

Failed Diplomacy (Judges 11:12 – 12:7)

The Pen before the Sword

Judges 11:12-28

What did Jephthah do when the Ammonites threatened with war? (11:12-13)

What were the three arguments used to refute the Ammonite claims?

HISTORICAL ARGUMENT – 11:15-22

THEOLOGICAL ARGUMENT – 11:23-24

LEGAL PRECEDENT – 11:25-27

How effective were Jephthah's attempts at diplomacy? In your opinion, why?

How does the Bible say we should handle false accusations?

A Terrible Vow

Judges 11:29-40

What was the vow that Jephthah made? What can we learn from this?

What was the result of his vow to God?

Why did Jephthah make this promise to God?

What did Jephthah's daughter request before he carried out his vow?

Why did Jephthah keep his vow?

What can we learn from this terrible episode in Israel's history?

War within Israel

Judges 12:1-7

What was different between Jephthah's interaction with the Ammonites and his interaction with the Ephraimites?

X. Parenthesis 3: The Governorships of Ibzan, Elon, Abdon (12:8-15)

JUDGE	OPPRESSOR	PERIOD OF OPPRESSION	PERIOD OF REST	BIBLICAL REFERENCE
Ibzan			7 years	Judges 12:8-10
Elon			10 years	Judges 12:11-12
Abdon			8 years	Judges 12:13-15