

# **QUIET TIMES**

## **Judges 10:1-5**

**“The best men are not always the best known.”**

[W.F. Adveney, “Judges”- Pulpit Commentary, p. 112]

### **I. TOLA: THE DELIVERER** (1-2)

#### **A. HE AROSE** (1a)

1. After Abimelech’s wicked three-year reign
2. Coming on the scene > Becoming known
3. Standing up to assist and being tapped to lead

#### **B. HE SAVED** (1b)

1. Freeing them from evil - See 8:33-35 and 9:25, 45-49
2. Encouraging righteousness not riots (9:1-3)
3. Healing wounds: A peacemaker not a peace-taker
4. Keeping them from the oppression of bordering nations
5. Encouraging reforms and revival
6. Watching out for their best interests

#### **C. HE JUDGED** (2a)

- His predecessor, Abimelech, was not a judge but rather a warrior

1. Righteously: Applying Biblical principles and wisdom
2. Effectively: Creating an atmosphere for peace and justice
3. Piously: Without personal failure and flaws (the opposite of Samson)

#### **D. HE DIED** (2b)

1. Useful: After 23 years of service
2. Faithful: Finishing well > Using his final years to encourage good and godliness
3. Successful: For the people remained faithful to God following his death
  - Unlike the times of Othniel (3:11-12), Deborah (6:1) and Gideon (8:33)

Over please >

## II. JAIR: THE DEVELOPER (3-5)

### A. HE FOLLOWED (3a)

- He inherited a good situation

### B. HE AROSE (3b)

1. Coming on the scene
2. With a peaceful transfer of power

### C. HE JUDGED (3c)

1. Continuing to provide justice and settle disputes
2. Continuing to apply God's Word and encourage God's ways

### D. HE PARENTED (4a)

1. Having 30 donkey-riding sons
2. His sons were honorable and respected
3. They likely served as mayors and/or judges in their individual cities

### E. HE PROSPERED (4b)

1. His family had 30 cities!
2. The region was named after him

### F. HE DIED (5)

1. Eventually: Though he was likely rich, he was not immortal
2. Regretfully:
  - a. He'd let the fire of revival fizzle
  - b. The danger of quiet times is that of falling asleep
  - c. As soon as he's gone, Israel backslides again! (see v. 6)

## CONCLUSION:

### **God used quiet times and unknown judges to lead His people for 45 years**

Note God's proverbial statement in Isaiah 30:15

*"For thus the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, has said, 'In repentance and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your strength.' But you were not willing."*

[The New American Standard -Updated, 1995, The Lockman Foundation ]

### **During quiet times we should reflect upon the truths of our salvation and strength**

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