

Judges – The Distressing Days Of Judges
Wednesday Noon Bible Study
Good Shepherd Baptist Church
Pastor Walter L. Ratcliffe, Senior Pastor
Pastor Henry Wallace, Guest Instructor



Lesson Twelve A Man Of Valor (6:1–9:57)

As was mentioned earlier, the story of Gideon and his judgeship receive the most extensive coverage in The Book of Judges. Some of the most memorable and exciting stories we learned growing up concerned the life and ministry of Gideon.

1st Point Some Facts About The Midianites (6:2)

- The Midianites were related to Israel in that Midian was a son of Abraham by his second wife, Keturah (**Genesis 25:1-6**)
- Joining the Midianites in their raids from the east were the Amalekites and **...the children of the east... (6:3)**
- Remember the Lord told them that if they didn't destroy their enemies that their enemies would be like a continuing swarm of hornets.
- Listen to how the Word of God describe what Israel had to endure.
- When we read verse 7 we see that Israel's enemies were continually raiding them and confiscating their crops and cattle.

2nd Point God's Hatred Of Sin And His Love Of Sinner (6:16-10)

- The results of seven years of frustration and even starvation was that Israel once again cried out to their God.
- In response to their cries, the LORD sent an unnamed prophet to them.

Saints, let's you and I see these two truths about our great God

- a) *The Lord shows HIS extreme hatred for sin by delivering HIS people into the hand of Midian (6:1)*
- b) *The Lord shows HIS extreme love for sinners in that HE sent an unnamed prophet and judge to HIS people to deliver them. (6:8-10)*

3rd Point The Call of Gideon (6:11-40)

- What a dramatic scene here in these verses.
- Gideon, like most Israelites at that time, lived in fear
- They would often thresh their wheat beside the winepress in order to avoid detection by the Midianites.
- It was there that Gideon encountered, "The Angel of The LORD", a Theophany
- **A Theophany is a visible appearance of the Second Person of the Godhead in HIS pre-incarnate state.**
- **This word theophany is *the manifestation of Deity in sensible form***
- Theophany is a combination of two Greek words ***God and appearance***
- We read of this appearance of The Angel of The LORD in many places in scripture.

- Let me provide you with some of these theophanies in the Old Testament for your further study.
- **Exodus 3:2; Judges 13:3; Joshua 5:13-15**
- Theophanies in the Old Testament anticipate and foreshadow the permanent coming of God into creation in the Incarnation of HIS SON.
- In the Incarnation, the SON of God takes to HIMSELF a human nature, while remaining the Divine Son of God.
- The Son is the permanent appearance of God among us.
- HE is the GOD-MAN forever
- Saints in heaven are beholding the GOD-MAN
- At the rapture we will see the GOD-MAN face-to-face.

This space is provided for you to take notes
