

**The Place of Weeping**

1 Then the Angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to the place of weeping, and to Bethel and to the house of Israel, and said to them, “Thus says the Lord: I led you up from Egypt and brought you to the land I promised your fathers; and I said, ‘I will never break My covenant with you. 2 And you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; nor shall you worship their gods, but you will destroy their graven images and you shall tear down their altars.’ But you did not obey My voice, for you did these things. 3 Therefore I also said, ‘I will not drive them out before you, and they shall become as snares, and their gods shall be a cause for stumbling for you.’ 4 When the Angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the sons of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. 5 And they called that place the Place of Weeping; and there they made a sacrifice to the Lord. Death of Joshua 6 And when Joshua had dismissed the people, each man went to his inheritance to take possession of his land. 7 So the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who saw every great deed the Lord did for Israel. 8 Now Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at one hundred and ten years old. 9 And they buried him within the border of his inheritance at Timnath Heres, on Mount Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash. 10 And when all that generation were laid with their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the Lord, nor the work He had done for Israel.

**Israel Follows False Gods**

11 Then the sons of Israel did evil before the Lord and served the Baals. 12 They forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; they followed other gods from among the gods of the nations all around them, and they bowed down to them. They provoked the Lord to anger. 13 They forsook Him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths. 14 And the Lord was enraged with anger at Israel. So He delivered them into the hands of plunderers, who ravaged them and sold them into the hands of their enemies all around. As a result they could no longer stand before their enemies. 15 Whenever they went out, the hand of the Lord was against them for calamity, as the Lord had spoken, and as the Lord had sworn to them. He greatly distressed them. 16 Nevertheless, the Lord raised up judges and the Lord saved them from the hand of those who plundered them. 17 But even so, they would not listen to their judges, but instead they played the harlot with other gods and bowed down to them. They turned quickly from the way in which their fathers had walked in obeying the commandments of the Lord; they did not do so. 18 And the Lord raised up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for the Lord was moved by their groaning because of those who besieged them and harassed them. 19 And when the judge was dead, they went back to their former ways and behaved more corruptly than their fathers, by following

other gods, serving them, and bowing down to them. They did not reject their pursuits nor their stubborn ways. 20 Then the Lord was enraged with anger at Israel; and He said, “Because this nation set aside My covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not heeded My voice, 21 therefore I will not drive away from your presence any more of the men Joshua the son of Nun left in the land.” And the Lord left them, 22 to test Israel by them, to see whether they would keep the ways of the Lord, to walk in them and keep them as their fathers did. 23 Therefore the Lord left those nations without driving them out immediately; and He did not deliver them into the hand of Joshua.

## **Judges 3**

### **Nations Left in Canaan**

1 Now these are the nations the Lord left so that He might test Israel by them, that is, all who did not experience firsthand any of the wars in Canaan 2 (only for the sake of the generations of Israel, to teach them warfare; only those who did not previously experience it): 3 the five provinces of the foreign nations, and every Canaanite, and the Sidonites, and the Hivites who dwelt in Lebanon, from Mount Hermon to Laboemath. 4 And it was so that He might test Israel by them, to know whether they would hear the commandments of the Lord which He commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. 5 Thus the sons of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 6 And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons; and they served their gods.