# Judges 10:6- -12:7 Jephthah Judged Israel for 6 years

# Israel sinned

<sup>6</sup> Then the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the LORD and did not serve Him.

## In anger, Yehowah sold them to the Philistines and the Ammonites for 18 years

<sup>7</sup> So the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and into the hands of the people of Ammon. <sup>8</sup> From that year they harassed and oppressed the children of Israel for eighteen years--all the children of Israel who were on the other side of the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, in Gilead. <sup>9</sup> Moreover the people of Ammon crossed over the Jordan to fight against Judah also, against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was severely distressed.

# Israel cried out to Yehowah and confessed their sins

<sup>10</sup> And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, saying, "We have sinned against You, because we have both forsaken our God and served the Baals!"

# Yehowah rebuked Israel

<sup>11</sup> So the LORD said to the children of Israel, "Did I not deliver you from the Egyptians and from the Amorites and from the people of Ammon and from the Philistines? <sup>12</sup> Also the Sidonians and Amalekites and Maonites oppressed you; and you cried out to Me, and I delivered you from their hand. <sup>13</sup> Yet you have forsaken Me and served other gods. Therefore I will deliver you no more. <sup>14</sup> Go and cry out to the gods which you have chosen; let them deliver you in your time of distress."

Israel pleaded with Yehowah and put away their foreign gods – Yehowah had compassion <sup>15</sup> And the children of Israel said to the LORD, "We have sinned! Do to us whatever seems best to You; only deliver us this day, we pray." <sup>16</sup> So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the LORD. And His soul could no longer endure the misery of Israel.

# The Ammonites encamped in Gilead - Israel encamped in Mizpah seeking a leader

<sup>17</sup> Then the people of Ammon gathered together and encamped in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled together and encamped in Mizpah. <sup>18</sup> And the people, the leaders of Gilead, said to one another, "Who is the man who will begin the fight against the people of Ammon? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead."

# Judges 11:1-40 Jephthah introduced and called

Jephthah born to Gilead and a harlot – Banished by his half brothers to the land of Tob

<sup>1</sup> Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor, but he was the son of a harlot; and Gilead begot Jephthah. <sup>2</sup> Gilead's wife bore sons; and when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out, and said to him, "You shall have no inheritance in our father's house, for you are the son of another woman." <sup>3</sup> Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and dwelt in the land of Tob; and worthless men banded together with Jephthah and went out raiding with him.

# When the Ammonites made war, the people of Gilead called for Jephthah – Promising to make him their leader

<sup>4</sup> It came to pass after a time that the people of Ammon made war against Israel. <sup>5</sup> And so it was, when the people of Ammon made war against Israel, that the elders of Gilead went to get Jephthah from the land of Tob. <sup>6</sup> Then they said to Jephthah, "Come and be our commander, that we may fight against the people of Ammon."

<sup>7</sup> So Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "Did you not hate me, and expel me from my father's house? Why have you come to me now when you are in distress?"

<sup>8</sup> And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "That is why we have turned again to you now, that you may go with us and fight against the people of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead."

9 So Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "If you take me back home to fight against the people of Ammon, and the LORD delivers them to me, shall I be your head?"

<sup>10</sup> And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "The LORD will be a witness between us, if we do not do according to your words."

<sup>11</sup> Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and commander over them; and Jephthah spoke all his words before the LORD in Mizpah.

#### Jephthah's message to the king of Ammon

<sup>12</sup> Now Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon, saying, "What do you have against me, that you have come to fight against me in my land?"

<sup>13</sup> And the king of the people of Ammon answered the messengers of Jephthah, "Because Israel took away my land when they came up out of Egypt, from the Arnon as far as the Jabbok, and to the Jordan. Now therefore, restore those lands peaceably."

### History of Israel by Jephthah

<sup>14</sup> So Jephthah again sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon, <sup>15</sup> and said to him, "Thus says Jephthah: 'Israel did not take away the land of Moab, nor the land of the people of Ammon; <sup>16</sup> for when Israel came up from Egypt, they walked through the wilderness as far as the Red Sea and came to Kadesh.

<sup>17</sup> Then Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, "Please let me pass through your land." But the king of Edom would not heed. And in like manner they sent to the king of Moab, but he would not consent. So Israel remained in Kadesh.

<sup>18</sup> And they went along through the wilderness and bypassed the land of Edom and the land of Moab, came to the east side of the land of Moab, and encamped on the other side of the Arnon. But they did not enter the border of Moab, for the Arnon was the border of Moab.

<sup>19</sup> Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, king of Heshbon; and Israel said to him, "Please let us pass through your land into our place." <sup>20</sup> 'But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together, encamped in Jahaz, and fought against Israel. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God of Israel delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them. Thus Israel gained possession of all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country. <sup>22</sup> They took possession of all the territory of the Amorites, from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan.

23 And now the LORD God of Israel has dispossessed the Amorites from before His people Israel; should you then possess it? 24 Will you not possess whatever Chemosh your god gives you to possess? So whatever the LORD our God takes possession of before us, we will possess.
25 And now, are you any better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever strive against Israel? Did he ever fight against them? 26 While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and its villages, in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities along the banks of the Arnon, for three hundred years, why did you not recover them within that time? 27 Therefore I have not sinned against you, but you wronged me by fighting against me. May the LORD, the Judge, render judgment this day between the children of Israel and the people of Ammon.' "

#### Message rejected by king of Ammon

28 However, the king of the people of Ammon did not heed the words which Jephthah sent him.

#### Jephthah empowered by the Holy Spirit

<sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced toward the people of Ammon.

#### Jephthah's vow to Yehowah

<sup>30</sup> And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD, and said, "If You will indeed deliver the people of Ammon into my hands, <sup>31</sup> then it will be that whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the people of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD's, and I will offer it up as a burnt offering."

#### Yehowah delivered the Ammonites into the hand of Jephthah

<sup>32</sup> So Jephthah advanced toward the people of Ammon to fight against them, and the LORD delivered them into his hands. <sup>33</sup> And he defeated them from Aroer as far as Minnith--twenty cities-and to Abel Keramim, with a very great slaughter. Thus the people of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.

#### Jephthah's daughter came out to meet her victorious father – Jephthah troubled by his vow

<sup>34</sup> When Jephthah came to his house at Mizpah, there was his daughter, coming out to meet him with timbrels and dancing; and she was his only child. Besides her he had neither son nor daughter. <sup>35</sup> And it came to pass, when he saw her, that he tore his clothes, and said, "Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low! You are among those who trouble me! For I have given my word to the LORD, and I cannot go back on it."

Jephthah's daughter accepts the responsibility of her father to keep his vow – Requested two months <sup>36</sup> So she said to him, "My father, if you have given your word to the LORD, do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, because the LORD has avenged you of your enemies, the people of Ammon." <sup>37</sup> Then she said to her father, "Let this thing be done for me: let me alone for two months, that I may go and wander on the mountains and bewail my virginity, my friends and I."

<sup>38</sup> So he said, "Go." And he sent her away for two months; and she went with her friends, and bewailed her virginity on the mountains.

#### Jephthah kept his vow

<sup>39</sup> And it was so at the end of two months that she returned to her father, and he carried out his vow with her which he had vowed. She knew no man. And it became a custom in Israel <sup>40</sup> that the daughters of Israel went four days each year to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite.

#### Judges 12:1-7

Ephraim made war with Jephthah – The Gileadites defeated the Ephraimites

<sup>1</sup> Then the men of Ephraim gathered together, crossed over toward Zaphon, and said to Jephthah, "Why did you cross over to fight against the people of Ammon, and did not call us to go with you? We will burn your house down on you with fire!"

<sup>2</sup> And Jephthah said to them, "My people and I were in a great struggle with the people of Ammon; and when I called you, you did not deliver me out of their hands. <sup>3</sup> So when I saw that you would not deliver me, I took my life in my hands and crossed over against the people of Ammon; and the LORD delivered them into my hand. Why then have you come up to me this day to fight against me?"

<sup>4</sup> Now Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead and fought against Ephraim. And the men of Gilead defeated Ephraim, because they said, "You Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites and among the Manassites."

<sup>5</sup> The Gileadites seized the fords of the Jordan before the Ephraimites arrived. And when any Ephraimite who escaped said, "Let me cross over," the men of Gilead would say to him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" If he said, "No," 6 then they would say to him, "Then say, 'Shibboleth'!" And he would say, "Sibboleth," for he could not pronounce it right. Then they would take him and kill him at the fords of the Jordan.

There fell at that time forty-two thousand Ephraimites.

#### Jephthah judged Israel 6 years

<sup>7</sup> And Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died and was buried in among the cities of Gilead. NKJV

#### Facts Revealed:

Israel sinned

Then the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the LORD and did not serve Him. [Judges 10:6]

As the Scripture said: Judges 2:19 And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they reverted and behaved more corruptly than their fathers, by following other gods, to serve them and bow down to them. They did not cease from their own doings nor from their stubborn way. NKJV

#### In anger, Yehowah sold them to the Philistines and the Ammonites for 18 years

- ☆ Yehowah used other nations to punish His people for their sins, in this case He used the Philistines and Ammonites against Israel. [Judges 10:7-9]
  - ☆ The Ammonites (Descendants of Lot [Genesis 19:36-38]) oppressed the tribes of Israel in the land of Gilead on the east side of the Jordan River who were their neighbors living in the

land of the Amorites which Israel had taken from Sihon king of Heshbon and Og king of Bashon. [Deuteronomy 29:2-8]

♦ The Ammonites also crossed over the Jordan River and fought with the tribes of Judah, Benjamin, and Ephraim.

Israel cried out to Yehowah and confessed their sins

☆ And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, saying,

# "We have sinned against You, because we have both forsaken our God and served the Baals!" [Judges 10:10]

- ♦ The people know what they are doing but choose to do what they know to be wrong because God has not punished them in their own generation.
- ♦ It is the same today, people know what God has said is wrong and will bring His wrath, but they do what they want to do being swayed by the false teachings of secular humanism until God brings on us the Great Tribulation as He has warned us will come, and even then they will not repent. [Romans 1:18-32]
- ♦ What seems right in the eyes of mankind, is not always right in the eyes of God, but instead it will bring His Wrath and Judgment.
- ♦ People seem to believe that God is only someone to save us from our problems and bless us no matter what we do, but they refuse to acknowledge that God is also our Judge and will punish us for our error according to His Word.
- ♦ God's Judgment has eternal consequences of Life Eternal for the faithful, or Eternal Punishment for those who do evil in His sight.

Yehowah rebuked Israel [Judges 10:11-14]

So Yehowah (the LORD) said to the children of Israel,

"Did I not deliver you from the Egyptians and from the Amorites and from the people of Ammon and from the Philistines?

Also the Sidonians and Amalekites and Maonites oppressed you; and you cried out to Me, and I delivered you from their hand.

Yet you have forsaken Me and served other gods.

Therefore I will deliver you no more. Go and cry out to the gods which you have chosen; let them deliver you in your time of distress."

☆ There comes a time when we have sinned deliberately to the point that God will no longer hear our prayers, but will bring on us our just punishment.

Jeremiah 7:16 "Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them, nor make intercession to Me; **for I will not hear you**."

Isaiah 59:1-2 Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that **He will not hear**. Israel pleaded with Yehowah and put away their foreign gods – Yehowah had compassion [Judges 10:15-16]

- And the children of Israel said to the LORD, "We have sinned! Do to us whatever seems best to You; only deliver us this day, we pray." So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the LORD.
- And His (God's) soul could no longer endure the misery of Israel.
  - ♦ Repentance is acceptable to our merciful God and will restore His favor but should not be taken casually or irreverently. [Exodus 34:6-7, Psalm 103:8-9, 117:1-2, Jonah 4:1-2, Hebrews 8:12, Ezekiel 18:31-32, 33:11]

The Ammonites encamped in Gilead – Israel encamped in Mizpah seeking a leader

- ☆ Then the people of Ammon gathered together and encamped in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled together and encamped in Mizpah. [Judges 10:17]
- And the people, the leaders of Gilead, said to one another, "Who is the man who will begin the fight against the people of Ammon? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead." [Judges 10:18]
  - $\diamond$  The battle is set but Israel has no leader.

# Judges 11:1-40 Jephthah introduced and called

Jephthah born to Gilead and a harlot – Banished by his half brothers to the land of Tob

- Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor, but he was the son of a harlot; and Gilead begot Jephthah. Gilead's wife bore sons; and when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out, and said to him, "You shall have no inheritance in our father's house, for you are the son of another woman." Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and dwelt in the land of Tob; and worthless men banded together with Jephthah and went out raiding with him. [Judges 11:1-3]
  - $\diamond$  Gilead's sons rejected Jephthah because he was the son of their father and a harlot.

When the Ammonites made war, the people of Gilead called for Jephthah – Promising to make him their leader [Judges 11:4-11]

- ☆ The distress at the threat of war with the Ammonites drove the men of Gilead to go to Jephthah for help and leadership.
- ☆ Negotiations with Jephthah were successful when the men of Gilead assured Jephthah of the position of head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.
- ✤ Jephthah went with them to Mizpah and they made him head and commander over all the inhabitants of Gilead.
- $\Rightarrow$  Jephthah laid the problem before Yehowah.

Jephthah's message to the king of Ammon [Judges 11:12-13]

- Now Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon, saying,
   "What do you have against me, that you have come to fight against me in my land?"
- And the king of the people of Ammon answered the messengers of Jephthah,
   "Because Israel took away my land when they came up out of Egypt, from the Arnon as far as the Jabbok, and to the Jordan. Now therefore, restore those lands peaceably."

#### History of Israel by Jephthah [Judges 11:14-27]

So Jephthah again sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon, and said to him,

- ☆ "Thus says Jephthah: 'Israel did not take away the land of Moab, nor the land of the people of Ammon; for when Israel came up from Egypt, they walked through the wilderness as far as the Red Sea and came to Kadesh.
- Then Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, "Please let me pass through your land." But the king of Edom would not heed. And in like manner they sent to the king of Moab, but he would not consent. So Israel remained in Kadesh.
- ☆ And they went along through the wilderness and bypassed the land of Edom and the land of Moab, came to the east side of the land of Moab, and encamped on the other side of the Arnon. But they did not enter the border of Moab, for the Arnon was the border of Moab.
- Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, king of Heshbon; and Israel said to him, "Please let us pass through your land into our place." 'But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together, encamped in Jahaz, and fought against Israel.
- ♦ And Yehowah Elohey Israel (the LORD God of Israel) delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them. Thus Israel gained possession of all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country. They took possession of all the territory of the Amorites, from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan.
- And now Yehowah Elohey Israel (the LORD God of Israel) has dispossessed the Amorites from before His people Israel; should you then possess it?
- $\diamond$  Will you not possess whatever Chemosh your god gives you to possess?
- $\diamond$  So whatever the LORD our God takes possession of before us, we will possess.
- ☆ And now, are you any better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever strive against Israel? Did he ever fight against them? While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and its villages, in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities along the banks of the Arnon, for three hundred years, why did you not recover them within that time?
- Therefore I have not sinned against you, but you wronged me by fighting against me. May Yehowah (the LORD), the Judge, render judgment this day between the children of Israel and the people of Ammon.' "
- $\Rightarrow$  **Jephthah** is well aware of the history of Israel and has confidence in Yehowah.
- Message rejected by king of Ammon
  - ✤ However, the king of the people of Ammon did not heed the words which Jephthah sent him. [Judges 11:28]
- Jephthah empowered by the Holy Spirit
  - Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced toward the people of Ammon. [Judges 11:29]

# Jephthah's vow to Yehowah

- ☆ And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD, and said, "If You will indeed deliver the people of Ammon into my hands, then it will be that whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the people of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD's, and <u>I will offer it up as a burnt offering</u>." [Judges 11:30-31]
  - ♦ The Holy Spirit was with Jephthah and moving him against the Ammonites, so Jephthah did not need to make a vow of any kind. Yehowah was in the process of delivering Israel from the Ammonites.
  - $\diamond$  There is no way to know what went through Jephthah's mind when he made the vow.

- ♦ We do not know what he expected to come out of his house to meet him on his victorious return from battle, that he imagined he would find to be an acceptable sacrifice to Yehowah.
- $\diamond$  We only know that he made a specific vow to Yehowah.

Numbers 30:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Then Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes concerning the children of Israel, saying, "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: 2 **If a man vows a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by some agreement, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.** NKJV

Deuteronomy 23:21-23

21 "When you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay to pay it; for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and it would be sin to you. 22 But if you abstain from vowing, it shall not be sin to you. 23 That which has gone from your lips you shall keep and perform, for you voluntarily vowed to the LORD your God what you have promised with your mouth. NKJV

- ♦ The man is fully responsible to fulfill his vow to Yehowah. Women may be excused by the authority of the husband or father, but a man is required to do exactly as he has vowed.
- ♦ It is a serious thing to contemplate making a vow to Yehowah, the consequence may be monstrous and shocking.

 $\diamond$  God can not be bribed, so why should we make foolish vows to attempt to sway Him. Yehowah delivered the Ammonites into the hand of Jephthah

So Jephthah advanced toward the people of Ammon to fight against them, and Yehowah (the LORD) delivered them into his hands. And he defeated them from Aroer as far as Minnith-twenty cities--and to Abel Keramim, with a very great slaughter. Thus the people of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel. [Judges 11:32-33]

 $\diamond$  Yehowah granted the victory to Jephthah and his army over the Ammonites.

Jephthah's daughter came out to meet her victorious father – Jephthah was troubled by his vow  $\hat{T}$ . When Japathah and the here are his daughter came out to meet her victorious father – Jephthah was troubled by his vow

When Jephthah came to his house at Mizpah, there was his daughter, coming out to meet him with timbrels and dancing; and she was his only child. Besides her he had neither son nor daughter. And it came to pass, when he saw her, that he tore his clothes, and said, "Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low! You are among those who trouble me! For I have given my word to the LORD, and I cannot go back on it." [Judges 11:34-35]

Jephthah's daughter accepted the responsibility of her father to keep his vow – Requested two months

- So she said to him, "My father, if you have given your word to the LORD, do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, because the LORD has avenged you of your enemies, the people of Ammon." Then she said to her father, "Let this thing be done for me: let me alone for two months, that I may go and wander on the mountains and bewail my virginity, my friends and I." [Judges 11:36-37]
- ☆ So he said, "Go." And he sent her away for two months; and she went with her friends, and bewailed her virginity on the mountains. [Judges 11:38]

#### Jephthah kept his vow [Judges 11:39-40]

- And it was so at the end of two months that she returned to her father, and **he carried out his vow with her which he had vowed**.
- She knew no man. And it became a custom in Israel that the daughters of Israel went four days each year to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite.
  - ♦ The concept is so appalling to believers today that they usually attempt to change the Scriptures and to sanitize the Scriptures, twisting them to suit their own conjecture as Peter said about the difficult writings of Paul and the rest of the Scriptures. [2 Peter 3:14-16]
  - However we may not lose sight of the fact that the text clearly states that "he carried out his vow with her which he had vowed." [Judges 11:39]
  - $\diamond$  This is a case where we either believe the wording of Scripture, or we deny it.
  - ♦ She lamented the fact that she would die childless which is a reproach to Israeli women. [Genesis 30:22-23, Isaiah 54:4]

#### Judges 12:1-7

#### Ephraim made war with Jephthah – The Gileadites defeated the Ephraimites

- Then the men of Ephraim gathered together, crossed over toward Zaphon, and said to Jephthah, "Why did you cross over to fight against the people of Ammon, and did not call us to go with you? We will burn your house down on you with fire!" [Judges 12:1]
  - This is amazing, The jealousy of Ephraim is the same with the deliverance from oppression gained by Jephthah as it was with the deliverance from oppression gained by Gideon. [Judges 8:1-3, 12:1]

#### Jephthah's answer

- ☆ And Jephthah said to them, "My people and I were in a great struggle with the people of Ammon; and when I called you, you did not deliver me out of their hands. So when I saw that you would not deliver me, I took my life in my hands and crossed over against the people of Ammon; and the LORD delivered them into my hand. Why then have you come up to me this day to fight against me?" [Judges 12:2-3]
  - ☆ The men of Ephraim did not accept the answer of Jephthah as they had accepted the answer of Gideon. [Judges 8:2-3, 12:2-3]
  - ☆ Instead, they said, "You Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites and among the Manassites." [Judges 12:4]
  - ☆ This was the thing the Gileadites had at first feared when they returned home from conquering the land of Canaan. [Joshua 22:1-34]

### Battle between the men of Gilead and the men of Ephraim

- Now Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead and fought against Ephraim. And <u>the men of Gilead defeated Ephraim</u>, because they said, "You Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites and among the Manassites." [Judges 12:4]
- The Gileadites seized the fords of the Jordan before the Ephraimites arrived. And when any Ephraimite who escaped said, "Let me cross over," the men of Gilead would say to him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" If he said, "No," then they would say to him, "Then say, 'Shibboleth'!" And he would say, "Sibboleth," for he could not pronounce it right. Then they would take him and kill him at the fords of the Jordan. There fell at that time forty-two thousand Ephraimites. [Judges 12:5-7]

 $\diamond$  The accent of the eastern tribes was different from the accent of the western tribes.

- The pride and arrogance of the Ephraimites was very costly, 42,000 men died foolishly, such is human nature in the lusts of the flesh and they become enemies of God. [James 4:1-4, Proverbs 8:13, Isaiah 13:11]
- $\diamond$  The deliverance was from Yehowah, not from Jephthah and the men of Gilead.