

Victorious Faith

Judges 7

CENTRAL IDEA

Obedience is the key to victory!

Assurance provided to Gideon #1 (6:36-40)

Detail: The signs of the Fleece

“Do not question in the dark what God has revealed in the light!”

I. Faith Exercised in Obedience (vv. 1-8)

A. The Reduction Twice God releases the fearful soldiers.

- *The first sifting* (vv.1-3)

Sometimes God decreases the numbers to allow us to see the power of God not the power of man. 22,000 people left of their own accord!

- *The second sifting* (vv.4-8)

This 9,700 men Gideon had to send away! God releases the unafraid but unprepared soldiers.

B. The Right Number

When God is in the center of the plan, 1% is all you need to accomplish the task.

Many times, God asks us to do a step of faith and we do not understand because we do not know the word and work of God well enough. It is important to “*study to show ourselves approved unto God*” (2 Timothy 2:15).

For God’s power to be shown, Gideon had to take steps of obedience.

II. Faith Encouraged through Assurance (vv. 9-15)

A. Assurance Provided to Gideon # 2 (vv. 9-12)

Absolute assurance of victory is given by God (v. 9)

The details: Because Gideon is still afraid to attack the Midianites, the Lord sends him to the enemy camp to give him assurance of victory.

B. The giving of another sign. (vv.13-15)

The dream: At the enemy camp, Gideon overhears one soldier tell another of a dream he had. The dream shows that God will give Gideon victory over the Midianites.

God's plan often looks very different than our plans.

Christians are either *overcome because of their unbelief* or *overcomers because of their belief (faith)*.

III. Faith Executed (v. 15-25)

A. God gives Strategy to prepare for battle (vv.15-16)

B. God gives Stature to lead (vv.17-22)

- "Look at me"
- "Do as I do"

C. God gives Summons to enlarge the army (vv.23-25)

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CONCLUSION:

- 1) "Do not question in the dark what God has revealed in the light!" It is easy to doubt God when things get tough or seem impossible. Trust Him that what He has shown you before, He can accomplish!
- 2) God's plan often looks very different than our plans.
- 3) Christians are either *overcome because of their unbelief* or *overcomers because of their belief (faith)*.
- 4) God does not need large numbers to accomplish His purposes.
One plus God equals a majority! God is not limited by resources! Everything is available to Him and will be used for His glory!
- 5) God uses ordinary people and makes them extraordinary!
(God does not need especially gifted people to lead.)

Obedience is the key to victory.