

Gideon Meets God

Judges 6:1-40

1. vv.1-10. What three things happen to prepare the people for revival this time? What did God do? What did they do?

2. vv.1-10. What is the difference between repentance and regret? Read 2 Cor.7:9-11. Which do the people express? How does God try to help them? What do we learn from this for our own spiritual renewal?

3. vv.11-24.a)God starts the deliverance though the people do not yet show signs of repentance. What do we learn from that? b) Who is this talking to Gideon — an angel or the Lord? Why does this figure keep turning up (cf.2:1; 13:1ff.) How does Gideon's fear of dying and his altar shed light on this question?

4. vv.11-16. Is Gideon's assessment of Israel's problem right (v.13) or is God's right (v.1, 14)? How can we make the same mistakes in our lives today?

5. Is Gideon's assessment of his ability right (v.15) or is God's right (v.12) — or are they both right? How is this a picture of what it means to be a Christian? What happens to us when we lose either "side" or perspective?

6. vv.16-40. What ways does the Lord prepare Gideon? How does he show him how to see and deal with a) the enemy among us (vv.25-32) b) the enemy around us (vv.33-35) and c) the enemy within us (vv.36-40). How do we today need to make the same adjustments in our own lives?

7. Application. How has God helped prepare you to be of service to others? How has God given you guidance at key times in your life?