

EPISODE NO. 103

Judg. 2:1-13

The Angel of Yahweh at Bochim

1 The Angel of Yahweh went up from Gilgal to Bochim. He spoke to the people of Israel there: “I brought you up from Egypt. I led you to the land that I vowed to give to your ancestors. I said: ‘I will never break My covenant with you. 2 In return, you people must NOT make a covenant with the people who live in this land. Instead, you must destroy their altars.’ Nevertheless, you did not obey me. How could you do such a thing as this!? 3 So, now I say: ‘I will NOT drive out the people of this land who are in your path. No, they will be like thorns in your sides. Their gods will become a trap for you.’ ”

4 After the Angel of Yahweh spoke this message to all the Israelites, the people cried loudly. 5 So, they named that place “Bochim.” And there they offered sacrifices to Yahweh.

Joshua’s Death

6 Then Joshua dismissed the people. So, each of the Israelites went to take possession of his own share of the land. 7 The people of Israel served Yahweh as long as Joshua was alive. They continued serving God during the lifetimes of the elders who lived on after Joshua’s time. These people had seen all the awesome things that Yahweh had done for Israel.

8 Joshua, the son of Nun, was the servant of Yahweh. Joshua died at the age of 110. 9 So, the Israelites buried him within the borders of his land-inheritance. That land was at Timnath-Heres, in the hill-country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.

10 After all those people had died, their children grew up. But they did NOT know Yahweh or even the awesome deeds that He had done for Israel.

The Israelites Abandoned Yahweh

11 So, the Israelites did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh and worshiped the Baals. 12 Yahweh had brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt. And, the ancestors

of these people had worshiped Yahweh. But, later, the Israelites abandoned Yahweh, the God of their forefathers. They began to worship different gods — the gods of the people who lived around them. These Israelites bowed themselves down to those gods. And, that made Yahweh very angry. 13 These Israelites abandoned Yahweh and served Baal and the Ashtareths.