

Judges 6

King James Version (KJV)

(Approx. 1225 - 1218 BC)

6 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years. (evil = THE evil <in the Hebrew manuscripts> means idolatry) (Median was the son of Abraham and his second wife, Keturah)

Numbers-31 (Israel had defeated the Medianites approx 200 years earlier. Now, because they abandoned God, again, they are subservient to the Medianites -> 1025 - 1018 BC; with the 110 year correction due to the "year of kings" which were not always a complete year)

²And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds. (dens = ravines that had been washed out in the hills; the Israelites hid there)

³And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them; (Amalek was grandson of Esau) (the children of the east are Arabs - descendants of Ishmael) (Israel would do the planting. The Arabs, Medianites and Amalekites showed up at harvest time and took the food. The Israelites were starving)

⁴And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass. (Idolatry resulted in famine for Israel because they lost the protection from God)

Amos-8:11 (the famine of the end times will be for hearing the Word of God. The locust army of Satan will invade to destroy the true Word of God)

⁵For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it. (They were planning to stay, and live off of the work of the Israelites. Look at the muslim "migrants" today, invading the western countries to live on welfare. They will be the locust army of the end times, spoken of in Revelation)

⁶And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD. (Finally, they wake up, again)

⁷And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites,

⁸That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage; (God delivered them out of Egypt, the strongest nation in the known area)

⁹And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land; Deuteronomy-6 (God even gave the Israelites their houses, gardens, wells etc. The place was in move-in condition)

¹⁰And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice. (Canaanites – had mixed with Nephalim. God ordered them destroyed for it. Israel didn't do as God asked. Even worse, they started worshipping the made-up gods of these people and abandoned Yahoveh)

¹¹And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. (Gideon means the cutter down <in Hebrew>; He is the 5th judge) (People didn't normally thresh grain at the winepress. They were doing this in secret, to keep the Medianites from taking their wheat)

¹²And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour. (angel of the Lord – one of the many offices of God – like Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Melchizedek, etc - One God, many offices)

¹³And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites. (Oh my Lord – The word Lord is Adone <Hebrew>; it can mean a lord that is human or one that is divine. Gideon didn't

know that he was speaking with God) (This word - LORD - is Yahoveh; that is God)

¹⁴ And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? (If God sent him, he cannot fail)

¹⁵ And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house. (This word Lord – Adonay <in Hebrew> only refers to the divine. Gideon finally realizes that he is speaking with God)

¹⁶ And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man. (One person can make a difference if God is with them)

Exodus-3:12 (God told Moses the same thing) Joshua-1:5 (God told Joshua the same thing)

¹⁷ And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me.

¹⁸ Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again. (present = minka, the meat offering; Gideon wants to offer a sacrifice to God)

¹⁹ And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it. (An ephah is about 22 lbs of flour. This is a big offering, considering he was a poor man)

²⁰ And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so. (The rock is a make-shift altar for the sacrifice)

²¹ Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight. (God accepted Gideon's sacrifice. That should be enough of a sign to Gideon that God is with him)

Hebrews-12:29 (Our God is a consuming fire)

²² And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the LORD, Gideon said, Alas, O LORD God! for because I have seen an angel of the LORD face to face. (Because it was believed that only the dead can see the Lord face to face, Gideon thought he would surely die)

²³ And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die.

²⁴ Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovahshalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites. (In the half-tribe of Manasseh, on the west side of Jordan) (Jehovahshalom – should be translated Yahovehshalom = God's peace or the peace that God brings)

²⁵ And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it: (Baal and the grove<Ashteroth> are the two principal deities of the Canaanites. The Israelites were deep into idolatry. Gideon's own father was guilty of idolatry)

²⁶ And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down. (Probably the same rock that Gideon had made an offering on, earlier)

²⁷ Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night.

²⁸ And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built.

²⁹ And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they enquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing. (Here comes the politically correct left; always against Christianity; today they favor islam) (Gideon's servants ratted him out)

³⁰ Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that was by it.

³¹ And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar. (If Baal is a god, then let him punish Gideon)

³² Therefore on that day he (Joash) called him (Gideon) Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar. (It became an honorary title associated with Gideon) (Jerubbaal = let Baal fight his own battles)

³³ Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel. (children of the east – Arabs)

³⁴ But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him. (came upon = clothed) (Abiezer – one of the major families of the Manasseh)

³⁵ And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them. (Zebulun and Naphtali were also the major helpers to Deborah in chapter 4)

³⁶ And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,

³⁷ Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said. (The floor here is the threshing floor. Gideon is no longer hiding by the winepress)

³⁸ And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water. (The fleece was very wet, and the ground was dry)

³⁹ And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once

with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew. (A second sign)

⁴⁰And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.