

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible  
Current Book: *Judges* – verse by verse

Scripture(s) for Today: Judges 6 – Cycle #4 (Part 1) – God introduces Himself to the next deliverer

Today's Message:

**“Providential  
Supervision”**



## INTRODUCTION

Last week, we witnessed the 3<sup>rd</sup> of 7 cycles of sin found in the book of Judges. The children of Israel did evil again in God's sight were sold into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan; God used an unlikely team of people to overcome that enemy. Today, we will begin the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle of sin. The children of Israel will do evil in God's sight and be overrun by the Midianites who will destroy the increase of the earth and leave no sustenance for Israel. After seven years, they will cry out to God, and He will hear them. First, God will send a **PROPHET** to rebuke them. Then, the Angel of the Lord will appear to a young man He wants to lead His people. Now, Gideon will initially have some pointed **QUESTIONS** for God. Yet, God will prove Himself, and Gideon will take his first step of **FAITH** towards becoming the next hero of Israel!

## LEARNING TOGETHER

### A. The Text Judges 6:1-40

#### #1. The Rebellion – the children of Israel did evil **AGAIN** in God's sight. (1)

- Cycle #1: 8 + 40 years; Cycle #2: 18 + 80 years; Cycle #3: 20 + 40 Years = 206 years!

**NOTE** At this point, it is safe to say that we have a pattern! How about your life? You right?

#### #2. The Retribution – Israel was **GREATLY** impoverished by the Midianites. (2-6)

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“impoverished”  
Reduced to poverty;  
exhausted.

- *The hand of Midian was very heavy against Israel. Gen 25:2; 36:12*
  - ✓ The children of Israel *made them DENS* to hide themselves. *Heb 11:38; Rev 6:15*
  - ✓ The enemy *destroyed the INCREASE* of the earth... *left no sustenance for Israel.*
  - ✓ The enemy *entered into the land to DESTROY it.* *Mt 5:17; Jn 10:10; 1Pet 5:8*

**NOTE** History repeats itself; *nothing new under the sun.* Does this pattern look familiar??

#### #3. The Restoration – God personally sought a man to **DELIVER** Israel. (7-40)

- *The children of Israel cried unto the Lord... after 7 years!*
- *The LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel... 2Chr 24:19; Jer 1:10, 16-19*
  - ✓ The *first* action God took was to send a prophet with a **REBUKE!** *2Tim 4:1-4*

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*Making disciples and caring for souls!*

- **The angel of the LORD came and sat under an oak tree... Neh 2:12-16; Prov 5:21**
  - ✓ The second action God took was to show up Himself and **OBSERVE!** Ezek 22:30
- **The angel of the LORD appeared unto Gideon... Gen 32:30; Deut 34:10; 2Cor 3:18**
  - ✓ The third action God took was to introduce Himself to Gideon and **TALK!**
    - ❖ **Jesus said, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour...**
      - Then Gideon said... ✓ Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us?
      - ✓ And where are his miracles which our fathers told us of?
      - ✓ But now the LORD hath forsaken us... and delivered us...
    - ❖ **Jesus said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel...**
      - Then Gideon said... ✓ Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel?
      - ✓ Behold, my family is poor... and I am the least...
    - ❖ **Jesus said, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites...**
      - Then Gideon said... ✓ If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign...
- **Gideon asked the angel of the LORD to show him a SIGN ... Jn 2:18; 1Cor 1:22**
  - ✓ He asked for Him not to leave and *made ready a kid and unleavened cakes...*
  - ✓ The angel of the LORD *put forth* the end of his staff... **there rose up fire!**
  - ✓ Gideon *built an altar there* unto the LORD – called it **Jehovah-shalom! PEACE!**
- **The LORD gave Gideon an opportunity to take a FAITH step that same night...**
  - ✓ He said... **thrown down** your father's altar of Baal and **cut down the grove** by it.
  - ✓ He said... **build an altar unto the LORD** with the 2<sup>nd</sup> bullock and the grove wood.
  - ✓ Gideon took **10** of his servants and did it that night! **Jer1:8; Acts3:7;11:11;16:10**
  - ✓ Men of the city wanted him dead; God **TURNED** the tables! **Gen 50:20; De 23:5**
- **The Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon... let me prove, I pray thee...**
  - ✓ He blew a trumpet and sent messengers to other tribes to gather with him.
  - ✓ He had another test to **PROVE** God... then begs God for 1 last proof!! **Mal 3:10**

**NOTE** Gideon goes down as the only man to "fleece" God! Yet, God did what He asked!

#### #4. The Rest – God had a plan to use Gideon to bring rest to His people.

- God will ultimately bring rest to Israel for 40 years in the days of Gideon. **Jdg 8:28**

#### B. The Lessons (How can you apply this message to your life?)

1. God is actively **SUPERVISING** the affairs of our world; He cares about your life!

❖ **Question:** What did God observe in your life this week? Faithfulness? **Ps 139:2; Ro 14:12**

2. God is actively **CALLING** people to take steps of faith for His glory; He wants you!

❖ **Question:** What is your next step of faith? What is God saying now? **Mt 8:26;14:29;16:8**

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