

Text: Judges 11

THE NEW THREAT TO ISRAEL: AMMON

1. They waged war against Israel **Judges 11:4**
2. No leader found to lead Israel except Jephthah

BACKGROUND OF JEPHTHAH

1. Son of Gilead
 - a) He was regarded as "the son of a harlot" **Judges 11:1**
 - b) His half-brothers rejected him **Judges 11:2**
2. Growing up years
 - a) Forced to flee from his home **Judges 11:3**
 - b) Joined up with "worthless men" **Judges 11:3**
 - c) Formed a gang of bandits **Judges 11:3**
 - d) He lived in the land (city) of Tob **Judges 11:5**

THE DESPERATE PLEA OF THE ELDERS OF GILEAD

1. Pleaded with Jephthah to be the commander of Israel **Judges 11:6**
2. Jephthah recounts the day he was rejected by Gilead **Judges 11:7**
3. The elders of Gilead offered leadership to Jephthah **Judges 11:8**
4. Jephthah asks for confirmation that he would be appointed head of the army of Israel **Judges 11:9**

JEPHTHAH LEADS THE ARMY OF ISRAEL

1. False charge of the king of Ammon
That Israel had stolen the land of the Ammonites **Judges 11:13**
2. Jephthah's Reply to this Charge
 - a) Charge of the Ammonites refuted
 - b) Israel avoided attacking Moab and Ammon **Cf. Deut. 2:18-19**
 - c) Israel conquered the Amorites to inherit Israel **Judges 11:15-22**
 - d) Jephthah invokes the name of God in this war **Judges 11:23-28**
3. The Ammonites were defeated by Jephthah **Judges 11:33**