

By Faith – Gideon
Sermon 42 in the Hebrews Series

Hebrews 11:32

The cycle in Judges: Peace, idolatry, bondage, crying out, deliverance, repeat

I. The People Cry out Judges 6:6-24

A. God Sends a Prophet -- Rebuke v. **6-10**

B. The Lord's Dealings with Gideon -- **6:11-16**

1. v. **12** – “The way the Angel of the Lord (pre-incarnate Christ)
2. v. **12** – The Lord is with you – you mighty man of valor
3. What would make Gideon an unstoppable force? FAITH! v. **14, 16**

II. Gideon's First Mission 6:25-32

A. How Deep Israel was into Idolatry

B. The Chief Idolater

C. In spite of this, his father spoke wisely v. **31, 32**

D. Gideon responded in faith – but he was still afraid v. **27**

III. Gideon's Fleece 34-40

IV. The Battle is the Lord's -- Judges Chapter 7

A. The Incredible Shrinking Army v. **2-3**

From 32,000 to 10,000, to 300!

B. Fear in the “Mighty” Enemy **8-15**

C. Gideon's two-fold response v. 15

1. He worshipped. Now his faith was strengthened, and he gave glory to God for the victory he would receive.
2. He roused his men for battle. It is not enough to just believe. True faith will obey.

D. The Victory 16-22

The real key is in v. 22b -- The Lord confounded them.

Applicatory Lessons:

1. We have here an illustration of the fact that if God is for you, who can be against you? And if God is against you, it doesn't matter who is for you.
2. Faith is the highest form of reason.
 - 1) He trusted in the Lord.
 - 2) He accepted the calling of God upon his own life.
 - 3) He believed in the God who had delivered His people under Moses, Joshua, and under the Judges. And he believed God would do it again.

--By faith – Gideon destroyed his father's idol.

--By faith – Gideon blew the trumpet and gathered an army for Israel.

--By faith – Gideon watched as God trimmed that army of 32,000 down to 300.

--By faith – Gideon and his 300 men marched down into the jaws of death and saw God win a great victory.

1 Cor 1:27-29 -- But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: *That no flesh should glory in his presence.*