

THE LIFE OF GIDEON







1. Gideon's Situation


Introduction

Wars are taking place somewhere in the world every day. Wars bring devastation, and it has all throughout history. However there is another war taking place, and this war is for the minds and souls of men and women. We are under attack from Satan and his forces. We are going to look at the life of a man called Gideon who lived at a time when his nation was being attacked by enemy armies. There are many lessons we can learn from this story.



Scripture Reading: Judges 6:1-14

-  What was the spiritual condition of Israel during this time in history? Judges 2:10-12, 6:1
-  What were the consequences of the peoples' sin and idolatry? Judges 2:14-15
-  In the time of Gideon the Midianites and Amalekites were the enemies, but what are the enemies we face in our personal lives? What ones are you struggling with right now?
-  Compare the way the enemy afflicted Israel in Judges 6:1-5 with the way he can attack us.

The reason there were enemies in the land of Israel was because they had not driven them out. God had commanded them to, but they had not fully obeyed. Sadly these enemies became a stumbling block to Israel.

-  How did God use or redeem the situation in the time of Gideon to accomplish his own purpose in the lives of his people? Judges 3:1-4

Each time Israel was afflicted by their enemies they cried out to God. See Judges 3:9, 3:15, 4:3, 6:6

-  How did God respond to their cries and in what ways did he answer them? Judges 6:7-8, 6:11-12, 14
-  God wants you to have victory over the enemies of fear, discouragement or bitterness in your life. What lessons have you learnt from this story that will help you?

Conclusion

When we come to know Jesus as our Lord and Saviour we can walk in freedom and victory, but sadly many Christians struggle. Just as the Children of Israel came under attack because they had not driven out the enemies, we can come under attack because we have allowed 'enemies' like fear, unbelief, discouragement or unforgiveness to stay in our lives. However, just as in the time of Gideon, God hears our cry and comes to help us. Just ask him!

Scripture Memory

"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them,
because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."
1 John 4:4