

# Mighty Warrior

## Part 1 – Gideon’s Call

### A Study of Gideon’s Life

#### Israel’s Oppression

**Judges 6:1** And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.

**2** And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: *and* because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which *are* in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds.

**3** And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them;

**4** And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass.

**5** For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; *for* both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.

**6** And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.

**7** And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites,

**8** That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, “*Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;*

**9** *And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land;*

**10** And I said unto you, 'I *am* the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell': but ye have not obeyed my voice."

### **The Call of Gideon**

**11** And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that *pertained* unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide *it* from the Midianites.

**12** And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, "The LORD *is with thee*, thou mighty man of valor."

**13** And Gideon said unto him, "Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites."

**14** And the LORD looked upon him, and said, "Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?"

- **My hope as we go through the life of Gideon is to help each of us try to get a more godly view**
  - **A godly view of Our Situation**
  - **A godly view of Our Selves**
  - **A godly view of Our Salvation**

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- Our Situation
  - Just how obedient are we?
    - Are we evil in God's eyes?
    - When is the last time served someone in Jesus' name?
    - When is the last time you really died to who you are?
    - When is the last time you felt the Holy Spirit working in and through you?
    - When is the last time you prayed earnestly for God's presence in your life?
    - When is the last time you opened His Word and heard Him speak to you?
    - When is the last time you shared the good news with someone?

- Did you know when we don't do what we know to do, God calls it sin?
  - James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.
- You might be thinking...
  - yeah but we aren't impoverished
  - We aren't hurting for food or stuff
  - We don't have anyone taking all the things we need
- See...you cannot see Our Situation
  - We are poor in spirit
  - We are starving for righteousness
  - We are thirsting for blessings
  - We are powerless before our enemy
  - The enemy has robbed us of the resources we had
  - The enemy has made us seek to hide in a building
  - The enemy has taken our liberty in Christ

**7** And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites,

**8** That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, “Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;

**9** And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land;

**10** And I said unto you, ‘I am the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell’: but ye have not obeyed my voice.”

- Our Selves

- If we don't see Our Situation, we won't see Our Selves
- It is only when we see our...
  - Destitution of spirit
  - Rags of righteousness
  - Barren of blessings
  - We are powerless before our enemy
  - That the enemy has robbed us of the resources we had
  - That the enemy has made us seek to hide in a building
  - That the enemy has taken our liberty in Christ
  - That we will ever be desperate enough to cry out
- God's response is always...
  - A rebuke for our rebellion
  - A reminder of His relief
  - A recall to His righteousness

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- More of Our Selves
  - Our Intervention Unseen?

- “Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” Hebrews 13:2
- How many angels has God put under a tree for me?
- Our Intentions Undercover
  - Hiding our fruit from the enemy
  - Hoping the enemy leaves us alone
- Our Identity Unrealized
  - God sees a mighty man
  - We see a mistaken messenger
- Our Indignation Uncovered
  - We’ve heard or seen God move a long time ago
  - We hold God accountable for our lack of faith and obedience

**14** And the LORD looked upon him, and said, “Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?”

- Our Salvation
  - God has not Failed
  - God has not Forgotten
  - God has not Forsaken
  - God hears our Cries
  - God sends a Messenger
    - Will/Do we listen
    - Will/Do we follow
  - God Makes Men Mighty
    - Will/Do we have faith
    - Will/Do we follow
    - Or Will/Do we need a fleece?