

**July 27, 2008**

**“Faith in God or Forsaking God”**

**Growing Faith and Giving Glory: The Gospel According to Gideon, Series #1**

**Pastor Enoch Liao**

**Judges 6: 1-14**

<sup>1</sup> Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, and for seven years he gave them into the hands of the Midianites. <sup>2</sup> Because the power of Midian was so oppressive, the Israelites prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves and strongholds. <sup>3</sup> Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, the Midianites, Amalekites and other eastern peoples invaded the country. <sup>4</sup> They camped on the land and ruined the crops all the way to Gaza and did not spare a living thing for Israel, neither sheep nor cattle nor donkeys. <sup>5</sup> They came up with their livestock and their tents like swarms of locusts. It was impossible to count the men and their camels; they invaded the land to ravage it. <sup>6</sup> Midian so impoverished the Israelites that they cried out to the LORD for help.

<sup>7</sup> When the Israelites cried to the LORD because of Midian, <sup>8</sup> he sent them a prophet, who said, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I brought you up out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>9</sup> I snatched you from the power of Egypt and from the hand of all your oppressors. I drove them from before you and gave you their land. <sup>10</sup> I said to you, 'I am the LORD your God; do not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you live.' But you have not listened to me."

<sup>11</sup> The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. <sup>12</sup> When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."

<sup>13</sup> "But sir," Gideon replied, "if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our fathers told us about when they said, 'Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian."

<sup>14</sup> The LORD turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"

*NIV*

“The Gospel According to Gideon”  
Growing Faith and Giving Glory: The Gospel According to Gideon series #2  
Judges 6: 14-24  
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