

KNOW THE BIBLE



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Books of History #2

Pre-Kingdom Period

The next set of Books in the Holy Bible is the Pre-Kingdom Period of the Books of History. These books are also known as the Conquest Period. The Pre-Kingdom Period includes these three books:

- ***Joshua***
- ***Judges***
- ***Ruth***

How to remember this section:

Moses dies at end of Pentateuch without entering the Promised Land. **Joshua** is the next leader of the Israelites leading them into the Promised Land. Thus the Book of Joshua is the next book heading the Pre-“King”dom era. This is the time before Israel had a king. Double J’s (**Joshua & Judges**) followed by **Ruth** which takes place in the time of the judges.

- **Joshua** - the 1st book after the Pentateuch. Led by Joshua, the Israelites now cross into the land that God promised to them. The 1st half of this book is about the conquest of the Promised Land around 1400 B.C. The 2nd half is about the settlement of the land among the twelve tribes. **Victory comes from their obedience to God.**
- **Judges** – By contrast this book is about their **disobedience and subsequent defeats**. There are 12 judges during this time period (emphasis on the number 12); 6 major judges (Othniel, Ehud, Deborah, Gideon, Jephthah, and Samson) and 6 minor judges or deliverers (Shamgar, Tola, Jair, Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon). During these distinct cycles of disobedience to oppression to deliverance, the Israelites are given military champions to shed their bondage only to fall back into their sinful ways.
- **Ruth** – This book is about a **particular time period within the Judges timeframe**. Ultimately, it is description of God's provision and sovereign plan for the genealogy of the Messiah and His redemptive plan through history. One of only two Biblical books named after a main character being a woman, Ruth being a Moabite woman **shows that God's children are not decided by birth or blood, but by an obedience that comes from faith.**

The timeframe spans more than 350 years from Moses to the 1st King of Israel, Saul in 1050 B.C.

*This is the second section of books in the Holy Bible. There are 3 books in this group totaling 8 books to this point: (**remember: double J's start this section**)*

(Write the books in the spaces below; for permanent memory)

G _____

E _____

L _____

N _____

D _____

J _____

J _____

R _____

Now you know the first 8 books of the Holy Bible in order, the flow of the books, and what they are about.

Below are 3 Bible verses from the Pre-Kingdom Period. Match the correct Bible verse to the corresponding Book. The idea is to become familiar with where topics and names are found in the Word of God.

1. *"So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day."*

Judges 7:2

2. *"The Lord said to Gideon, 'You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her,'"*

Ruth 4:17

3. *"The woman living there said, 'Naomi has a son.' And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David."*

Joshua 10:13

Below are 3 Bible verses from the Pre-Kingdom Period. Correctly identify the Bible verse with the corresponding book. The idea is to become familiar with where topics and names are found in the Word of God.

"And Joseph's bones, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at Shechem in the tract of land that Jacob bought for a hundred pieces of silver from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem. This became the inheritance of Joseph's descendents."

1. Which book of the Pre-Kingdom Period? _____

"Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side, from the clan of Elimelech, a man of standing, whose name was Boaz."

2. Which book of the Pre-Kingdom Period? _____

"So Delilah said to Samson, 'Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued.'"

3. Which book of the Pre-Kingdom Period? _____

Joshua 24:32

Judges 16:6

Ruth 2:1

After identifying the previous Bible verses, take the time to find a Bible verse on your own that really identifies with that particular book. Just the act of searching and writing it down gives you a better sense and greater familiarity with the Word of God. You are actively participating in studying the Holy Bible.

Joshua

Judges

Ruth

Notes

Describe a topic in this section to remember.

(Example: *Delilah betrays Samson informing the Philistines the secret to his power. Judges 16)*
