



THE BIBLE IN VERSE

... by Alvy E. Ford

JUDGES

CHAPTERS 1 TO 21

Chapter 1

Judah is chosen to further the fight,
Having the promise of God and His might.
Cities are taken and treasuries filled.
Yet are the natives not utterly killed.

Chapter 2

Joshua's dead and those strong to begin.
New generation is sinking in sin.
Angel of God comes to Bochim with news.
God is displeased; He will batter and bruise.

Chapter 3

God sends them judges to bring their release.
Othniel is first gaining forty years peace.
Ehud is next with an eight-year reign.
Shamgar then follows with six hundred slain.

Chapter 4

Deborah judges the land of the Lord.
Barak is ordered to furbish his sword.
Sisera seeks for a refuge with Jael.
Softly she pierces his head with a nail.

Chapter 5

Barak and Deborah sing a new song.
Mother of Sisera tarries for long.
People have shouting and mother has tears.
Nation has rest for a full forty years.

Chapter 6

Gideon now is elected to lead,
Talks to the Lord and from terror is freed,
Breaks down an altar and offers a bull.
Fleece with the dew of the night air is full.

Chapter 7

Gideon's army is mustered again.
God has it shrunken to three hundred men.
These He sends forth bearing pitchers and lamps.
God puts His fear in the enemy camps.

Chapter 8

Gideon's army continues the fight,
Conquers the Midian army in flight.
Having received a great treasure of gold,
Gideon dies being honored and old.

Chapter 9

Parable told of the trees and their king;
Herein Abimelech does a bad thing.
People of Shechem are slaughtered and dead.
Woman with millstone then crushes his head.

Chapter 10

Tola's years total a twenty-three score.
Jair then follows with twenty-two more.
People then turn from the law of their God,
Promptly are rendered His chastening rod.

Chapter 11

Jephthah is called to be general now.
He to the Lord makes a positive vow.
After the enemy falls to his bow,
He by his daughter is brought very low.

Chapter 12

Ephraim howls and is promptly repaid,
Jephthah is judge for six years and is laid.
Ibzan and Elon and Abdon combine;
Twenty-five years is the lapse of their time.

Chapter 13

Wife of Manoah has Heavenly Guest.
She and her husband are signally blessed.
Angel of God tells them what must be done.
Samson is born as the prophesied one.

Chapter 14

Samson at Timnath would take him a wife.
He on the way robs a lion of its life.
Wagers the Philistines; loses his bet;
Kills thirty people to pay up his debt.

Chapter 15

Samson takes foxes and burns up the grass.
Thousands are slain with the jaw of an ass.
Samson then prays for relief from his thirst.
God cleaves a place from which water does burst.

Chapter 16

Samson at Gaza walks off with the gate,
Then meets Delilah and seals his fate.
She learns his secret; they put out his eyes.
Samson kills three thousand more as he dies.

Chapter 17

Micah returns all the stuff he did take.
Mother sends silver an image to make.
Levite comes by and his joy is increased.
Micah retains him to act as his priest.

Chapter 18

Danites send out a reconnaissance band,
Later return to subdue a new land;
Taking by force the gods Micah had made,
Setting them up where their city is laid.

Chapter 19

Levite has concubine playing the whore.
He goes to get her, her place to restore.
Benjamites join in a terrible deed,
Forcing the woman till death is decreed.

Chapter 20

Israelites, Benjamites, clash in a war.
Fighting is fearful; the slaughter is sore.
Benjamites die—both their people and stock.
Only six hundred escape to the rock.

Chapter 21

Israelites grieve that a tribe has been slain,
Try to find wives for the men that remain.
People of Jabesh then pay with their lives.
Four hundred virgins are kept to be wives.