The Book of Judges stirs His people to action by showing the devastating cost of following the trends of one's surrounding society. At the same time, He graciously reveals to us that He is present in every generation, seeking to revive, restore and reform us. His desire to work deeper, stronger and more passionate in our hearts is the theme from which we, no matter how desperate or dark our situation, can gain much hope. The Book of Judges causes us to take a close look at ourselves and our own weaknesses. We see again and again what God expects of His people. The failures of His people are also brought before our eyes until we almost can feel the weeping and despair. God, of course, worked through these difficult situations and repeatedly restored His people. Â§ 1. Title. Place of the Book in the Canon. The title, Judges, or, The Book of Judges, which the book bears in the Jewish and Christian Bibles, is given to it because it relates the exploits of a succession of Israelite leaders and champions who, in the book itself as well as in other parts of the Old Testament, are called Judges. The signification of the Hebrew word is, however, much wider than that of the Greek κριτής, the Latin judex, or the English 'judge.' The verb shåphaţ is not only judicare Commentaries are generally judged good or bad according to what the reader expects of them. I hope this one will satisfy those who want the meatiness and analytical character normally expected of a commentary that includes an original translation and notes. But I have chosen to write it in an emotionally warm, rather than cool, detached, academic way, partly because that is my natural writing style, partly because I think it is what is needed to engage properly with a dynamic, narrative work like the book of Judges, and partly because I think it is what people who buy and read NICOT commentari...Â INTRODUCTION. Settlement and Tribal Territories. A commentary is a book about a book. But what is a book? The question is not as simple as it appears.