

Gideon 5 · The End Matters Judges 8

👟👟 Pastor Chris + Relay Race 😂

🔥🌟 Gideon may not have been mighty before the Lord spoke ... but the Word of Jesus changes things.

Through the Lord Gideon has:

🏠 Torn down idols in his home

🏹 Defeats Midian

📢 yell " a swords for the Lord and for Gideon!"

➡ This is a beautiful moment, God is powerful and Gideon is faithful.

📖 Judges 8:1-4

4 "exhausted yet pursuing" — they were exhausted yet didn't quit, keep going, don't quit, keep going

⚠️ The story doesn't end here

📖 Judges 8:5-9

🔥 even when no one believes in you or helps you, stay on mission. Refuse to let the voice of doubt deter you from the mission that God has for you!

⚠️ The story doesn't end here

📖 Judges 8:16-23

👑 Gideon is experiencing lots of victory and the people of Israel want him to be king... Moses warned of this- The Lord is always king over you, not a human.

👑 Gideon rejected the offer and reminds them that the Lord is there king!!!

But... ⚠️ The story doesn't end here

👟👟 PC — he runs into a "wall"
& comes in dead last

⚠️ One of the biggest take always from the story of Gideon is actually the piece we often ignore... the end matters.

📖 Judges 8:24-27

Gideon goes from rags to riches, from a wine press to filthy rich

27 - a ephod (a garment that priests would wear when speaking to and for the Lord or it could be an idol) but it's clear it wasn't used to honor the Lord. It became a tool of idolatry, sin, paganism. The very thing that got them in trouble to begin with. FULL ○ MOMENT

📖 Judges 8:29-34

Started going after sex, money, power...

Gideon's son with his concubine Abimelech (means "my father is king")

A disappointing end to an amazing story

He traded humility for arrogance

He traded faith in the Lord for personal offense

Worship for wealth

Holiness for status

Judges 9 = Abimelech's story of trying to secure the throne & had his 70 brothers murdered... he is then killed at the end.

THE END MATTERS

✨✨✨ The story of Gideon teaches us that a "season of surrender" isn't good enough... you have to end well.

"Let us be as watchful after the victory as before the battle." 🎉⚠️

📖 Matthew 7:24-27

His HOUSE ... his family... his spiritual legacy was built on a rock.

❤️ don't forget your dependence on Jesus!

Where you are today matters far less than where you end up— the end matters!