

{07} Judges

King James Version

King James Paraphrase

(5) For 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.

(6) And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.

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

(8) That 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;

(9) And 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;

(10) And 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.

(11) And 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.

(12) And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD *is* with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

(5) Because they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; *because* both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.

(6) And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried to the LORD {Jehovah}.

(7) And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried to the LORD {Jehovah} because of the Midianites,

(8) That the LORD {Jehovah} sent a prophet to the children of Israel, who said to them, **This is what the LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel says, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;**

(9) **And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out from before you, and gave you their land;**

(10) **And I said to you, I *am* the LORD {Jehovah} your God; do not fear the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you live: but you have not obeyed My voice.**

(11) **And there came an angel of the LORD {Jehovah}, and sat under an oak which *was* in Ophrah, that *belonged* to Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the wine press, to hide *it* from the Midianites.**

(12) **And the angel of the LORD {Jehovah} appeared to him, and said to him, **The LORD {Jehovah} is with you, you mighty man of valor.****

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(13) And 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.

(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?

(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.

(16) And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

(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.

(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*.

(13) And Gideon said to him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD {Jehovah} is with us, why then has all this come upon us? and where *are* all His miracles which our forefathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD {Jehovah} bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD {Jehovah} has forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.

(14) And the LORD {Jehovah} looked upon him, and said, **Go in this your strength, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have I not sent you?**

(15) And he said to him, Oh my Lord, with what shall I save Israel? Indeed, my family *is* poor in Manasseh, and I *am* the least in my father's house.

(16) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to him, **Surely I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man.**

(17) And he said to him, If I have now found grace in Your sight, then show me a sign that You are talking with me.

(18) I ask you, Do not depart from here, until I return to You, and bring forth my present, and set *it* before You. And He said, **I will wait until you return.**

(19) And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah {about 24 qts.; 6 gal.; 22.2 L.}^b of flour: the meat he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought *it* out to Him under the oak, and presented *it*.

6:19b – ephah – 24 quarts; 6 gallons; 22.2 liters – see [Appendix J: Bible Weights and Measures](#)

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(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.

(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.

(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.

(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.

(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:

(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.

King James Paraphrase

(20) And the angel of God said to him, **Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and lay *them* upon this rock, and pour out the broth.** And he did so.

(21) Then the angel of the LORD {Jehovah} put forth the end of the staff that *was* in His hand, and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD {Jehovah} departed out of his sight.

(22) And when Gideon perceived that He *was* an angel of the LORD {Jehovah}, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord GOD {Jehovah}! because I have seen an angel of the LORD {Jehovah} face to face.

(23) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to him, **Peace *be* to you; do not be afraid: you shall not die.**

(24) Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD {Jehovah}, and called it Jehovahshalom {Jehovah is peace}^c: to this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

(25) And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD {Jehovah} said to him, Take your father's young bull, even the second bull of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the grove that is by it:

(26) And build an altar to the LORD {Jehovah} your God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bull, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which you shall cut down.

6:24c - Jehovah-shalom {יהוה שלום} - Jehovah is peace

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King James Paraphrase

(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.

(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.

(32) Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.

(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.

(27) Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD {Jehovah} had said to 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, indeed, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that *was* by it, and the second bull was offered upon the altar *that was* built.

(29) And they said to one another, Who has done this thing? And when they inquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing.

(30) Then the men of the city said to Joash, Bring out your son, that he may die: because he has cast down the altar of Baal, and because he has cut down the grove that *was* by it.

(31) And Joash said to all who stood against him, Will you plead for Baal? will you save him? he who will plead for him, let him be put to death while *it is yet* morning: if he *is* a god, let him plead for himself, because *one* has cast down his altar.

(32) Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal {let Baal contend}^d, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he has thrown down his altar.

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

6:32d - Jerubbaal {ירבעל} - let Baal contend

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King James Paraphrase

(34) But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him.

(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.

(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.

(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.

(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.

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

(34) But the Spirit of the LORD {Jehovah} came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him.

(35) And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers to Asher, and to Zebulun, and to Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.

(36) And Gideon said to God, If You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said,

(37) Look, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; *and* if the dew is on the fleece only, and *it is* dry upon all the earth *beside it*, then I shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said.

(38) And it was so: because he rose up early in the morning and thrust the fleece together, and wrung the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

(39) And Gideon said to God, Do not let Your anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: I ask You, let me prove, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

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

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Chapter 7

(1) Then Jerubbaal, who *is* Gideon, and all the people that *were* with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod: so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

(2) And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that *are* with thee *are* too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.

(3) Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever *is* fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

(4) And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people *are* yet *too* many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, *that* of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

(5) So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

Chapter 7

(1) Then Jerubbaal {let Baal contend}^a, who *is* Gideon, and all the people who *were* with him, rose up early, and made camp beside the well of Harod: so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

(2) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to Gideon, *The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel boast themselves against Me, saying, my own hand has saved me.*

(3) *Now therefore go, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty-two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.*

(4) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to Gideon, *The people are still too many; bring them down to the water, and I will try them for you there: and it shall be, that of whom I say to you, This shall go with you, the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, This shall not go with you, the same shall not go.*

(5) So he brought the people down to the water: and the LORD {Jehovah} said to Gideon, *Everyone who laps of the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, him you shall set by himself; likewise every one that bows down upon his knees to drink {putting his hand to his mouth}^b.*

7:1a – Jerubbaal {let Baal contend} – Gideon - Judges 6:32

7:5b – those who did not drink as a dog, but who put their hands to their mouth – see Jg. 7:6

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King James Version

King James Paraphrase

(6) And the number of them that lapped, *putting* their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

(7) And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the *other* people go every man unto his place.

(8) So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent all *the rest of* Israel every man unto his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

(9) And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand.

(10) But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host:

(11) And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host. Then went he down with Phurah his servant unto the outside of the armed men that *were* in the host.

(12) And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels *were* without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude.

(6) And the number of those who lapped, *putting* their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

(7) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to Gideon, **By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand: and let all the *other* people return to their own place.**

(8) So the people took food in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent all *the rest of* Israel to his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

(9) And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD {Jehovah} said to him, **Arise, get yourself down to the host {army} {of the Midianites}; because I have delivered it into your hand.**

(10) **But if you fear to go down, go with Phurah your servant down to the host:**

(11) **And you shall hear what they say; and afterward your hands shall be strengthened to go down to the host.** Then he went down with Phurah his servant to the outside of the armed men who *were* in the host.

(12) And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels *were* without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude.

{07} Judges

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(13) And when Gideon was come, behold, *there was* a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along.

(14) And his fellow answered and said, This is nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: *for* into his hand hath God delivered Midian, and all the host.

(15) And it was *so*, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.

(16) And he divided the three hundred men *into* three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.

(17) And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be *that*, as I do, so shall ye do.

(18) When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that *are* with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, *The sword* of the LORD, and of Gideon.

(13) And when Gideon had come, *there was* a man who told a dream to his fellow soldier, and said, Listen, I dreamed a dream, and, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came to a tent, and struck it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along.

(14) And his fellow answered and said, This is nothing else but the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: *because* into his hand God has delivered Midian, and all the host {army}.

(15) And it was that, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and its interpretation, that he worshiped, and returned into the host {army} of Israel, and said, Arise; because the LORD {Jehovah} has delivered into your hand the host {army} of Midian.

(16) And he divided the three hundred men *into* three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.

(17) And he said to them, Look at me, and do as I do: and, indeed, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be *that*, as I do, so shall you also do.

(18) When I blow with a trumpet, I and all who *are* with me, then you blow the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, *The sword* of the LORD {Jehovah}, and of Gideon.

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(19) So Gideon, and the hundred men that *were* with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that *were* in their hands.

(20) And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow *withal*: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

(21) And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

(22) And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Bethshittah in Zererath, *and* to the border of Abelmeholah, unto Tabbath.

(23) And the men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

(24) And Gideon sent messengers throughout all mount Ephraim, saying, Come down against the Midianites, and take before them the waters unto Bethbarah and Jordan. Then all the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and took the waters unto Bethbarah and Jordan.

(19) So Gideon, and the hundred men who *were* with him, came to the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch {just after 10 p.m.}^c; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and broke the pitchers that *were* in their hands.

(20) And the three companies blew the trumpets, and broke the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow *with*: and they cried, The sword of the LORD {Jehovah}, and of Gideon.

(21) And every man stood in his place all around the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

(22) And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD {Jehovah} set each man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host {army}: and the host {army} fled to Bethshittah in Zererath, *and* to the border of Abelmeholah, to Tabbath.

(23) And the men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

(24) And Gideon sent messengers throughout all mount Ephraim, saying, Come down against the Midianites, and take before them the waters to Bethbarah and the Jordan River. Then all the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and took the waters to Bethbarah and the Jordan River.

7:19c - the beginning of the middle watch - the Jews and most countries of that area divided the night up into three watches of 4 hours each - the Romans later used four watches of 3 hours each. The beginning of the middle watch would be sometime just after 10 p.m.

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