



# God Is Moving

## *Overcoming Fear*

### I. When God Moves

#### Lessons from Israel

Zechariah 12:1–3 (NIV®)

<sup>1</sup> This is the word of the Lord concerning Israel. The Lord, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him, declares: <sup>2</sup>“I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.”

#### Lessons from Gideon

Judges 6:27–30 (NIV®)

<sup>27</sup> So Gideon took ten of his servants and did as the Lord told him. **But because he was afraid of his family and the men of the town, he did it at night rather than in the daytime.** <sup>28</sup> In the morning when the men of the town got up, there was Baal’s altar, demolished, with the Asherah pole beside it cut down and the second bull sacrificed on the newly built altar! <sup>29</sup> They asked each other, “Who did this?” When they carefully investigated, they were told, “Gideon son of Joash did it.” <sup>30</sup> The men of the town demanded of Joash, “Bring out your son. He must die, because he has broken down Baal’s altar and cut down the Asherah pole beside it.”

### II. Three O’s of Participation

#### A. Overcoming (Fear)

Psalms 56:3 (NIV®)

When I am afraid, I will trust in you.

Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIV®) **MEMORY VERSE**

The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”



**Proclamation . . .** The Lord himself goes before me, He is with me, He will never leave me nor forsake me. I am not afraid; I am not discouraged.

## B. Outcomes Beyond Ourselves

### 1. God-Directed Outcomes

Judges 7:19–22 (NIV®)

<sup>19</sup> Gideon and the hundred men with him reached the edge of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guard. **They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands.** <sup>20</sup> The three companies blew the trumpets and smashed the jars. Grasping the torches in their left hands and holding in their right hands the trumpets they were to blow, they shouted, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" <sup>21</sup> While each man held his position around the camp, all the Midianites ran, crying out as they fled. <sup>22</sup> When the three hundred trumpets sounded, **the Lord caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords.** The army fled . . .

### 2. Needed, Required to Fulfill Our Assignment

Hebrews 11:33–36 (NIV®)

<sup>33</sup> ...who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; **whose weakness was turned to strength;** and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. <sup>35</sup> Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison.

Luke 23:46 (NIV®)

Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, **into your hands I commit my spirit.**" When he had said this, he breathed his last.

1 Corinthians 2:5 (NIV®)

so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.



### **3. His Power (At Work Within Us)**

Ephesians 3:20 (NIV®)

Now to him who is **able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine**, according to **his power that is at work within us...**

2 Corinthians 12:7–10 (NIV®)

<sup>7</sup> ... there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. <sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for **my power is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. <sup>10</sup> That is why, for Christ's sake, **I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

### **Prayer**

Almighty God,

We cry out to You for help. You are well able to deliver Your people from every oppression. Forgive us of our stubborn pride and refusal to cooperate with You. We acknowledge our own sin, our rebellion, and desire to be independent. Look now upon us with mercy! Raise up men and women to speak the truth so that our children may live with Your blessings. Grant us understanding hearts and the courage to cooperate with what You are doing in the Earth. In Jesus' name, amen.