

THE BOOK OF JUDGES. LIFE OF GIDEON.

Intro. After Deborah Israel had rest 40 yrs.

Note the stages in Israel's declension:-

1. Israel did evil..Lord delivered to Midian 6;1.
2. Israel cried because of Midian. 6:6,7.
3. Cried..Lord sent a prophet. 6:8.

PROPHET----A Fingerpost pointing the way back

A. GIDEON'S CALL. 6:1-24.

1. He was thrashing wheat to hide it. 6:11.
2. The theophanic vision. 6:12.
3. Gideon expressed his doubts. 6:13.
If God is with us as you say, where?
Why all the trouble from Midian? He saw the punishment, but not the sin that led to it.13.
Where are all the miracles? Why not some today. 6:13.
The Lord has forsaken us. 13.
4. Commissioned in spite of fears. 7:14-24.

B. GIDEON'S FIRST TESTIMONY. 6:25-32.

1. It was negative. Pull down Baal's altar. To cut down the grove. 6:25.
2. It is positive. Built the altar.----Sacrificed
In revival---the altar always in the midst.
3. It called out the hostility of the family. 28-32

C. GIDEON'S ATTITUDE TO OUTSIDE FOES. 6:33-40.

1. He had his foes before him. 33.
2. God's answer thru Gideon. 34-35.
3. Gideon asks for a sign. 36-40.
4. Gideon's signs:- 6:17,36-40;7:5-7;7:13-14.
Burning of the kid and the broth. 6:17
The fleece..... 6:36-40.
The lapping of the water.....7:5-7.
The dream of the Midian soldier..7:14

LESSONS.

L. The call comes to men where they are.

- Carey at his bench.
- Matthew at thr receipt of custom.
- Zaccheus in his search--up a tree,

2. THE CALL GIVES GOD'S ENABLING.

Robert Morrison. You don't think you are going to convert China.....No but I think God is thru me.

THE DEFINITE CALL SETTLES ALL DOUBTS. See Paul going to Jerusalem.

4. THE CALL WILL BE FOLLOWED BY TESTING.

- God tested Gideon's mettle.
- Gideon tested God's word.

GIDEON'S FIRST TESTIMONY. 6:35-38.

1. It was massive. Full down the altar. To
 out down the grove. 6:35.
 2. It is positive. Builded the altar. ---
 in revival---the altar always in the midst.
 3. It called out the hostility of the family. 38-39.

GIDEON'S ATTITUDE TO OUTSIDE TESTS. 6:38-40.

1. He had his toe before him. 38.
 2. Gideon asks for a sign. 38-40.
 3. Gideon's signs: - 6:37, 38-40; 7:5-13-14.
 burning of the kid and the thresh. 6:37
 The fleece..... 6:38-40.
 the tapping of the water..... 7:5-7.
 the dream of the Midian soldier.. 7:14