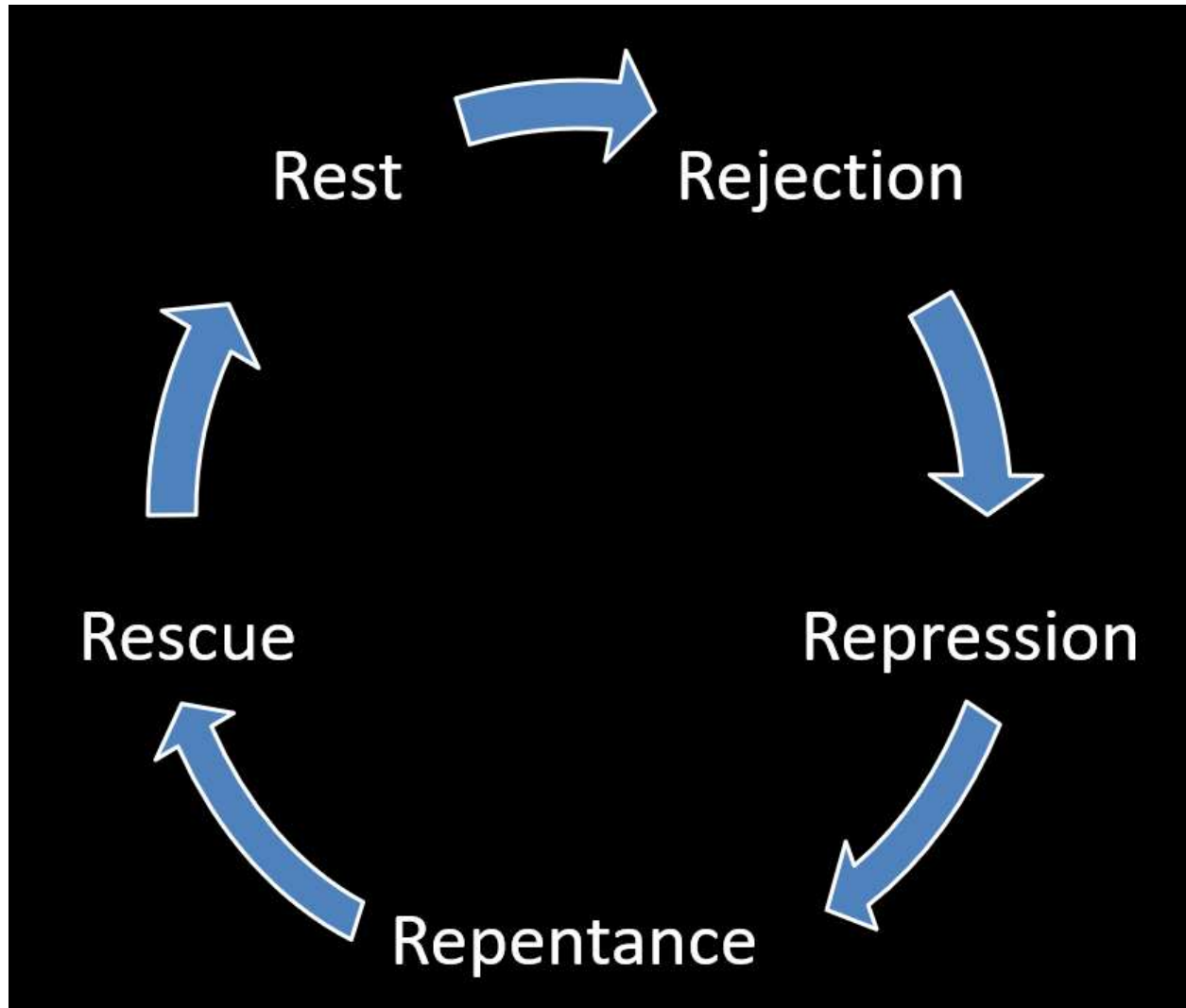


Day 11 – Feb. 13

As we enter our second book of our Kingdoms study, the book of Judges, we find a sort of a prologue, a “Coming Soon!!” section that will set us up well for the rest of the book. Judges, we will soon find out, is a repeating cycle of stories with one trajectory – God’s people rejecting God. I have called it the Sin Cycle, which plays out again and again throughout this book.



Whichever story you choose from this book, the basic story is the same.

1. God’s people Reject God and His Law.
2. God’s people fall under the Repression of a foreign army.
3. God’s people, now in serious trouble, Repent of their sin and turn back to God.
4. God Rescues His people through a Judge, a ruler raised for just this moment.
5. Once Rescued, the people and the land find Rest... until, that is, the cycle begins again.

And so, like a giant Slinky, the cycle repeats and repeats, going round and round, yet each time falling farther and farther away from God. By the time we get to the final judge Samson (yes, the hair guy), the Israelites have fallen completely away from God, and even their leader – their Judge – is corrupt.

It promises to be an interesting read!