

# GIDEON: FOLLOWING GOD'S WISDOM IN BATTLE

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- God gives victory in unexpected ways
    - God's wisdom exceeds other sources of wisdom (cf. Gen 3)
  - God's strength and wisdom are unmatched

# DESTRUCTIVE CYCLE IN JUDGES

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- Israel sins
- LORD sends enemy to oppress Israel
- Israel cries out to LORD
- LORD sends a deliverer to defeat Israel's enemies, give brief rest

# JUDGES 6:1-10

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- Problem: Israel sins
- Judgment: Midianites, allies oppress Israel

# JUDGES 6:11-16

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- Solution: LORD chooses Gideon
- How is Gideon a mighty warrior (12; cf. Judg 11:1; 1 Kgs 11:28; 2 Kgs 5:1)?
  - His strength, courage?
  - LORD's presence and support

A LORD is with Gideon (12)

B Gideon's objection: Is LORD with Israel? (13)

B' Gideon's objection: I am insignificant, powerless (15)

A' LORD is with Gideon (16)

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- Judges 6:17-24 Gideon confirms that LORD speaks with him
    - Judges 6:25-32 An idol problem
  - Judges 6:33-40 Gideon calls troops, seek LORD's assurance
    - Judges 7:1-8 A mathematical problem
  - Judges 7:9-22 Gideon gets assurance from LORD



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- LORD gives Gideon victory (Judg 7:19-22)
    - Trumpet (Josh 6:4-6, 8-9, 13, 16, 20; cf. Num 10:9)
    - Pitcher
    - Torches (cf. Gen 15:17; Ezek 1:13; Dan 10:6; cf. Exod 20:18)
  - Gideon attacks again (Judg 8:10-12)
  - Gideon defeats 4 kings (cf. Gen 14:13-16)
  - The God of Gideon's father is alive (cf. Judg 6:13)

# GIDEON IN REST OF BIBLE

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- 1 Sam 12:11
- Ps 83:9-12
- Isa 10:24-27
- Isa 9:4
- Heb 11:32



# LESSONS

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- Where is your trust (Ps 20:7)?
- The LORD's wisdom is greater
  - Man's wisdom (Prov 21:30-31)
  - Demonic wisdom (1 Cor 2:6-13)
- We can be victorious through LORD's strength (Ps 18:30-42)
- Previous deliverance (Judg 6-8) anticipates ultimate deliverance (Isa 9:4)
- LORD gives victory in hopeless situations