

Biblical Economics — 2

Ruth 1¹ Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges judged (שֹׁפְטֵי הַשְּׁפָטִים), that there was a famine in the land. . . .²² . . . Now they came to Bethlehem (בֵּית לֶחֶם) at the beginning of barley harvest.

Ruth 4¹³ So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife; and when he went in unto her, the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son. . . .¹⁶ . . . And they called his name Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David. . . .²² Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David.

Judges 3¹² And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord. So the Lord strengthened Eglon king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the Lord. ¹³ Then he gathered to himself the people of Ammon and Amalek, went and defeated Israel, and took possession of the City of Palms. ¹⁴ So the children of Israel served Eglon king of Moab eighteen years. ¹⁵ But when the children of Israel cried out to the Lord, the Lord raised up a deliverer for them: Ehud the son of Gera, the Benjamite, a left-handed man. . . . ³¹ After him was Shamgar the son of Anath, who killed six hundred men of the Philistines with an ox goad; and he also delivered Israel.

Judges 4¹ When Ehud was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord. ² So the Lord sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim. ³ And the children of Israel cried out to the Lord; for Jabin had nine hundred chariots of iron, and for twenty years he had harshly oppressed the children of Israel. ⁴ Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, was judging Israel at that time.

Judges 6¹ Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord. So the Lord delivered them into the hand of Midian for seven years. . . .¹¹ Now the Angel of the Lord came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites.

Judges 10¹ After Abimelech there arose to save Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar; and he dwelt in Shamir in the mountains of Ephraim. ² He judged Israel twenty-three years; and he died and was buried in Shamir. ³ After him arose Jair, a Gileadite; and he judged Israel twenty-two years. . . .⁷ So the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel; and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and into the hands of the people of Ammon. ⁸ From that year they harassed and oppressed the children of Israel for eighteen years—all the children of Israel who were on the other side of the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, in Gilead. ⁹ Moreover the people of Ammon crossed over the Jordan to fight against Judah also, against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was severely distressed. . . .¹¹ Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor . . .