



PRIDE, POLITICS, AND PERSISTENCE Judges 8:1-21

INTRODUCTION 3 TYPES OF PEOPLE IN OUR TEXT

I. SOME WERE PRIDEFUL - v. 1-3

A. The Criticism Of Ephraim - v. 1

"And they accused him fiercely" - "bitter, strong, cutting words"

Judges 12:1-4; Hosea 7:8; Psalm 78:9

B. The Control Of Gideon - v. 2-3

Prov. 15:1; 16:32; Heb. 12:2; Eph. 6:6

II. SOME WERE POLITICAL - v. 4-9

A. A Simple Request - v. 4-5

B. A Shameful Refusal – v. 6, 8

C. A Solemn Response – v. 7, 9

Rom. 14:12; Heb. 13:17; James 2:18; Eph. 2:10

III. SOME WERE PERSISTENT - v. 4, 10-21 **A. How They Continued** – v. 4 *Eph. 6:6; 1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 12:1-3*

B. How They Conquered – v. 10-12 *Gal. 6:9; 2 Cor. 4:8-9; Isa. 40:31*

C. How They Concluded – v. 13-21

- Gideon came back with the Midianite kings.
- When he came to Succoth, he took their 75 elders and put them to death by dragging them through thorns and briars until they died, vv. 15-16.
- When he came to Penuel, he tore down their tower and killed their elders, **v. 17**.
- Gideon slew the Midianite kings, **vv. 18-21**.

In other words, because he was obedient to the Lord and to His will for his life, Gideon enjoyed absolute victory over all his enemies. In the end, Gideon had the last laugh!

Those who walk with the Lord and do His will enjoy victory in their lives.

If you want the Lord's blessings, His power and His victory to be manifested in your life, the only path you should follow is His path.

When you walk with the Lord, obedience to Him always results in victory! When you walk against Him, you can expect nothing but defeat!