



JUDGES

o u r d e e p e s t n e e d



What is the Book of Judges?

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- a reality court show





What is the Book of Judges?

- a reality court show
- a compilation of human rights violations

“Do those people who hold up the Bible as an inspiration to moral rectitude have the slightest notion of what is actually written in it?”

Richard Dawkins

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- for their idolatry (Deut. 12:29-30)
- for their immorality (Lev. 18:27)
- for their child sacrifice (Lev. 18:21)

“You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the Lord hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.”

Deuteronomy 12:31

“Do not say in your heart, after the Lord your God has thrust them out before you, ‘It is because of my righteousness that the Lord has brought me in to possess this land,’ whereas it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord is driving them out before you.

“Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the Lord your God is driving them out from before you,

“and that he may confirm the word that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Deuteronomy 9:4-5

Is God sponsoring ethnic cleansing? No.

- God forbids stealing and murder.
- God uses Israel to judge Canaan.
- God **judges everyone** in righteousness.

“No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

Luke 13:5

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- a compilation of human rights violations
- a series of hero stories

What is the Book of Judges?

- a reality court show
- a compilation of human rights violations
- a series of hero stories
- discouraging cycles of failure

This was the “ancient equivalent to the modern health-and-wealth gospel.”

Daniel Block



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“Human history is the long, terrible story of man trying to find something other than God which will make him happy.”

C.S. Lewis

1. Pure victory (1-18)

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“After the death of Joshua, the people of Israel inquired of the Lord, ‘Who shall go up first for us against the Canaanites, to fight against them?’”

Judges 1:1

- **Upper** campaign (3-8)

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 - Canaanites and Perizzites defeated

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 - Canaanites and Perizzites defeated
 - Jerusalem temporarily defeated

- Upper campaign (3-8)
- Lower campaign (9-18)





1. Pure victory (1-18)
2. **Partial** victory (19-36)

- Judah could not drive out (19)

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- Asher did not drive out (31-32)

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- Asher did not drive out (31-32)
- Naphtali did not drive out (33)

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- Benjamin did not drive out (21)
- Ephraim drove out with a covenant (22-26)
- Manassah did not drive out (27-28)
- Ephraim did not drive out (29)
- Zebulun did not drive out (30)
- Asher did not drive out (31-32)
- Naphtali did not drive out (33)
- Dan was not allowed on plain (34-46)

“I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land.”

Exodus 23:29-30

“The Lord your God will clear away these nations before you little by little. You may not make an end of them at once, lest the wild beasts grow too numerous for you.”

Deuteronomy 7:22

Never **inflate** or **deflate**
the significance of **partial victory!**

1:54 - Bills 29, Chiefs 26

1:54 - Bills 29, Chiefs 26

1:02 - Chiefs 33, Bills 29

1:54 - Bills 29, Chiefs 26

1:02 - Chiefs 33, Bills 29

0:13 - Bills 36, Chiefs 33

1:54 - Bills 29, Chiefs 26

1:02 - Chiefs 33, Bills 29

0:13 - Bills 36, Chiefs 33

0:00 - Bills 36, Chiefs 36

1:54 - Bills 29, Chiefs 26

1:02 - Chiefs 33, Bills 29

0:13 - Bills 36, Chiefs 33

0:00 - Bills 36, Chiefs 36

Bills vs Chiefs

NFL · Sun, Jan 23

Final/OT



Buffalo Bills
(12 - 7)

36

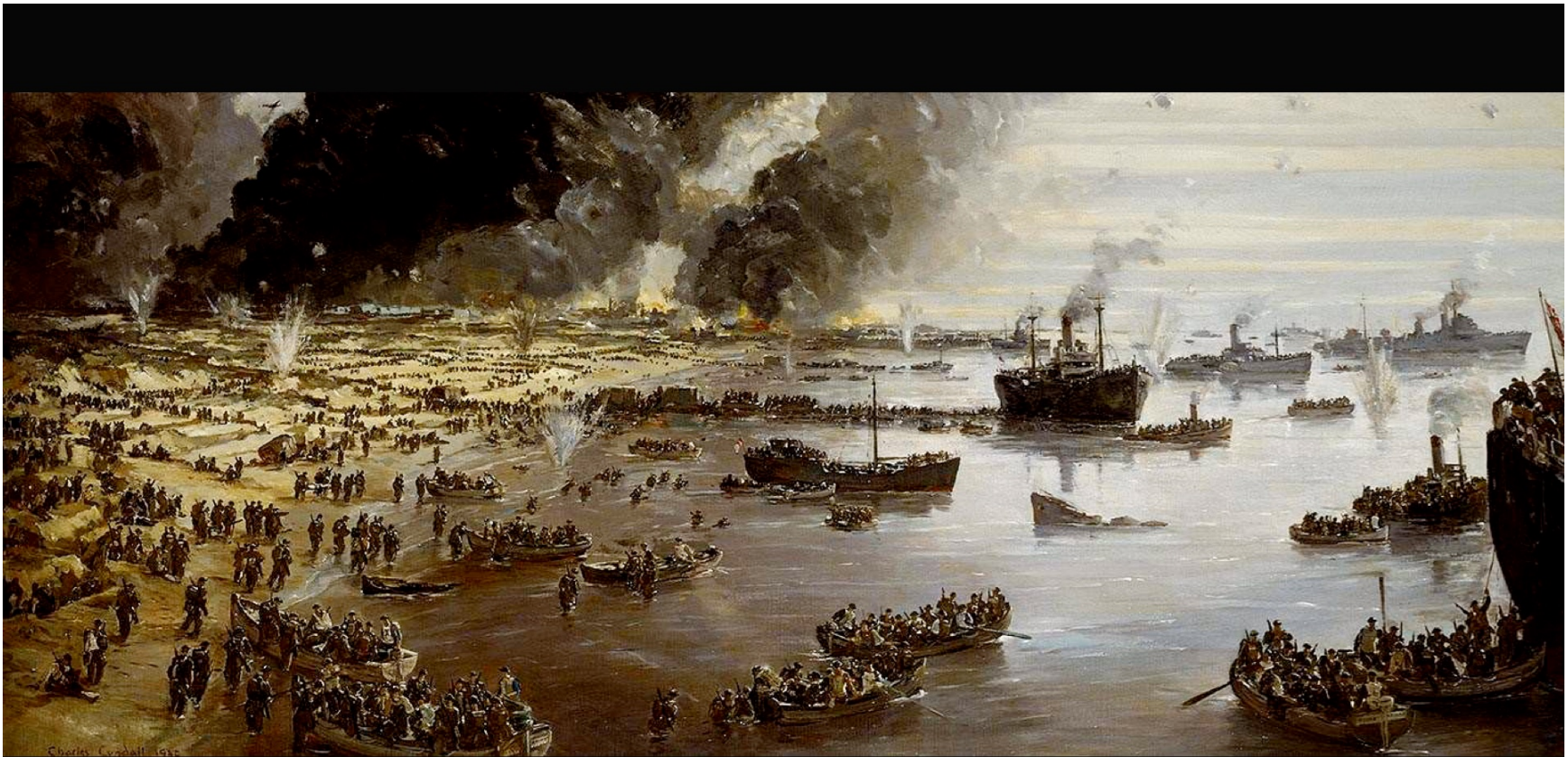
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42



Kansas City Chiefs
(14 - 5)

NFL Divisional Round



Evacuation at Dunkirk

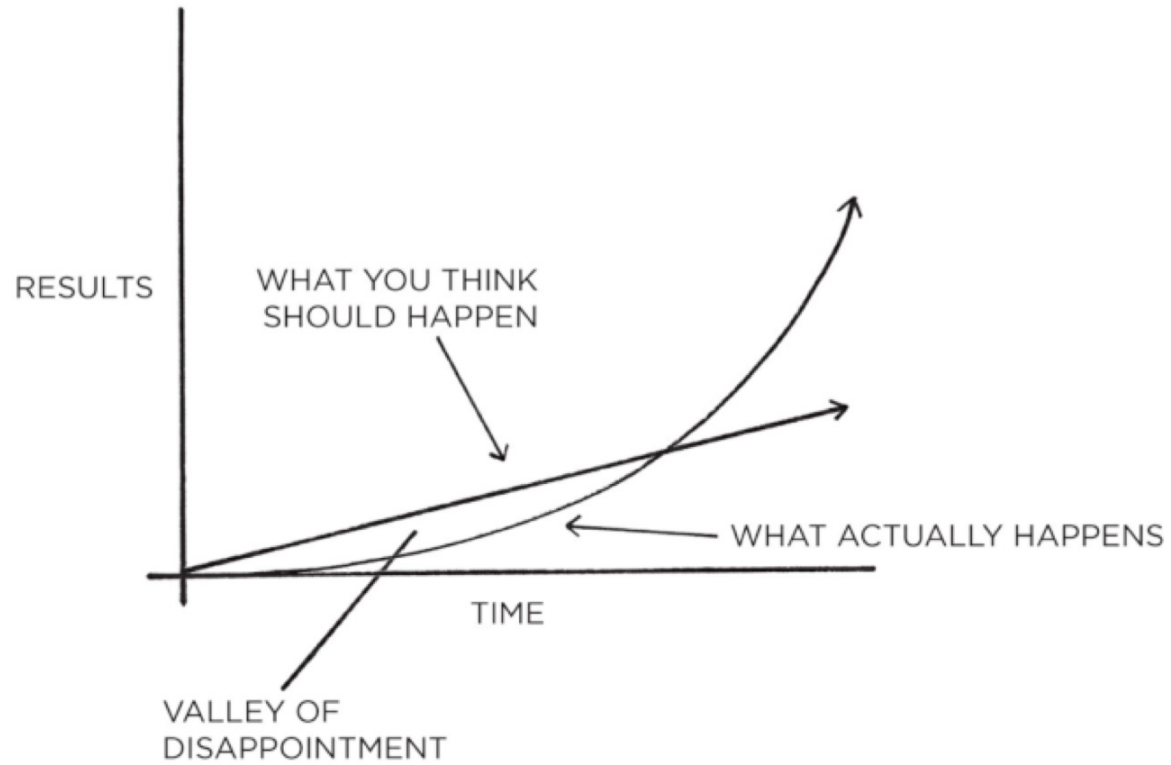
“We must be very careful not to assign to this deliverance the attributes of victory. Wars are not won by evacuations.

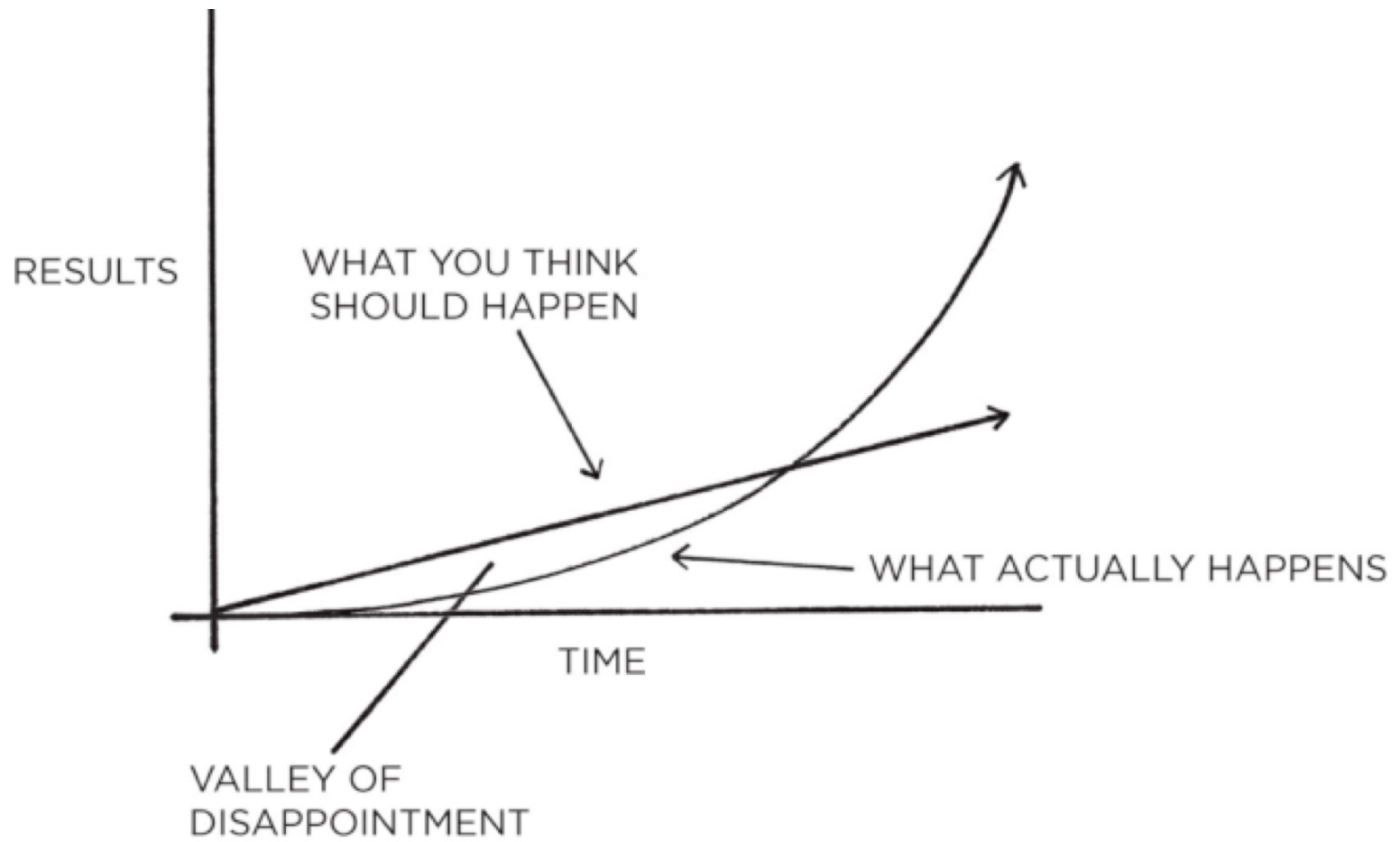
“But there was a victory inside this
deliverance, which should be noted
We shall go on to the end

“We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields, and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender.”

Winston Churchill

THE PLATEAU OF LATENT POTENTIAL





“Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”

1 John 3:2

1. Start with God.

“It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples,

“but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.”

Deuteronomy 7:7-8

“Be very careful, therefore, to love the Lord
your God.”

Joshua 23:11

- The Lord is speaking - “The Lord said” (2)

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- The Lord is providing - “The Lord gave” (4)

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- The Lord is enabling -
 “The Lord was with Judah” (19)
 “The Lord was with them [Joseph]” (22)

1. Start with God.
2. Refuse to settle.

“For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

“For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

“For whoever lacks these qualities is so
nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten
that he was cleansed from his former sins.

“Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.

“For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

2 Peter 1:5-11

1. Start with God.
2. Refuse to settle.
3. Flip failures.





“That was wonderful.
I was wrong.”

Daniel Kahneman

“Because it means he is now less wrong than before.”

Adam Grant