

ΟΙ 300 ΤΟΥ ΓΕΔΕΩΝ GIDEON AND THE 300

The children of Israel had strayed from the way of the Lord and He delivered them into the hand of Midian for seven years. The Israelites hid in the mountains, and in caves. The children of Israel cried out to God and wanted to know why this great trouble had come upon them. They disobeyed God, and for this reason they were being punished. There was a man among the Israelites who did not want to worship any but God. His name was Gideon. One day as he sat threshing wheat to hide it from the Midianites. An angel of the Lord appeared and spoke to him, saying, "The Lord is with you, and you have been chosen to save Israel."

The next day Gideon took ten of his servants and went up to the hill on which an altar had been erected to the false gods whom the people were worshiping. He threw down the false altars and built an altar to God in the same place, and on it he offered a burnt offering to God.

Gideon returned to his army and prepared for the battle against the Midianites. God told him that his army was far too large, and asked Gideon to send home all who were fearful and afraid. Twenty-two thousand went home that day and ten thousand remained. God then said that it was still too many, and sent home all but three hundred. Gideon returned to his camp. He called his three hundred men, and gave each of them empty pitchers and lamps and trumpets. He then led them to the enemy camp. When they came to the camp, the three hundred blew with their trumpets, broke the pitchers, so that the lights shone out, and shouted. The Midianites were in utter confusion, running and killing each other in the confusion and terror. Gideon won a famous victory.

Activity: Fill in the missing word in the following sentences. The first letter of each missing word will form the name of our story's hero.

1. The Israelites were the chosen people of _ _ _ _.
2. The Midianites were worshipping _ _ _ _ _.
3. Our Lord Jesus _ _ _ _ _ on the Cross for us.
4. Now and for _ _ _ _ and to the ages of ages.
5. We belong to the _ _ _ _ _ Church.
6. We read all about Jesus and his life in the _ _ _ _ Testament.

Δίδαγμα

Ο Θεός βοηθεί αυτούς που Τον εμπιστεύονται. - God helps those who put their trust in Him.

Ρητό

«Κύριε προς Σε κατέφυγον» (Δοξολογία) - "Lord to you I have fled for refuge" (Doxology)