

# A SEASON OF EAR TINGLING

## THE BENJAMIN GENERATION – PART 3

*<sup>16</sup> Now Ehud had made a double-edged sword about a cubit long, which he strapped to his right thigh under his clothing.*

Judges 3:16

*<sup>16</sup> Among all these soldiers there were seven hundred select troops who were left-handed, each of whom could sling a stone at a hair and not miss.*

Judges 20:16

*<sup>2</sup> they were armed with bows and were able to shoot arrows or to sling stones right-handed or left-handed; they were relatives of Saul from the tribe of Benjamin):*

I Chronicles 12:2

I. Expect the unexpected/We serve a left-handed God.  
(Job 23:8-10 NASB)

*<sup>8</sup> “Behold, I go forward but He is not there, And backward, but I cannot perceive Him; <sup>9</sup> When He acts on the left, I cannot behold Him; He turns on the right, I cannot see Him. <sup>10</sup> “But He knows the way I take; When He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold.*

\* God always moves in unconventional ways.

II. Ehud/A left-handed man in a right-handed world.

A. Ehud had a handicap that excluded him from usefulness.

The Hebrew says Ehud was a man “shut of his right hand.”

- B. Either through disease or disuse Ehud could only use his left hand.
- C. God was about to send a special-needs, left-handed man to kill Israel's 18-year Moabite enemy, Eglon!
- D. God always uses unusual and unconventional people!
  - \* The only ability you need his availability.

### III. When your tribal name defies your destiny.

- A. Ehud was from the tribe of Benjamin.
- B. Benjamites were known for their ambidexterity. They could expertly shoot bows and throw stones with both hands. (Judges 20:16; I Chronicles 12:2)

*[Jdg 20:16 NIV] <sup>16</sup> Among all these soldiers there were seven hundred select troops who were left-handed, each of whom could sling a stone at a hair and not miss.*

*[1Ch 12:2 NIV] <sup>2</sup> they were armed with bows and were able to shoot arrows or to sling stones right-handed or left-handed; they were relatives of Saul from the tribe of Benjamin):*

- C. Benjamin was the smallest tribe, but would produce Ehud, King Saul and the Apostle Paul.
- D. Jericho, where their enemy Eglon ruled, was in Benjamin's tribal jurisdiction. So their humiliation was all the more embarrassing.
- E. Ehud's disability contrasted sharply with the expectations of his tribe and family.
  - \* Never be defined by the family you come from, or the inability with which you suffer.

#### IV. Eglon the enemy/The fat cow man

- \* Eglon was a morbidly obese Moabite leader. He ruled in the city of Jericho for 18 years, mercilessly oppressing God's people.

#### V. Getting past the guards

- A. Eglon's guards were not slouches. They were highly trained, vigorous men. (Judges 3:29)

*<sup>29</sup> At that time they struck down about ten thousand Moabites, all vigorous and strong; not one escaped.*

- B. A special needs man didn't seem a threat.
- C. Normally, a right-handed person wears his sword on his left side, because it's easier and faster to draw his sword from the opposite side of his body.
- D. God's strategy of using a left-handed man threw everyone off balance!

#### VI. Lead with your limp. (Genesis 32:25,31)

*<sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. ... <sup>31</sup> The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.*

- A. God made Ehud's enemy target so big and impossible to miss that his sword disappeared. Forever!
- B. Ehud lost his (man-made) sword but still had his (God-made) ram's horn. (Judges 3:17)

*<sup>17</sup> He presented the tribute to Eglon king of Moab, who was a very fat man.*

C. No matter how handicapped Ehud was, he could still blow a certain sound on the ram's horn. (Ram's horns were blown to signal a feast, a change in location, to celebrate joy or to call for war.)

\* God can use you even if you possess no "right hand" strengths such as talent, money, looks, education or background!

\* It is always God's "right hand" that gets the victory!