Growing in Faith

February 28, 2021 Pastor Mark Turner

Judges 6:25-7:25 Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

# **Cleansing Starts at Home** 6:25-32

- Israel became syncretistic in their worship: God & gods
- Beware of combining worship of God with other forms of worship
- Remember the 4 G's:
  - God is Great so I don't have to be in control
  - God is Glorious so I don't have to fear others
  - God is Good so I don't have to look elsewhere
  - God is Gracious so I don't have to prove myself
- · Gideon is told to rid the family (town) of the false god
- Gideon does as God instructs
- Gideon is named Jerubbaal let Baal contend against him

## **Gideon Gathers an Army** 6:33-35

- · Gideon is covered by God's Spirit
- Gideon raises an army of 32,000 men

## **Gideon Seeks Knowledge of God** 6:36-40

- Gideon puts out fleeces...
- If Gideon's request was wrong why did God respond?
- Could Gideon have been seeking knowledge of God?
- We now have Christ & God's Word Heb 1:1-2; 2 Tim 3:16-17
- So ask God to build up our faith & read His Word.

## **The Battle Belongs to God** 7:1-9

- · God wants Gideon to have fewer men!
- · Why? V2 lest Israel boast over me
- Israel has already forgotten God's instructions Dt 8:11-20
- Greatest spiritual danger take glory from God
- Remember Salvation is by God's gracious action, not ours!
- 22,000 fearful men sent home v3 leaving 10,000 men
- Then men culled to just 300!
- God wants His people to understand how powerful, gracious and merciful God is: My only duty is to trust & obey God!

#### Lessons:

- God won't share His glory with us. 2 Cor 12:7-9
- God uses our weakness for His purposes
- Learn repentance: sorrow and repent over how you have offended a Holy God, it is only as you remember how weak & unlovable you are can you understand God's love & grace!
- Be like sinful woman: Lk 7:47 not the Pharisee Lk 7:39
- When good things become too important to us... they become little g gods and we respond sinfully when they are threatened (anger, fear, bitterness)
- Look to God alone to find your safety & significance! Learn to trust and obey God alone because of Christ's work!

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