



Pastor's Update

Last Sunday after service, someone suggested that I inscribe the lessons from Judges Chapter 6 in the online bulletin. I thought it was a good idea. Therefore, this week's update is the outline of the sermon preached at SBC on August 29, 2021.

GIDEON (Judges 6)

I. Israel's Oppression (Judg. 6:1-10)

- A. Sin (Judg. 6:1)
- B. Subjugation (Judg. 6:2-7)
- C. Supplication (Judg. 6:8-10)

Lesson: Sin is still the fundamental problem in the world.

II. Gideon's Appointment as Savior (Judg. 6:11-24)

- A. Gideon's Perplexity – He Questions God's faithfulness (Judg. 6:11-14; see Heb. 11:32)

Lesson: God's Chastening is an evidence of His Faithfulness rather than the Lack of it.

- B. Gideon's Polite Refusal – He expresses lack of social position (Judg. 6:15-16)

Lesson: God's Presence, Not our Social Status, is the Assurance of our Spiritual Victories.

- C. Gideon's Skepticism – He asks for a sign that the messenger is God's angel (Judg. 6:17-24)

Three signs:

The angel abstains from eating (Judg. 6:20)

The appearance of fire from the rock consuming the materials of the meal (Judg. 6:21)

The miraculous disappearance of the angel (Judges 6:21)

Lesson: Our decisions should be based on God's word not on the signs.

III. Gideon Wages War Against the Baal Cult (Judg. 6:25-32)

The LORD commanded Gideon to:

Destroy his father's altar (Judg. 6:25)

Cut down the sacred post next to it – symbol of the goddess Asherah (Judg. 6:25)

Build an altar to the LORD (Judges 6:26)

Lesson: We cannot have an altar to Yahweh and an altar to Baal. They are mutually exclusive.

IV. The Military Mustering (Judg. 6:33-35)

Lesson: The world may have military might, but God's people have the divine equipment.

V. The Signs of the Fleece (Judges 36-40)

“Putting out Fleece” – **“It is not the absence of faith but the caution of faith we see here”** (Dale Ralph Davis).

Concluding Lesson: God is not ashamed to stoop down and reassure us in our fears.

By God's Grace and for His glory,

Pr. Francis