

The Cyclical Pattern in Judges

1. Idolatry

“The Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, forgetting the LORD their God, and worshiping the Baals and the Asherahs.” —Judges 3:7

“The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD.” —Judges 3:12

2. Oppression

“Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of King Cushan-rishathaim of Aram-naharaim; and the Israelites served Cushan-rishathaim eight years.” —Judges 3:8

4. Deliverance

“. . . the LORD raised up a deliverer for the Israelites, who delivered them, Othniel. . . . The spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel; he went out to war, and the LORD gave King Cushan-rishathaim of Aram into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim. So the land had rest forty years.” —Judges 3:9b-11a

3. Cries for Help

“But when the Israelites cried out to the LORD, . . .” —Judges 3:9a

