

“A Sword for the LORD and for Gideon”

Judges 7:15-25

GIDEON’S DECISION MOMENT. v.15

1. Gideon and his assistant Purah overheard 2 enemy soldiers talking about a dream. v.9-14
2. Gideon worshiped. v.15
3. Gideon returned and rallied the troops. v.15b

THE BATTLE PLAN. v.16-20

1. The tactic: “Divide and conquer.” v.16-18
 - 3 groups of men ‘armed’ with trumpets, jars and torches.
 - Follow the lead of Gideon. v.17
2. The timing: “at the beginning of the middle watch”. v.9-20
 - Likely around 10 pm. They blew the trumpets, smashed the jars... Chaos & confusion!

HOW THE BATTLE PLAYED OUT. v.21-25

1. The Midianites grabbed their swords... and killed each other! v.21-23
 - This is clearly the work of the LORD Himself. v.22
 - The Midianites begin to flee towards the Jordan. v.23
 2. Gideon finished the job. v.24-25
 - He sent messengers ahead of the Midianites to Ephraim. v.24
 - They captured the 2 princes of Midian and killed them. v.25
- 120,000 Midianites were killed in the battle (8:10). And the land had 40 years of rest under Gideon (8:28).

OBSERVATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

1. Where the Lord leads, the Lord provides.
 - Philippians 2:13: for it is God who is at work in you, both *to will* and *to work* for His good pleasure.
2. Gideon and his crew won the battle—using no swords!
 - The ‘weapons’ of God’s people are different from the weapons of the world. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5: *-For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.*
3. Echoes of Christ and the Gospel... v.17: **Look at me, and do likewise.** Ref. John 13:1-16
 - John 13:12-16: When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

“Believe it, Christians, a personal application of the truths relating to Divine Providence, would reveal as it were a new world to you, and would make the paths of God towards you every day more intelligible, every day more profitable, and shall I not add, every day more comfortable.” -Rev. John Witherspoon

Please continue to pray for the Lord’s leading at Covenant Life Church!

- Pray for Him to lead and provide for the campus improvements announced last week.
- Pray for Him to lead regarding starting a Christian school. **NOTE: Update meetings open to the public:** -Thursday, November 18, 6:30pm and Saturday, November 20, 9:30am.