

# **Background of Judges**

Definition of a biblical judge:

Judges in the bible were the men and women that led Israel AFTER Moses and Joshua, but BEFORE the OT Kings. They were commissioned by God to deliver the Israelites from the oppression of their enemies, usually by war, and then to rule the people during the time of peace and prosperity that followed. There are 12 in the book of Judges, of which Gideon is the 5<sup>th</sup>.



The Cycle in the Book of Judges

**SALVATION** 



SUFFERING

Outline in

Judges 2:11-19

**SUPPLICATION** 

## **What We Learn From Judges:**

"These things (OT Events) happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come." 1 Cor 10:11

- Negative Pattern of sin to avoid.
- Positive pattern of obedience in spite of fear.



### **Gideon is Afraid: Of EVERYTHING!**

~Afraid of the Enemy: Midianites ~Afraid he lost the Presence of God ~Afraid God's Power wasn't with him "Afraid of God's call in his life "Afraid he wasn't hearing God correctly "Afraid of what others would do and think "Afraid he couldn't finish what he started "Afraid God didn't know what He was doing



Express your fear to God:

"...do what is right and do not give way to fear."

1 Peter 3:6



Ask God for something to verify His direction

"God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the Church to reveal Himself, His purposes and His ways."

Henry Blackaby



Do exactly what God tells you to do.

"For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline."

2 Timothy 1:7



Don't stop following God halfway!

"...whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

1 Corinthians 10:31



Honor God as you work through your doubts and fears!

"...Those who honor me I will honor..."

1 Samuel 2:30



## What are you Afraid of Today?

- Sharing your faith?
- Serving in ministry?
- Stepping out in obedience?
- A new job?
- Following God's direction?
- Breaking the cycle of sin?

Step out and follow in faith...despite your fears.

Be...UnAfraid!

