

## Bible Study – Ehud the Sinister Saviour

### Read Judges 3:12-30

1. Israel “again” did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. This is not the first time – see 3:7. What did God do, in response (v. 12)? Who would you normally expect God to strengthen? What does this tell you about how God feels about Israel at this point?
2. What does Judges 2:16-19 say about the pattern that is developing here, and what hope do you think there is?
3. Eglon not only defeated Israel, he took possession of the “city of palms” (v. 13). This is Jericho (see Deuteronomy 34:3). What do you know about Jericho, and what is the significance of Israel losing control of this city?
4. What do you make of the fact that Israel “served” Eglon? Who else have they served in the past?
5. As Christians, our transformation from lost sinners to saved children of God is often likened to the Exodus, Israel’s journey from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. What lessons can we learn from Israel falling back into slavery (see Galatians 5:10)?
6. What do we need to do before God will hear our cries and save us (v. 15)? Is this always the case?
7. What do you know about the attitude towards left-handers in those times? [hint” the Latin for “left” is “sinister”]. Was Ehud a likely person to be chosen as his people’s saviour? What does that tell us about how God works?
8. What do you make of the assassination of Eglon? Do you approve of Ehud’s methods? Can you think of other times when God has used – or at least allowed the use of – unusual methods to achieve his purposes?
9. A lot more detail is given about the assassination of Eglon (verses 16-26) than the war that followed (verses 27-30). Why do you think this is the case?
10. If you had the opportunity to ask God questions about this incident, what would you ask? How do you think he might answer?
11. What do we learn about God and the way he works from this story?
12. What can we learn about ourselves and how we should live from this story?