

## **"Gideon: From Coward to Conqueror"** **Judges 6:1-24**

1. Because of Israel's idolatry and evil practices, they are once again brought under the power of a foreign nation. The 7-year period of oppression under the Midianites is sandwiched between two 40-year periods of peace (5:31; 8:28).

Because of the power of Midian, what are the Israelites forced to do in Judges 6:2?

What were the Midianites' compared to (v.5)?

Following the cycle that we have seen in the book of Judges, what do the Israelites do once again in verse 7?

2. The Lord sends an unnamed prophet to the sons of Israel. What does he remind them of in verses 8 & 9?

What rebuke does he give them at the end of verse 10?

3. Who does the angel of the Lord appear to in verse 12?

What about Gideon's act of threshing wheat reflects a fear of discovery by the Midianites (v.11)?

Even though Gideon might be afraid, how is he addressed by the angel of the Lord (v.12)?

4. What call or commission does the Lord then give to Gideon in verse 14?

What is Gideon's initial response (v.15)?

How does the Lord reassure Gideon in verse 16?

5. What sign does the Lord provide to Gideon to show that he had found favor in God's sight and that it was God speaking to him (vv.17-21)?

6. After the sign is given by the Lord, what does Gideon say and do in response (vv. 22 and 24)?

7. What are some of God's promises that strengthen and divinely enable you when you are feeling weak and afraid?