

UNLIKELY HEROES #5

JEPHTHAH: A MAN OF UNREFINED FAITH

“Unlikely heroes are those whose faith outshines the unrefined and unfinished parts of their lives.

Judges 11:1–3 (KJV 1900)

1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he was the son of an harlot: and Gilead begat Jephthah.

2 And Gilead's wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman.

3 Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him.

BIO FOR JEPHTHAH:

1. Parents: Father was Gilead
2. Spouse: Unknown
3. Offspring: One daughter
4. Nationality: Israelite of the tribe of Manasseh (Gileadite)
5. Occupation: Judged Israel for 6 years
6. Scriptural Setting: Judges 11-12

INTERESTING FACTS:

1. He was born of a prostitute and rejected by his family.
2. He was a man of notable military prowess and called a “mighty man of valor”
3. He is best known for making and keeping a very difficult vow to the Lord.

NOTABLE EVENTS IN HIS LIFE:

1. Judges 11:2-3 – He is rejected by his family.
2. Judges 11:3 – He dwells in the wilderness and becomes a mighty warrior.
3. Joshua 11:4-5 – His family asks for his help in fighting against the Ammonites.
4. Judges 11:29-31 – He makes an infamous vow to the Lord.
5. Judges 11:32-33 – He defeats the Ammonites.
6. Judges 12:1-6 – He fights against and defeats the Ephraimites
7. Judges 12:7 – He dies after judging Israel just six years.

NOTABLE QUOTES:

Judges 11:23–24 (KJV 1900)

23 So now the LORD God of Israel hath dispossessed the Amorites from before his people Israel, and shouldst thou possess it?

24 Wilt not thou possess that which Chemosh thy god giveth thee to possess? So whomsoever the LORD our God shall drive out from before us, them will we possess.

