

Gideon: An Unlikely Warrior: Judges 6-7

Intro: The first Gideon did not place Bibles in hotel rooms. He was a farmer hiding from the Midianites—until he was called by God to defeat them.

- I. The time of judgment and judges from Joshua to Samuel
 - a. A sad cycle summarized in Judges 2:10-19
 - b. Six major and six minor judges led Israel

- II. The cycle continues in Judges 6
 - a. The Israelites sin, receive punishment, and cry out
 - b. The LORD sends a prophet, and then he calls Gideon

- III. The LORD is with *you*
 - a. The “mighty warrior” hiding in the winepress
 - b. God chooses the foolish and the weak (1 Cor. 1:27)

- IV. After summoning an army, Gideon tests the LORD, twice
 - a. How does this not violate Deuteronomy 6:16?
 - b. Gideon was not being tempted by sin or Satan

- V. The LORD winnows his army, and then encourages Gideon
 - a. Midian’s army: 132k; Gideon’s army: ~~32k~~, ~~10k~~, 300
 - b. A tumbling-round-loaf-of-barley-bread dream!

- VI. “A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!”
 - a. Trumpets, empty jars, and torches
 - b. When the Lord fights the battle

Close: What is crazier than a scared farmer leading 300 men with trumpets, jars, and torches against an army of 132,000? Try a manger, twelve deserters, and a cross against all the evil in the world.