

## **Matthew 1:1a**

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- **Literally: “The book of Genesis...”**



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## **Matthew 1:18a**

- **“Now the birth of Jesus Christ...”**
- **Literally: “Now the Genesis of Jesus Christ...”**



# **12 Books of History:**

**God forms His people into a nation.**

- From the Promise Land to God's faithfulness in a foreign land through judges, prophets, kings, and the Temple**



# Dot 1: Judges



## The Downward Spiral of Judges

1. Sin

2. Servitude

3. Cry for Help

4. Deliverer

5. Salvation

6. Rest

among the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>6</sup> And their daughters they took to themselves for wives, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they served their gods.

### Othniel

<sup>7</sup> And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. They forgot the LORD their God and served the Baals and the Asheroth. <sup>8</sup> Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia. And the people of Israel served Cushan-rishathaim eight years. <sup>9</sup> But when the people of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for the people of Israel, who saved them, Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother. <sup>10</sup> The Spirit of the LORD was upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the LORD gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand. And his hand prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim. <sup>11</sup> So the land had rest forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

### Ehud

<sup>12</sup> And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done what was evil in the sight of the LORD. <sup>13</sup> He gathered to himself the Ammonites and the Amalekites, and went and defeated Israel. And they took possession of the city of palms. <sup>14</sup> And the people of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

<sup>15</sup> Then the people of Israel cried out to the LORD, saying, "We have

**<sup>1</sup>And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, so the Lord gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.**



**<sup>2</sup>There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had no children.**



**<sup>3</sup>And the angel of the Lord appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son.**



**<sup>24</sup>And the woman bore a son and called his name Samson. And the young man grew, and the Lord blessed him.**

***Judges 13:1-3, 24***



**Then the people of Benjamin came together  
out of the cities to Gibeah to go out to battle  
against the people of Israel.**

***Judges 20:14***



# **Dot 1: Judges**

- **The culture is collapsing**



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## **Dot 2: Ruth**



**<sup>13</sup>So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son.**



**<sup>14</sup>Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!"**



**<sup>15</sup>He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him."**

***Ruth 4:13-15***



**And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.**

***Ruth 4:17***



**Now these are the generations of Perez:  
Perez fathered Hezron, Hezron fathered  
Ram, Ram fathered Amminadab,  
Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon  
fathered Salmon, Salmon fathered Boaz,  
Boaz fathered Obed, Obed fathered Jesse,  
and Jesse fathered David.**

***Ruth 4:18-22***



## **Dot 1: Judges**

- **The culture is collapsing**

## **Dot 2: Ruth**

- **A king is coming**



**What do we do when we see culture collapsing?**

**I. Rest**

**II. Commit**



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**Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.**

***Ruth 1:14***



**<sup>15</sup>And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law."**



**<sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."**



**<sup>17</sup>Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." <sup>18</sup>And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.**

***Ruth 1:15-18***



**What do we do when we see culture collapsing?**

**I. Rest**

**II. Commit**



**“Our commitments allow us to move to a higher level of freedom...As the theologian Tim Keller puts it, ‘Real freedom is not so much the absence of restrictions as finding the right ones.’”**

***—David Brooks  
The Second Mountain***



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## **Dot 3: Matthew**



## **Dot 1: Judges**

- **The culture is collapsing**

## **Dot 2: Ruth**

- **A king is coming**

## **Dot 3: Matthew**

- **The King has come!**

