Don't be proud about the reason that you are inheriting the land. 7-21 – You made the Lord angry at the giving of the 10 commandments. I had to plead for your life! 22-29 – You made God very angry at four other times in the wilderness wandering that if I had not stepped in you would have been destroyed.
10	Moses appeal for justice following his return from the mountain.	1-4 - Moses made a second stone of the ten commandments. 5-9 - Levites were separated for the use of the temple. 10-11 - Moses stayed on the mountain for forty days and forty nights. 12-22 - When Moses came down from the mountain He encouraged Israel to Love God and Love others – giving justice to everyone, even the foreigner that resides with them.
11	Go into the land because you have seen God's power and discipline and the land is fruitful. A blessing will come or a curse depending on obedience.	1-8 - Go up and take the land because (knowing the history of the wilderness wanderings) you now know of the problems that come upon those who did not obey. 9-25 - Go up and take the land because it is fruitful. 26-32 - There will be a blessing if you obey, and a curse if you disobey God's commands.
12	Instructions about specific laws.	1-18 - Only worship and sacrifice in the place that God will provide for the Temple (Jerusalem), and no just anywhere. 19-32 - Don't eat blood, take care of Levites, please the Lord in obeying Him.
13	Instructions about various laws. – Those who encourage apostasy must suffer capital punishment.	1-5 - Be very careful which prophet you listen to. Only listen to a prophet who speaks God's Words. 6-11 - If a person (even family member!) tries to make you turn from the Lord, they must be put to death. 12-18 - If a city falls into idolatry, then you must destroy the city and its inhabitants.
14	Instructions about laws regarding holiness.	1-2 – Don't cut yourself. 3-23 – Dietary restrictions. 22-29 – Tithe Instruction (tithe for travel to Jerusalem and third year for the Levites).
15	Instruction about laws of property and debt.	1-6 – Every seventh year all that has been borrowed will be released from debt. 7-11 Lend freely to anyone who is poor among you. Don't consider how much time will pass till the seventh year comes. 12-18 A servant who is a fellow Hebrew should be released in the seventh year unless they choose to stay in your household. 19-23 – Sacrifice up the firstborn of your livestock.
16	Instructions about feasts and celebrations.	1-8 – Celebrate the Passover 9-12 – Feast of Weeks 13-17 – Feast of Booths 18-20 – Instill just judges.
17	Instructions regarding justice.	1 - Don't offer a sacrifice with a blemish. 2-5 - Death is the penalty for idolatry. 6-7 – Laws regarding witnesses. 8-13 – Difficult cases take before the Levites and priests. 14-20 – Instructions for a future king.
18	Instruction regarding receiving Levites, avoiding detestable practices, and listening to a true Prophet.	1-8 – Levites are devoted to the service of the Lord so they do not have a land of inheritance. 9-14 – Don't follow the detestable practices of the land you possesses (witchcraft, abortion; false prophets). 15-22 – Don't listen to false prophets. One True Prophet like Moses will be raised up who will call people to follow Him.

	19	Instruction regarding property in the New Land.	1-13 Instruction regarding three cities of refuge – cities for tribunals in trials regarding of murder. 14 - Instructions regarding property boundaries in the New Land. 15-21 Instruction regarding witnesses. False witnesses should be punished in the way they tried to punish others.
	20	Instruction regarding war and armies.	1-4 – Armies should not be afraid for God fights for you. 5-8 – Those exempt from military duty. 9 – Appoint army heads. 10-12 – Offer the town peace if they comply. 13-20 – Instruction regarding besieging and taking a city
	21	Instruction regarding unsolved murders and marriages.	1-9 – Offer sacrifice when you find a dead body and do not know who the murderer is. 10-14 – A soldier finds a wife in battle. 15-16 – Family inheritance for families with two wives. 18-21 – Capital punishment for a rebellious son.
	22	Instruction regarding various laws.	1-12 – Various commands of morality. 13-30 – Instruction regarding a lady’s virginity.
	23	Instruction regarding various laws.	1-6 – Limitation of who can serve or enter the Temple. 7-28 – Various laws applying God’s holiness in the camp (bathroom, prostitutes, charging interest, vows, personal property).
	24	Instruction regarding various laws.	1-9 – Instruction regarding divorce and marriage. 10-22 - Security for the poor and needy (foreigners, poor, orphans).
	25	Instruction regarding various laws.	1-3 – Penalty for law breaking. 4 – Let the ox eat while it works. 5-10 – Inheritance laws. 11-16 – Various laws. 17-19 – Instruction regarding Amalekites.
	26	Instructions regarding bringing in tithe.	1-14 – Offer the tithe of your first fruits for the priests and the poor. 15-19 - And offer a prayer asking God’s blessing on your land as you give.
COVENANT - APPLICATION AND ILLUSTRATION OF A SERMON	27	Moses sets up two visual aids in helping them remember to obey.	1-8 - When you cross Jordan, set up stones on which these laws are written. 9-13 – Split the tribes up one half on Mount Gerizim to offer a blessing, and half on Mount Ebal to recite a curse. 14-26 – The words of the curse to those who disobey God’s commands.
	28	The second part of the visual aid.	1-56 – The blessing and curse for obedience or disobedience. The curse prophesies of a disobedience and a loss of the land.
	29	Reiteration of the blessing and curse and promise that they will fail.	
	30	A promise of a New Covenant.	When you are displaced, you will return and I will have compassion on you.
	31	Moses closing instruction to Joshua	Israel will disobey.
	32	Moses’ closing instruction in a song	
	33	Moses’ closing blessing to each tribe	
	34	Moses death and installation of Joshua.	