

Who is That and Who Cares?

Ehud: a Lefty and a Large King

Judges 3:12-30

*The most important thing about you is what comes to mind
when you think about God. A. W. Tozer*

So what do you think about God?

If we are able to answer that question completely,
we can easily predict our spiritual future.

Ehud

Ehud was from the tribe of Benjamin.

Benjamin's name means 'son of my right hand'.

Son of Jacob and Rachael and brother of Joseph.

Benjamin received a blessing from Jacob at his death.

*"Benjamin is a ravenous wolf;
in the morning he devours the prey,
in the evening he divides the plunder. Genesis 49:27*

The Benjamites have always been known for being fierce warriors.

Ehud was the second Judge of Israel.

Ehud's story only takes 18 verses in Judges 3.

Ehud's name means 'give thanks to God'.

*12 Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and because they did this evil the
Lord gave Eglon king of Moab power over Israel. 13 Getting the Ammonites and
Amalekites to join him, Eglon came and attacked Israel, and they took possession of
the City of Palms. 14 The Israelites were subject to Eglon king of Moab for eighteen
years.*

15 Again the Israelites cried out to the Lord, and he gave them a deliverer—Ehud, a left-handed man, the son of Gera the Benjamite. The Israelites sent him with tribute to Eglon king of Moab. 16 Now Ehud had made a double-edged sword about a cubit long, which he strapped to his right thigh under his clothing. 17 He presented the tribute to Eglon king of Moab, who was a very fat man. 18 After Ehud had presented the tribute, he sent on their way those who had carried it. 19 But on reaching the stone images near Gilgal he himself went back to Eglon and said, “Your Majesty, I have a secret message for you.”

The king said to his attendants, “Leave us!” And they all left.

20 Ehud then approached him while he was sitting alone in the upper room of his palace and said, “I have a message from God for you.” As the king rose from his seat, 21 Ehud reached with his left hand, drew the sword from his right thigh and plunged it into the king’s belly. 22 Even the handle sank in after the blade, and his bowels discharged. Ehud did not pull the sword out, and the fat closed in over it. 23 Then Ehud went out to the porch; he shut the doors of the upper room behind him and locked them.

24 After he had gone, the servants came and found the doors of the upper room locked. They said, “He must be relieving himself in the inner room of the palace.” 25 They waited to the point of embarrassment, but when he did not open the doors of the room, they took a key and unlocked them. There they saw their lord fallen to the floor, dead.

26 While they waited, Ehud got away. He passed by the stone images and escaped to Seirah. 27 When he arrived there, he blew a trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went down with him from the hills, with him leading them.

28 “Follow me,” he ordered, “for the Lord has given Moab, your enemy, into your hands.” So they followed him down and took possession of the fords of the Jordan that led to Moab; they allowed no one to cross over. 29 At that time they struck down about ten thousand Moabites, all vigorous and strong; not one escaped. 30 That day Moab was made subject to Israel, and the land had peace for eighty years.

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The Christian life: What do you expect? 'AGAIN'

Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord. (vs. 3:12)

******There are times in all of our lives that we are not proud of....

— For the Israelites, this particular time was 18 years.

1. Faithful today - faithfulness yesterday.

******Ehud left The City of Palms (Jericho) and made it 20 miles to Gilgal.

*1 When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua,
2 "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe,³ and tell them to
take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are
standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay
tonight." Joshua 4:1-2*

2. Allow your weakness to become a weapon.

******Kill the thing that is killing you.

****** You can't (often) pray yourself out of a problem you behaved yourself into,
but you can 'follow' your way out.

9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

— Stop trying to blend in if God intended you too stand out.

3. Again and again until the end.

*That day Moab was made subject to Israel, and the land had peace for eighty years.
(vs. 30)*

******You always have another chance - until you don't