



Judges 3:1-2 These are the nations that the LORD left in the land **to test** those Israelites who had not experienced the wars of Canaan. ² He did this **to teach warfare** to generations of Israelites who had no experience in battle.

Judges 3:12-14 Once again the Israelites did evil in the LORD's sight, and the LORD gave King Eglon of Moab control over Israel because of their evil. ¹³ Eglon enlisted the Ammonites and Amalekites as allies, and then he went out and defeated Israel, taking possession of Jericho, the city of palms. ¹⁴ And the Israelites served Eglon of Moab for eighteen years.

Judges 3:15-17 But when the people of Israel cried out to the LORD for help, the LORD again raised up a rescuer to save them. His name was Ehud son of Gera, **a left-handed man** of the tribe of Benjamin. ¹⁶ So Ehud made a double-edged dagger that was about a foot long, and he strapped it to his right thigh, keeping it hidden under his clothing. ¹⁷ He brought the tribute money to Eglon, who was very fat.

Judges 3:20-25 As King Eglon rose from his seat, ²¹ Ehud reached with his left hand, pulled out the dagger strapped to his right thigh, and plunged it into the king's belly. ²² The dagger went so deep that the handle disappeared beneath the king's fat. So Ehud did not pull out the dagger, and the king's bowels emptied. ²³ Then Ehud closed and locked the doors of the room and escaped down the latrine. ²⁴ After Ehud was gone, the king's servants returned and found the doors to the upstairs room locked. They thought he might be using the latrine in the room, ²⁵ so they waited. But when the king didn't come out after a long delay, they became concerned and got a key. And when they opened the doors, they found their master dead on the floor.

Judges 3:29-30 They attacked the Moabites and killed about 10,000 of their strongest and most able-bodied warriors. Not one of them escaped. ³⁰ So Moab was conquered by Israel that day, and there was peace in the land for eighty years.

KEYS TO SPIRITUAL VICTORY

1. GOD SAVES THROUGH WEAKNESS

Isaiah 53:2-3; Colossians 2:13-15

“Jesus was a ‘left-handed’ savior who came to save ‘left-handed’ people.”

2. SPIRITUAL VICTORY IS NOT FOUND THROUGH THE RIGHT HAND OF STRENGTH BUT THROUGH THE LEFT HAND OF FAITH.

2 Corinthians 12:8-10; Philippians 2:6-11; Philippians 3:8-9; Matthew 4:1-4

Ephesians 6:17b ...and take the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest **two-edged sword**, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

Judges 3:16a So Ehud made a **double-edged dagger** that was about a foot long,

3. IN GOD’S KINGDOM, AVAILABILITY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ABILITY

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV) Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.