

**Date:** February 2, 2025  
**Series:** Judges: Mankind Exposed  
**Title:** A Sobering Start  
**Text:** Judges 1:1-36



## INTRODUCTION

**Theme Verse:** “In those days there was NO KING in Israel.  
Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” (Judges 21:25)

*“I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses,  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart,  
and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh  
and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you,  
and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey My rules.”  
(Ezekiel 36:25-27)*

### I. A SOBERING START

**Judges 1:1 -**

**1) Joshua has died and so the people rightly seek the wisdom and direction of God!**

(Deuteronomy 6:4-5, 6-7a, 12, 18-19 and 1st Corinthians 10:11)

**Judges 1:1-7 -**

**2) Initially, we see success! The tribes are working together to follow God’s instruction!**

(Galatians 6:7-10)

**Judges 1:8-18 -**

**3) Victory and blessing belongs to the Lord! So, follow the Lord wherever He leads!**

(Proverbs 3:5-7)

**Judges 1:22-26 -**

**4) This is not “Mission Accomplished!”; this is “Mission Compromised!”**

(Matthew 6:24)

**Judges 1:27-36 -**

**5) Praise the Lord! This is not primarily a book about Israel but about God!**

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.*

*In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
and He will make straight your paths.*

*Be not wise in your own eyes;  
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.”*

(Proverbs 3:5-7)

**Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...**

1. What is unique and special about the Book of Judges? What time period does it cover?
2. Why is Judges 21:25 a sobering but appropriate theme/summary verse for this book?
3. How does the Book of Judges foreshadow and look forward to Jesus and His coming?
4. Where do we see faith and obedience in Judges 1? Where do we see compromise and failure?
5. In what ways are you tempted to walk in compromise instead of faith/trust?