

Judges 6
Gideon - Part 1
Lesson 3

The story of Gideon, like the story of Deborah, took place in the Jezreel Valley. This strategic valley controlled the trade route and was the prime grazing land. At this time in history, it was the Midianites (that we met back in the book of Exodus) who were the primary oppressors of Israel. Both the tribe of Manasseh and the Midianites had vast herds and their struggle would have been similar to the “range wars” between the farmers and ranchers of the American old west.

The “Call” of Gideon - 6:1-40

1. Once again, how did the cycle begin? (vs. 1a)

2. What was the consequence this time? (vs. 1b-5)

3. What did Israel finally do and when? (vs. 6)

4. God responded to their plea by sending a prophet to the people to deliver His message. What was God’s message? (vs. 7-10)

5. God’s next move was to send His angel to talk to Gideon. (vs. 11)
 - What was Gideon doing?

 - Where was he?

 - And why?

6. How did the angel address Gideon? (vs. 12) Comment.

7. Gideon responded to the angel's greeting by giving his understanding based upon the current circumstances. What did Gideon say? (vs. 13)
8. The messenger was identified as the Lord Himself coming to have a personal conversation with Gideon. What did the Lord say to Gideon? (vs. 14)
9. What was Gideon's answer to the Lord's command? (vs. 15)
10. How did God answer Gideon's concern? (vs. 16)
11. And, what was Gideon's reply to His assurance? (vs. 17-18a)
 - How did God answer? (vs. 18b)
12. So, Gideon went home and out of his meager possessions prepared a meal to bring to the angel as an offering. If you had a visitor come to your home and you asked him to stay for a meal, what would you be doing?
 - What would you expect the guest to do?
13. The angel gave Gideon some instructions, then the sign Gideon asked for. Please explain. (vs. 20-21)
14. This sign caused a reaction in Gideon that escaped his lips in a prayer. What did he say? (vs. 22-24)

15. The Lord patiently worked with Gideon, one step at a time. That same evening, He came again to give Gideon another command that required both faith and action. What was the command? (vs. 25-26)

- Comment on how you think this would test Gideon's faith?

16. Was Gideon obedient? Explain (vs. 27)

17. What was the reaction of "the Israelites who cried to the Lord because of Midian?" (vs. 28-32)

18. Following this, the Midianites joined forces with the eastern people (east of the Jordan) and came against Israel. God had prepared Gideon, now He empowered him. What happened to Gideon that gave him that power? (vs. 34a)

19. Gideon sent messengers throughout the tribes in the area of the Jezreel Valley. Which tribes answered Gideon's call? (vs. 35)

20. Gideon, full of the Holy Spirit and with an army gathered together, was ready for battle, but first he made a request of God. Explain his request. (vs. 36-38)

- What was his second request? (vs. 39-40)

21. What observations do you have about Gideon?