

Doubt To Determination

5/3/98

Reading: [Judges 7](#)

Prayer

1. This story is really about God getting the praise He deserves.
2. This story is really about people taking credit for what God does.
3. This story is really about people trusting God will do what he says.

"The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.'"

We often find God bringing great things to pass by a few hands, but this was the only time that he purposely made them fewer. Why?

(1.) When God used people, he did not need them. He was not indebted to them for their service, but they to him for employing them.

(2.) To put to shame cowards who had tamely submitted to the Midianites, because of the disproportion of their numbers.

[Deuteronomy 32:30](#)--How could one chase a thousand, And two put ten thousand to flight, Unless their Rock had sold them, And the Lord had surrendered them?

(3.) To silence and exclude boasting. "My own hand has saved me" is a word that must never come out of the mouth of the saved.

[Jeremiah 9:23-24](#)--Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the Lord, exercising loving-kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the Lord.

#1 Doubt--Questions--v. 6:36-40

- A. Abraham--"Will you destroy the righteous with the wicked?"
- B. Moses--"Who am I to tell Pharaoh what to do?"
- C. Thomas--"I won't believe until I see the wounds in his hands."
- D. Is absolutely wrong to doubt?
 1. No.
 2. But don't remain in doubt--SEEK the Lord and you will find HIM.

[Matthew 6:33; Hebrews 11:6](#)

#2 Confidence--Faith 7:9-15

- A. "If you are afraid..." (and he was, because he went.)
 1. Fear hinders, immobilizes, weakens
 2. Confidence motivates, mobilizes, strengthens
 3. Do not be afraid--
 - a. [Joshua 1:9](#)--Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
 - b. [Deuteronomy 20:1](#); Moses, later--Paul, Peter, John, etc.
- B. "Arise, for the Lord has delivered the camp of Midian into your hand."
 1. He had obtained confidence
 2. He was ready for battle
 3. but one thing was left--He had to go into battle

#3 Determination--Obedience v. 16-18

- A. It is one thing to have confidence, but another to take action.
- B. Some believe in Jesus, but don't do anything with him or for him.
 1. Believe yet do not respond to the gospel
 2. Believe yet do not by faith help those in need.
 3. Believe yet do not by faith take the gospel to others
- C. It is not faith that saves us, but faith in action [James 2:20](#)

Conclusion--

We return to the first point that was made--As with David and Goliath, as with Moses and Pharaoh, as with Gideon and the Midianites

The Battle Is The Lord's!

- v. 22--When the three hundred blew the trumpets, the Lord set every man's sword against his companion throughout the whole camp