# The Seed of God's Word

## Unit B1 - Lesson 8: Gideon's Surprise Attack

### Lesson Prayer

Merciful Father, your grace extends to those who love you and to those you choose by your glorious favor. Grant that we would cherish your forgiveness and mercy in our lives and so extend that to others. Thank you for watching over us and protecting us from our enemies. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.

### First Lesson: Judges 7:1-8, 19-23

1 Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with
him rose early and encamped beside the spring of Harod. And the
camp of Midian was north of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

2 The Lord said to Gideon, "The people with you are too many for
me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me,
saying, 'My own hand has saved me.' 3 Now therefore proclaim in the
ears of the people, saying, 'Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him
return home and hurry away from Mount Gilead.'" Then 22,000 of the
people returned, and 10,000 remained.

4 And the Lord said to Gideon, "The people are still too many. Take
them down to the water, and I will test them for you there, and
anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one shall go with you,' shall go
with you, and anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one shall not go
with you,' shall not go."

5 So he brought the people down to the water. And the Lord said to
Gideon, "Every one who laps the water with his tongue, as a dog laps,
you shall set by himself. Likewise, every one who kneels down to
drink." 6 And the number of those who lapped, putting their hands to
their mouths, was 300 men, but all the rest of the people knelt down
to drink water. 7 And the Lord said to Gideon, "With the 300 men who
lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hand, and let
all the others go every man to his home."

8 So the people took provisions in their hands, and their trumpets.
And he sent all the rest of Israel every man to his tent, but retained
the 300 men. And the camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

19 So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the
outskirts of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, when
they had just set the watch. And they blew the trumpets and smashed
the jars that were in their hands. 20 Then the three companies blew
the trumpets and broke the jars. They held in their left hands the
torches, and in their right hands the trumpets to blow. And they cried
out, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" 21 Every man stood in his
place around the camp, and all the army ran. They cried out and fled.

22 When they blew the 300 trumpets, the Lord set every man's sword
against his comrade and against all the army. And the army fled
as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel-
meholah, by Tabbath. 23 And the men of Israel were called out from
Naphtali and from Asher and from all Manasseh, and they pursued
after Midian.

### Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-11

*Paul wrote:* 4 If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the
flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of
Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a
Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness
under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss
for the sake of Christ.

8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the
loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may
gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my
own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in
Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — 10 that
I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share
his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means
possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

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