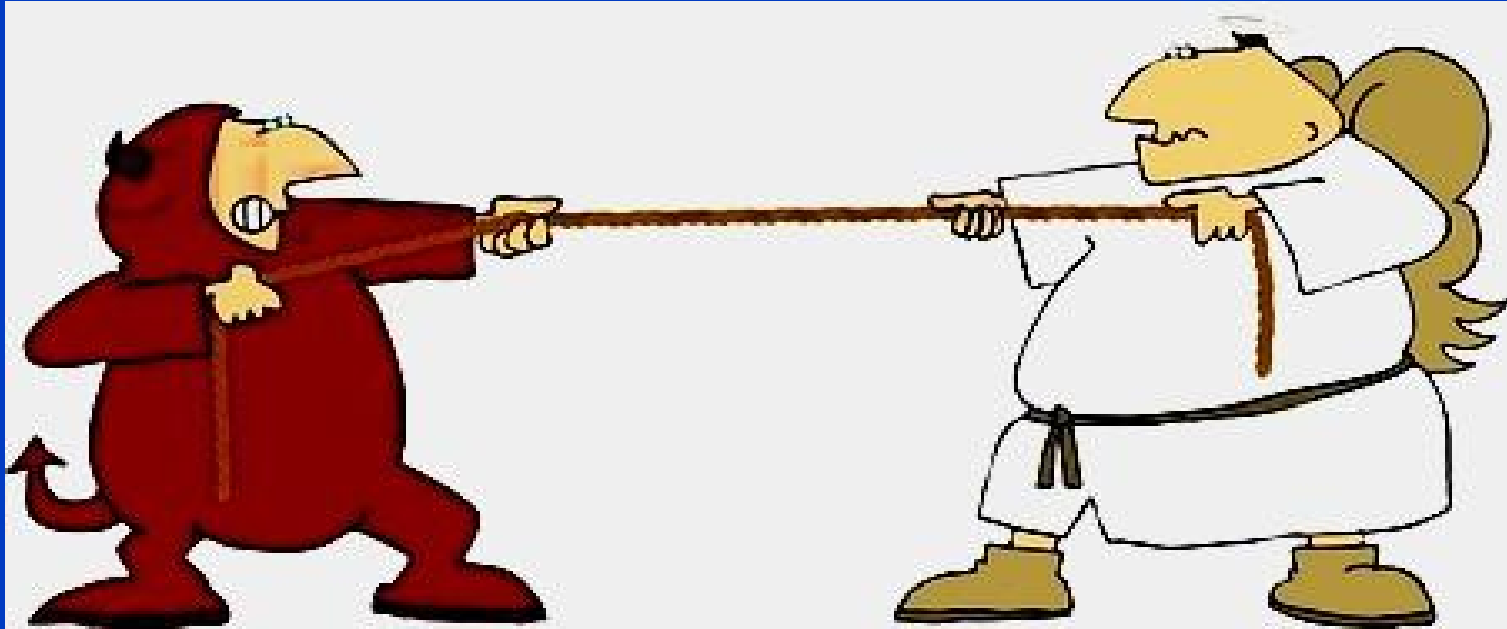


# THE ALREADY REDEEMED



- The slide from harmony with YHWH to idolatry was very quick
- Israel was a REDEEMED people
- Their salvation history was in grave danger of being reversed
- Direct correlation between Judges and the Church Age

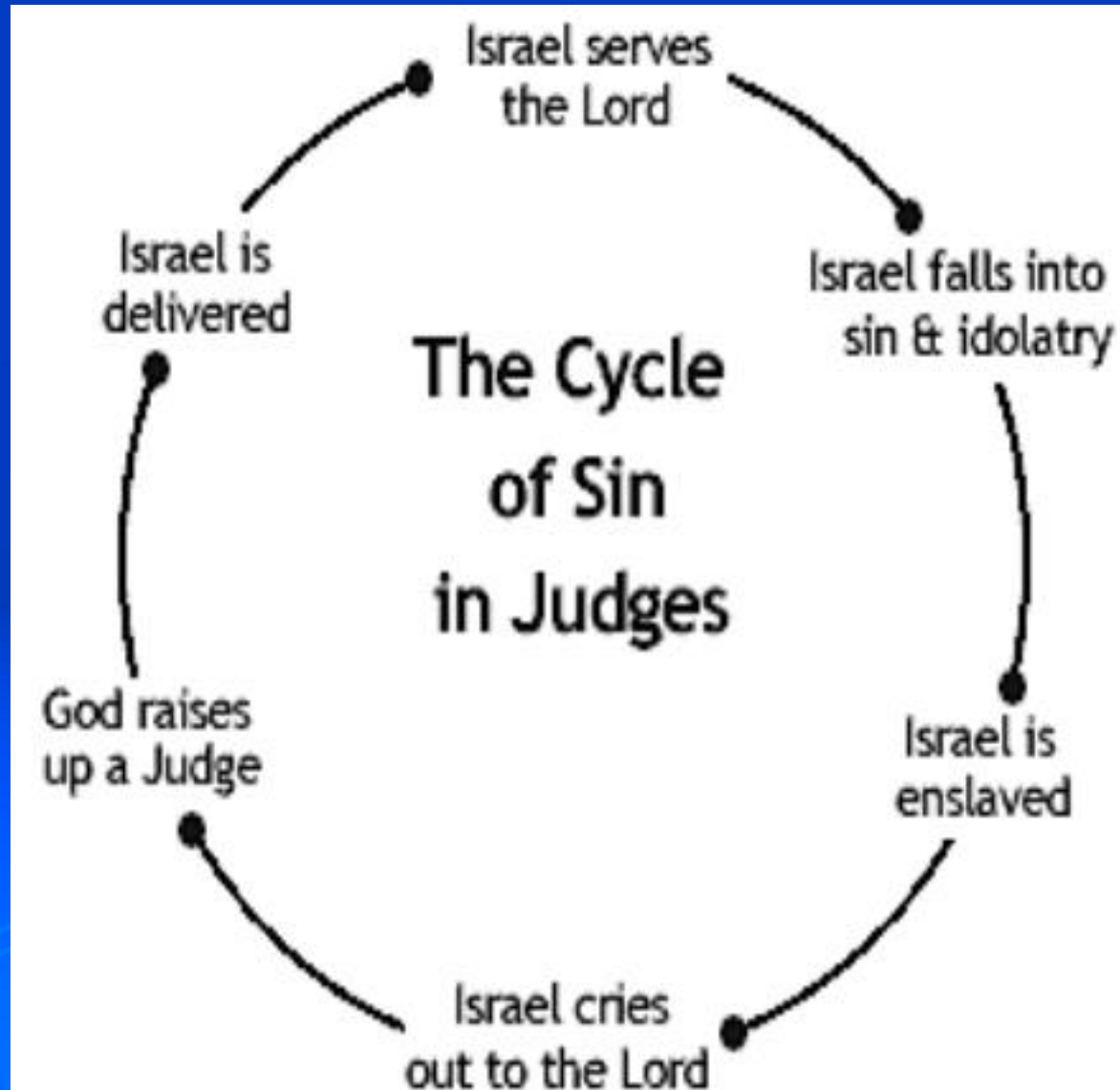
# OUR EVIL INCLINATION REMAINS



- Redemption does not end our evil inclination (*yetzer harah*)
- Israel's ( and OUR) delusions entrapped them (US!)
- Believed they could worship BOTH Ba'al and YHWH
- Halloween? Pagan symbols intertwined with Christmas and Easter?
- Judges 2:2 “...you have paid no attention to what I said. *What is this you have done?*”

# JUDGES 2: THE CYCLE OF SIN

- Israel suffered from Delusional Apostasy
- Abandon biblically means to “break faith”
- Mixing our devotion to God with devotion to something else is to abandon God



# ISRAEL AS A WIFE TO YHWH

- Marriage is a physical tangible way to act out the kind of relationship God wants with His followers
- When a level of unfaithfulness crosses a certain line, it is to ABANDON the marriage
- Hosea 1 children's names
- Yizre'el God sows catastrophe
- Lo-Ruchamah no more pity
- Lo-Ammi no longer God's people



*Hosea 2-3*



**“....the people of Israel did what was evil  
in YHWH’s eyes.....”**



- Israel did NOT think they had abandoned YHWH
- Our viewpoint is irrelevant next to God’s
- It is the Torah that defines sin, holiness, purity, and righteousness
- **“Didn’t know YHWH”** means they CHOSE to ignore His Word and Israel’s salvation history

# THE NOSTRILS OF THE LORD BURNED



- Vs. 14 “...*the ‘aph of the Lord burned against Israel..’*”
- By definition, idolatry meant Israel was offering Burnt Offerings to the Ba’als
- They offered these same offerings to God and He of course found them unacceptable
- In Torah PROPER Burnt Offerings were a sweet aroma to God’s nostrils

# UNCLEAN OFFERINGS

- We have no authority to declare as good what God says is evil
- At some point God will open His hand and let us go if we are determined enough
- Romans 1:26 *“God has given them up to degrading passions...have exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural”*



# 5 REASONS FOR ISRAEL'S FALL

- 1) Tribal disunity led to Tabernacle becoming dilapidated, and Ark becoming dissociated from it
- 2) Not removing Canaanites exposed Israel to pagan customs they couldn't resist
- 3) Israel looked to the Canaanite gods to ensure their crops and harvests
- 4) Sacred Sex became part of Israel's worship, as it was in Canaanite worship
- 5) Syncretism



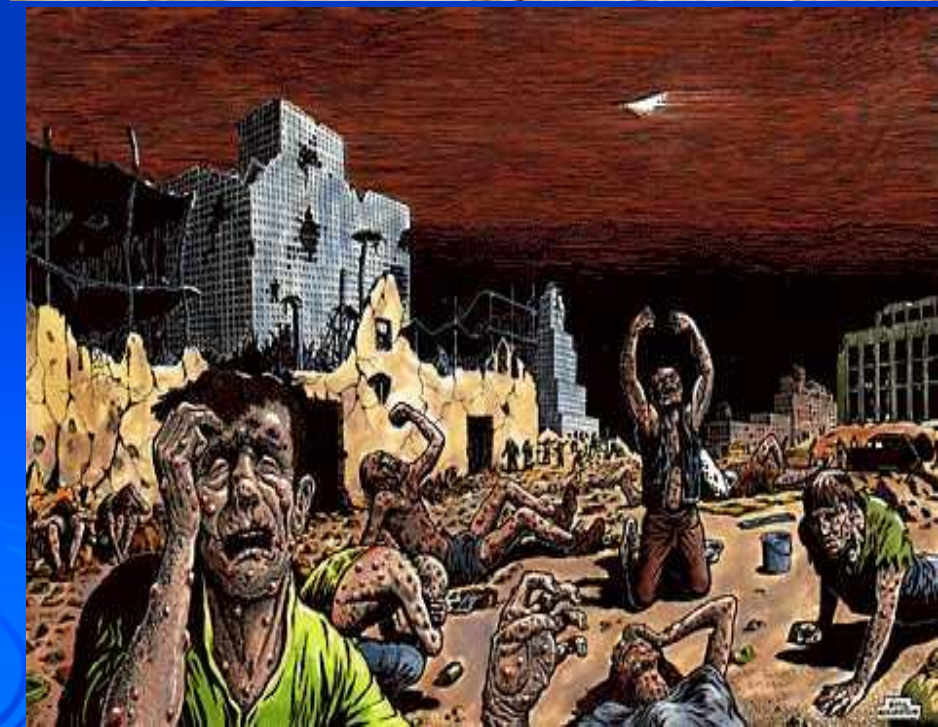
# CONTINUING APOSTASY

- Body of Believers AND modern Israelis are following the same path as the era of the Judges
- Israel ready to give away more land for peace
- Temple Mount complete with Muslim worship centers may be given to Palestinians
- Israel cites “humanitarian” reasons they give aid and comfort to their enemies



# PRESSURE ON GOD'S PEOPLE

- Lord raised up a Judge, the Judge would be a savior
- *Lachats* (OT) = pressure
- *Thlipsis* (NT) = pressure
- *Thlipsis* always translated as “tribulation”
- The 2 pressure points on Israel were:
  - 1) social pressure to conform
  - 2) coercion from the government to comply with laws and customs

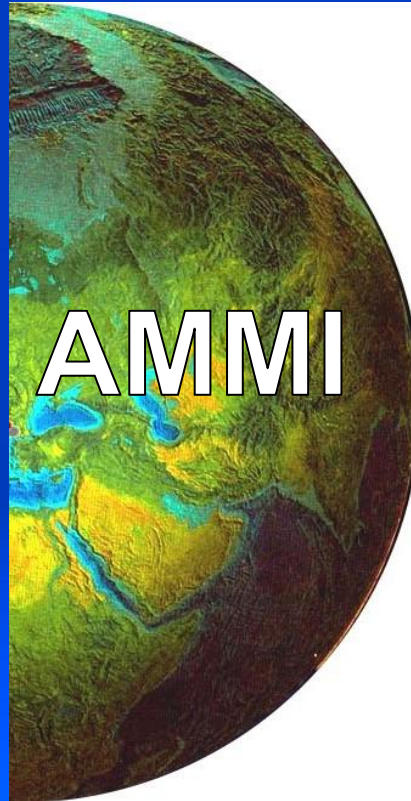


# IDENTITY IS BASED ON THE COVENANT

GENTILES



HEBREWS



- God is so angry with Israel's idolatry that He refers to them as "*ha-goy*"
- Goy means gentile
- God is saying "this gentile-like nation (Israel) violates my covenant"
- **Nassa** = judicial trial
- Canaanites left in Israel's land as a means for proving whether they'll be Torah observant or rebellious