



He sacrificed his own son in the fire, practiced sorcery and divination, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the eyes of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

2 Kings 21:6

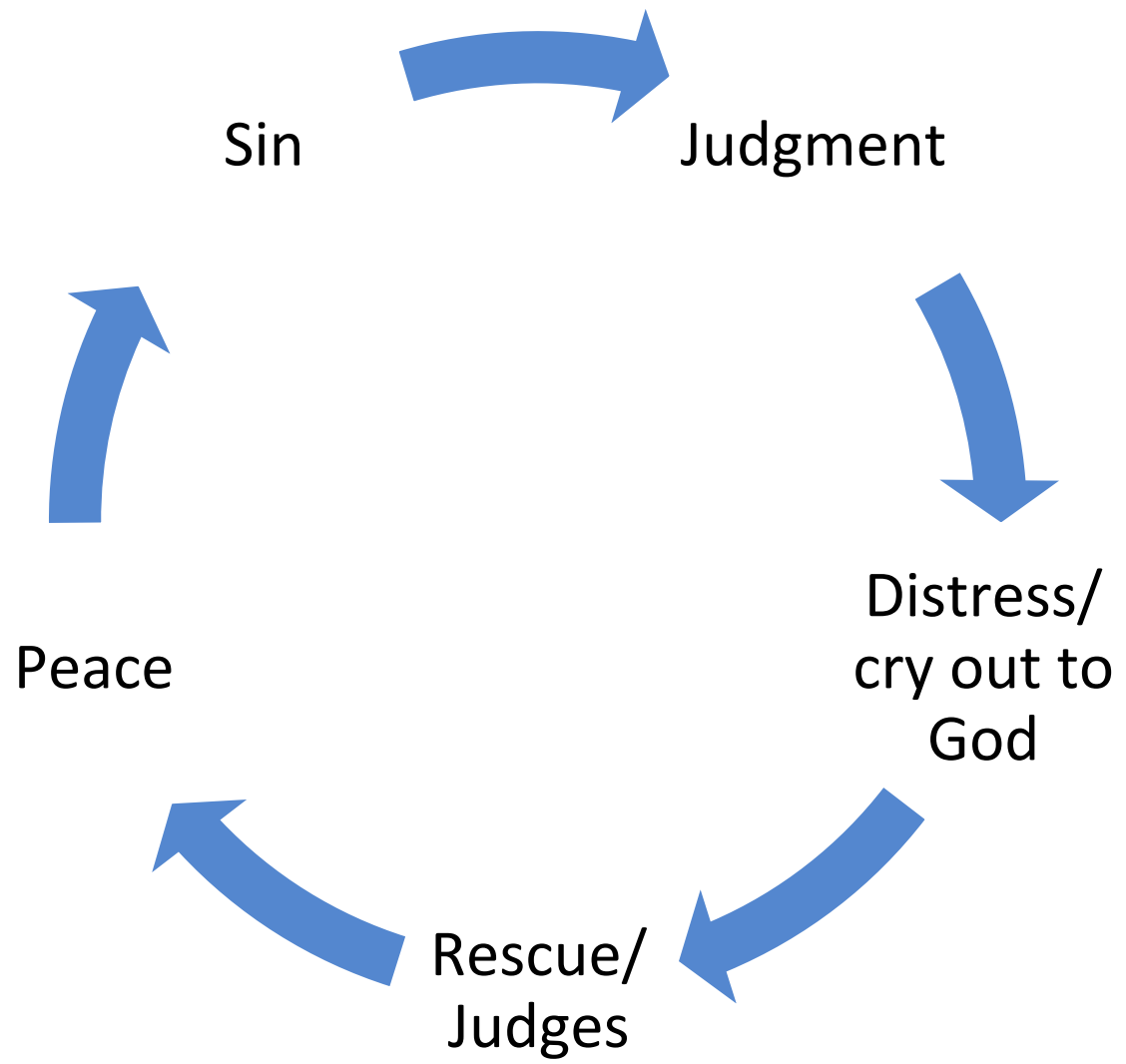
Bible = A single narrative/multiple sub-plots

1. Why does Israel get into such a terrible situation?
2. What happened to them as a result of their failure to obey?
3. How bad did it really get?

Question 1 "Why does Israel get into such a terrible situation as a nation?"

They failed to completely conquer the land
and

They failed to remember their God



Question 2: "What happened to them as a result of their failure to remain faithful?"

Gideon

Makes an idol that turns the people from God

Jephthah

Treats God as if he were a wicked Canaanite deity

Samson

Perverse, violent, arrogant

Question 3. "How bad did it really get?"

Then they took what Micah had made, and his priest, and went on to Laish, against a peaceful and unsuspecting people. They attacked them with the sword and burned down their city.

Judges 18:27

How to turn a utopia into a dystopia

Judg. 17:6 In those days Israel had no king;
everyone did as he saw fit.

Judg. 18:1 In those days Israel had no king.

Judg. 19:1 In those days Israel had no king.

Judg. 21:25 In those days Israel had no king;
everyone did as he saw fit.

Ruth 1:1 In the days when the judges ruled

Naomi

Ruth

Boaz

1. In the days when the judges ruled:
2. Ruth's faithfulness becomes evident to Boaz
3. Ruth is redeemed by Boaz.
4. A son is born

God is sovereign
AND
We are responsible

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

Ruth 1:1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab.

Ruth 4:22. Boaz the father of Obed, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David.

Matt. 1:17 Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ.

