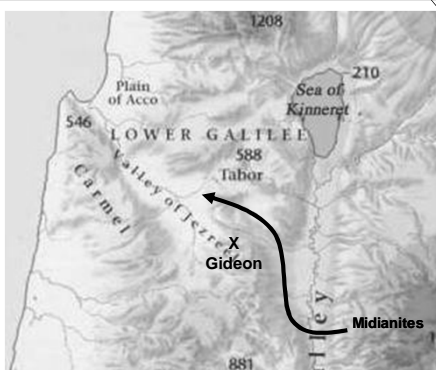
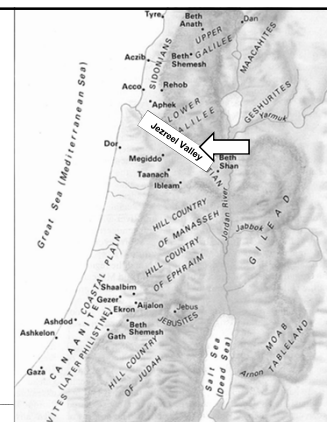


Rebellion, Ruin and Rescue  
**JUDGES**

Gideon: Impossible Odds & Unusual Methods  
**Judges 7:1-25**

Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with him, rose early and camped beside the spring of Harod; and the camp of Midian was on the north side of them by the hill of Moreh in the valley.

(Judges 7:1)



## Gideon's Victory

### 1. Reducing Gideon's Army

- the Lord reduced Gideon's army by 99% -- 300 men against 100,000+!
- the Lord created humanly impossible odds to exclude all boasting by Israel

## Gideon's Victory

### 2. Reassuring Gideon's Faith

- the Lord took the initiative to strengthen Gideon's fearful faith
- the Lord displayed His meticulous providence over the affairs (dreams) of men
- the unusual content of the dream pointed to the Lord's unlikely method of victory

## Gideon's Victory

### 3. Routing Gideon's Enemies

- the Midianites were routed without the men of Israel lifting a sword
- the unusual method made clear that the victory was entirely the Lord's work

## Gideon's Victory

### Principles:

#### 1. The exclusion of all boasting before God

- God aims in all He does to exclude all human boasting
- God's ultimate plan of salvation in Jesus is designed to remove all boasting

## Gideon's Victory

### Principles:

#### 1. The exclusion of all boasting before God

- it is most loving of God to exclude our self-trust and magnify Himself to us as our supreme treasure

## Gideon's Victory

### Principles:

#### 2. The necessity of weakness before God

- God uses "weak" vessels so that the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not from ourselves (2 Cor. 4:7)
- when we are weak then we are strong (useful by His power) (2 Cor. 12:10)

<sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;

<sup>27</sup> but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong,

<sup>28</sup> and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are,

<sup>29</sup> so that no man may boast before God.

(1 Corinthians 1:26-29)