

1 & 2 Samuel Series

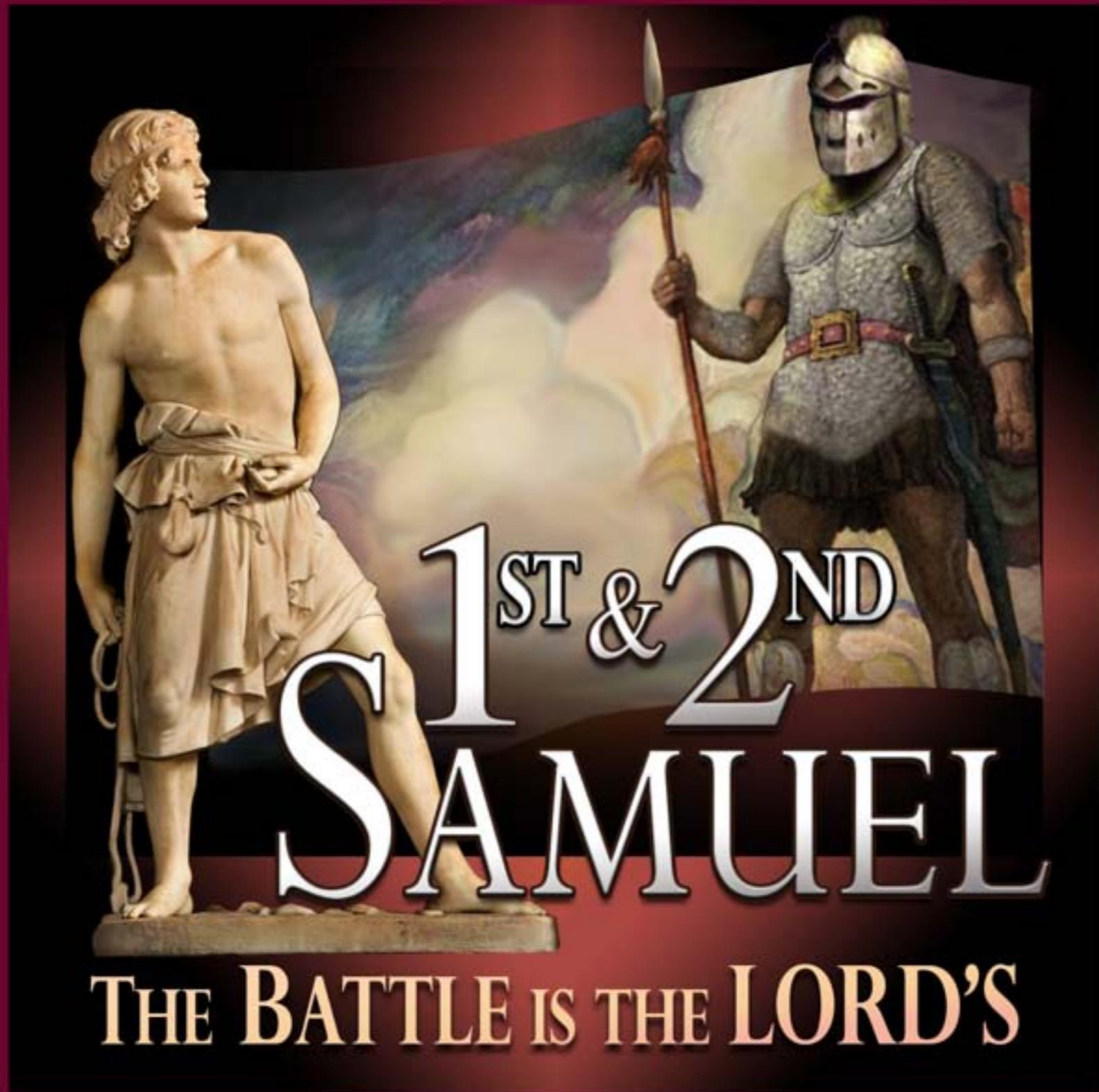
Lesson #004

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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**PAGANISM'S IMPACT ON LEADERSHIP
JUDGES REVIEW**



UNIVERSALS/NOUMENA
The CREATOR GOD

Absolutes
Values

Meaning

Morals
Ideas

DETAILS/PHENOMENA

Observable
phenomena

Law

Things Events Politics Language

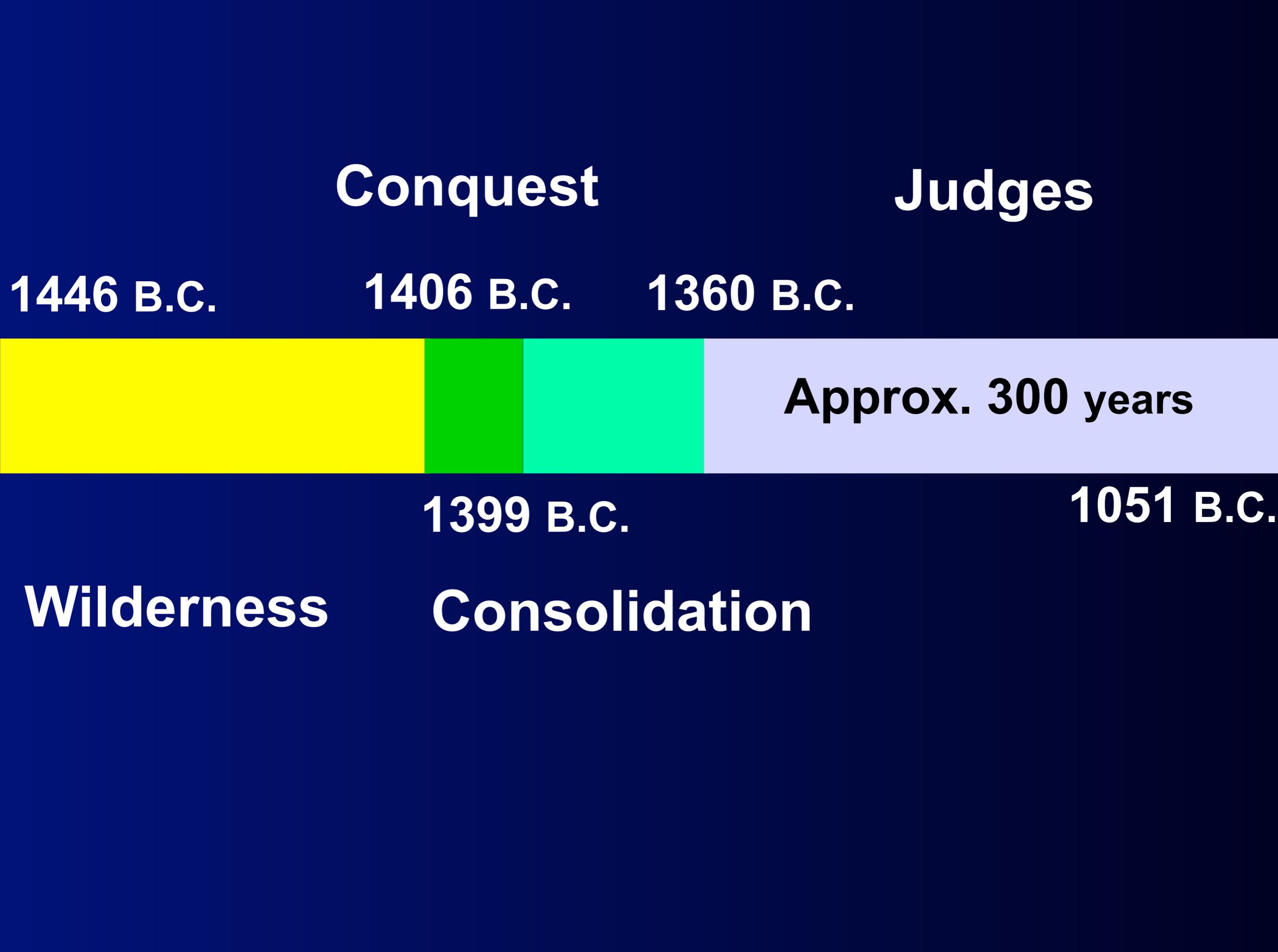


**No Meaning, No God
Existential Darkness, Despair**

DETAILS/PHENOMENA

People Observable phenomena

Things Events Language



Conquest

Judges

1446 B.C.

1406 B.C.

1360 B.C.

Approx. 300 years

1399 B.C.

1051 B.C.

Wilderness

Consolidation

JUDGES

UNITED MONARCHY

Jepthah
Samson
Eli Samuel
Micah

Saul

David

Solomon

Jephthah, 1150–1100 BC

Samson, 1123–1084 BC

Samuel, 1115–1020 BC

1124 BC

1106 BC

Saul, 1075–1010

**Ammonite
Oppression**

1084 BC 1050 BC

**Philistine
Oppression**

Battle of Aphek 1104 BC (1 Sam. 4)	Battle of Mizpah 1084 BC (1 Sam. 7:11)
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2 Pet. 1:20, “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation,

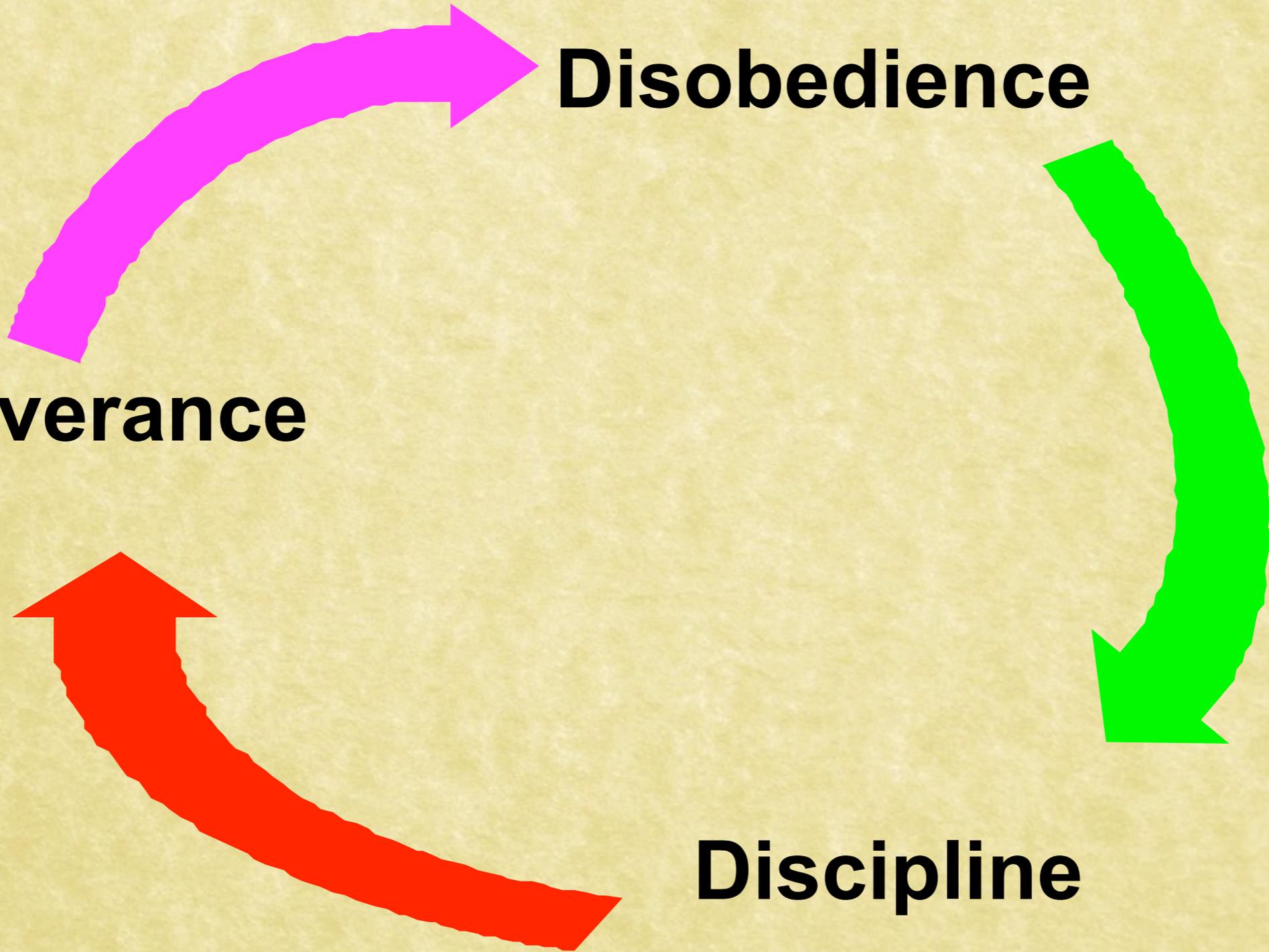
2 Pet. 1:21, “for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

The Cycles of the Judges

Disobedience

Deliverance

Discipline

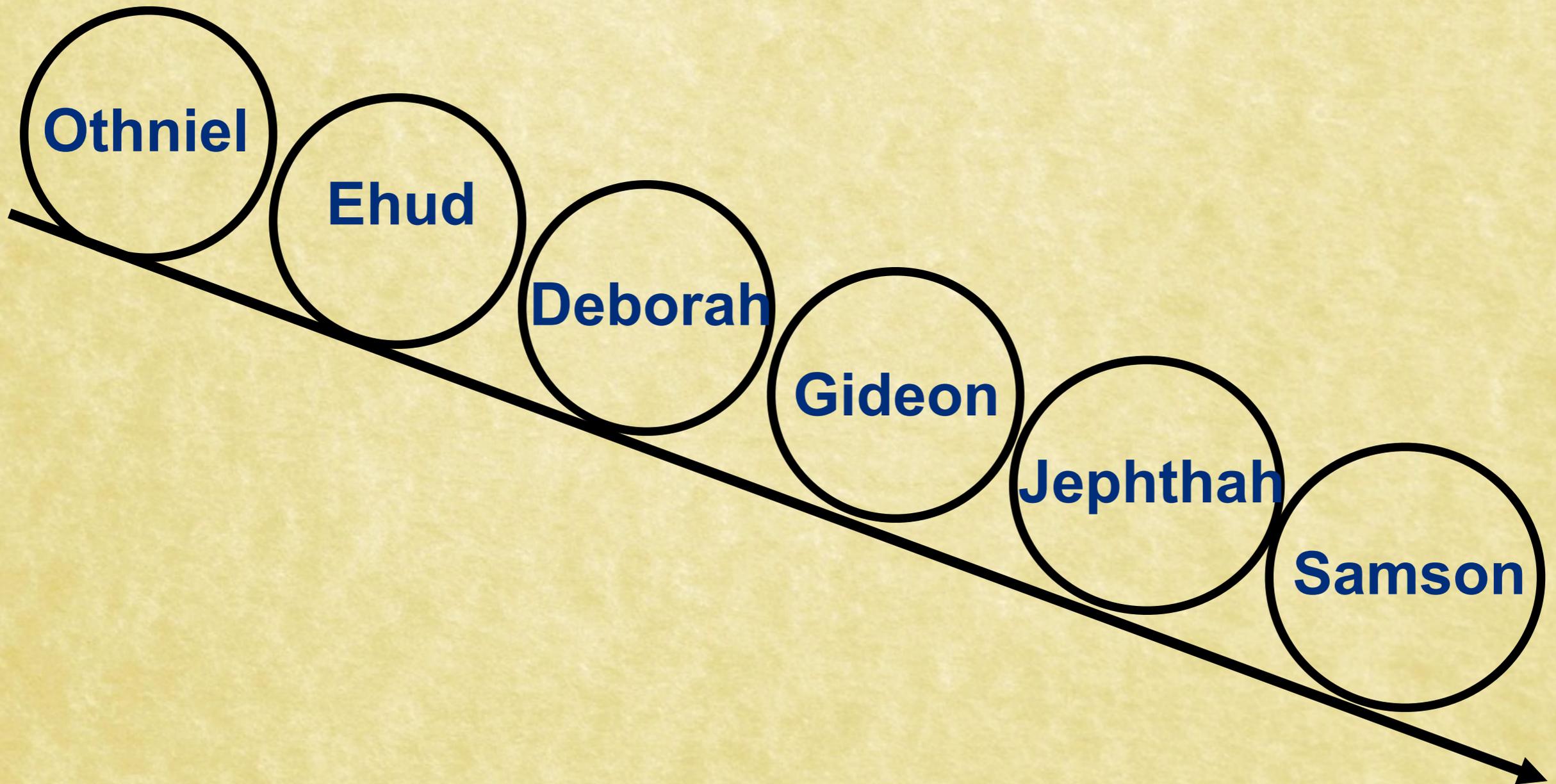


Judg. 17:6, “In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes.”

Judg. 18:1, “In those days there was no king of Israel; and in those days the tribe of the Danites was seeking an inheritance for themselves to live in, for until that day an inheritance had not been allotted to them as a possession among the tribes of Israel.”

Judg. 19:1, “Now it came about in those days, when there was no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite staying in the remote part of the hill country of Ephraim, who took a concubine for himself from Bethlehem in Judah.”

Spiritual Decline and Paganization of the Judges



Judg. 8:22, “Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, ‘Rule over us, both you and your son, also your son’s son, for you have delivered us from the hand of Midian.’”

Judg. 8:23, “But Gideon said to them, ‘I will not rule over you, nor shall my son rule over you; the LORD shall rule over you.’”

Judg. 9:6, “And all the men of Shechem and all Beth-millo assembled together, and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar which was in Shechem.”



Shechem, Mount Ebal, Sychar from Mount Gerizim



Mt. Ebal

Sychar

Shechem
(Tell Balata)

Mt. Gerizim

Shechem, Mount Ebal, Sychar from Mount Gerizim



Shechem, Tell Balata, from Mount Gerizim



Shechem, Tell Balata, from Mount Gerizim





Shechem, Tell Balata, standing stone



1 Sam. 8:5, “and they said to him, ‘Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us *LIKE ALL THE NATIONS.*’

1 Sam. 8:6, “But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, ‘Give us a king to judge us.’ And Samuel prayed to the LORD.”

1 Sam. 8:7, “And the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but *THEY HAVE REJECTED ME* from being king [*malek*] over them.

1 Sam. 8:8, “ ‘Like all the deeds which they have done since the day that I brought them up from Egypt even to this day — in that they have forsaken Me and served other gods — so they are doing to you also.’ ”

- 1. Human government and the authority of human government is established in the covenant with Noah to restrain sin and evil in a culture and to exercise judicial restraint and punishment for criminal activity.
Gen. 9:5–7**

2. In Israel this government took the specific form of a theocracy. God was the ruler and under him were specific leaders called *shophetim*, or JUDGES who were raised up in times of national need to deliver the nation from oppression, lead the armies of *YHWH* against the enemy, and in some cases to render judicial decision.

3. Under this theocratic government established by God in the Mosaic Law, Israel had been given a code for freedom not only unique in the ancient world but unique in history.

4. Under the Mosaic Law Israel had the right to possess property, enjoy its blessings, benefit and to profit in business transactions unhindered by an overpowering government.

5. Freedom includes authority and respect for authority. Freedom without authority is anarchy; authority without freedom is tyranny. You cannot have one without the other.

6. Absence of despotic monarchy in Israel not only meant a high degree of personal freedom, but also stood out as a unique and powerful witness for YHWH in the ancient world.

7. Under this environment of freedom Israel could achieve spiritual success which would bring them material blessing, military victory, and agricultural bounty as a testimony to the grace and power of the one true God.

8. But failure to follow the divine mandates led to a cultural decline where Israel resembled their pagan neighbors and there was no discernible difference in the way they thought or acted.

9. Only Bible doctrine provides a framework to maintain the proper balance between freedom and authority.