

Mighty Warrior Series Part 6

A Study of the Life of Gideon
Judges 6:36-40

UnReasonable Grace

36 And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,

37 Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; *and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside,* then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.

38 And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

39 And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

40 And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

- Grace has so many definitions.
- Grace is God's Unmerited Favor
- Grace is Christ's Work on Our Behalf
- Grace is Getting What We Don't Deserve
- Grace is God's Strength in Due Season
- Grace is God working in and through us to a pre-determined outcome
 - This outcome is to be what He sees not what we see
 - For Salvation, His Grace works in us by showing us our need for Him

- It works through us by His Holy Spirit to SHOW us redeemed and sinless before a Holy Judge
 - He now sees us as He sees Christ
 - For Sanctification, His Grace works in us to point out where are struggling in sin
 - This is done with His Word and His Spirit pointing out who we are and Who Christ is
 - We then have a choice to live in Grace
 - Or we can choose to ignore God's pre-determined outcome for our lives and live how we please
 - This places us in an area of doubt, fear, worry, regret, remorse, and eminent destruction
 - The wages of sin is death
 - If we will yield to Grace's divine working in our lives, the pre-determined outcome is a victorious Mighty Warrior
 - This is lived in faith that God, who cannot lie, will work to this outcome in our lives
- Grace is not difficult to define as that each definition is good.
 - Each one just another perspective of Grace.
 - Each definition is often from our perspective formed by our opinion of the Character of God.
 - I would contest that we may have great definitions, yet we still struggle to grasp what Grace really is.
- Do we, who are like Gideon, deserve Grace?
 - If grace is unmerited favor then the obvious answer is no, we do not deserve grace

- If grace is God's working on our behalf, then no we don't deserve it
- If grace is receiving blessings we don't deserve...well
- If grace is God's strength right when we need it, are we deserving of it, or is it a gift of God?
- Do we, who are like Gideon, understand what faith is?
 - Gideon's faith was given by God's Word
 - Gideon's faith was tested in an act of obedience
 - Gideon's faith was strengthened, and He praised God
 - Gideon's faith was now being tested again
 - 32,000 men came to fight alongside Gideon
 - There were 135,000 Midianites
 - That's more than a 4 to 1 ratio
 - By any man's reasoning, that is not a fight you pick
- Do we, who are like Gideon, know how to grab ahold of faith?
 - Gideon's faith was now replaced by fear
 - How do we, who are like Gideon, combat that fear?
 - What did God say?
 - God called Gideon
 - God promised to use Gideon
 - God cannot lie
 - We combat the fear by returning to our source of faith, God's Word
- In this portion of Scripture, Gideon is struggling to accept God's Will for his life
 - Gideon knew God called him
 - Gideon knew God promised
 - Gideon returned to the source of faith and asked for help
- Gideon tests God's grace
 - God, I'm going to put out this wool fleece

- If You are really going to use me...
- Then let the fleece be wet with dew but the ground dry
- God didn't have to call Gideon
 - God chose Gideon
 - God chooses us
 - He doesn't have to
 - God didn't call Gideon to make him fail in fear
 - God doesn't call us to make us fail in fear
- God didn't have to equip Gideon
 - Grace just keeps giving
 - Gideon still did not see what God saw in him
 - Gideon could only see who he was, not who God would make him to be
 - We just need to get out of God's Way so He can make us the Mighty Warriors He equips us to be
- There is no viable reason for Gideon to be "the Man" other than God deemed it so
 - There is no reason for God to have saved me
 - There is no reason for God to have saved you
 - There is no reason for God to save you
 - But He wants to
- Gideon's First Fleece was a miracle
 - But Gideon wasn't there yet
 - He still had doubt
 - Where do we take our doubt?
- Gideon somehow tried to reason with the miracle
 - Maybe the fleece sucked up all the dew around it and God isn't really calling me
 - This is trying to make sense of things that in/from our perspective never will
- Gideon then tested God's Grace with a Second Fleece

- God DID NOT BAT AN EYE!
- God just wanted Gideon to KNOW Grace and HAVE Faith
- Grace will never make sense in full to us
- Grace is not ours to reason with, but it is to strengthen us so we might hold to our tether of Faith with all of our might.
- A tether is attached, we aren't going anywhere, but it is more fun when we hold on rather than be dragged.