

To God Be the Glory

Judges 7

Introduction:

- A. We were created in God's _____
 - 1. This means that our design is to reflect God in our lives, to g_____ God.
 - 2. Going against this design is inviting s_____ into our lives will only harms us.
- B. In our study today of Judges 7
 - 1. Gideon brings his army of 32,000 men to a spring, s_____ of the enemy camp behind the Hill of Moreh.
 - 2. God begins a process that will end up bringing glory to Him.
 - 3. As believers in Christ we ought always be thinking, *to God be the glory.*

Pride robs God of glory (1-8)

- A. God told Gideon that He wanted to conquer the enemy in such a way that Israel would not take the c_____ for the victory.
 - 1. He had Gideon allow all who were a _____ to leave (22,000 men left, leaving 10,000)
 - 2. Then He had Gideon bring the 10,000 to the spring and the ones that lapped water from their hands, he was to keep. This whittled the army down to _____ men eliminating the possibility of pride.
- B. Pride puts self in the spotlight and takes the c_____ that God should have.
 - 1. Examples of pride which can occur among believers
 - a. An entire church might boast about an increase in giving to m_____
 - 1) God is the one that p_____ the resources so that we can give.
 - 2) God uses our gifts to raise up m_____
 - 3) God is the one who moves on hearts to receive C_____ and be saved.
 - b. Serving in the church for a _____
 - 1) Service is for the purpose of building up the b_____ of Christ.
 - 2) We are to do this in the s_____ that God provides so that He will be glorified (1 Pet 4:12).
 - 2. Pride keeps God from working through us (Jn 15:5).
 - a. Without Christ we accomplish n_____

- b. With Christ we bear much f_____ and so are effective. This glorifies God (Jn 15:8).

Fear keeps us from giving God glory (9-15)

- A. Gideon was afraid to go against the enemy because of his small army. But God s_____ him.
1. God told him to take his servant and sneak into the outposts of the enemy camp where he would h_____ something that would give him strength.
 2. While hidden, Gideon overheard a dream being relayed to another of a b_____ loaf tumbling against the tent headquarters, turning it upside down and flattening it.
 - a. This is a picture of something in _____ destroying something significant.
 - b. The one man interpreted the dream to mean that barley loaf was the s_____ of Gideon and the destruction was God giving the entire camp into Gideon's hands.
 3. Gideon responded by w_____ God and rising above his fear in obedience to God.
- B. Fear and the glory of God
1. God does not expect us to be f_____ when obeying Him. He just does not want us to give into those fears.
 2. One of the biggest fears believers have is w_____ to the lost ones around them. Think of one lost person that you have some kind of influence over.
 - a. God wants you to witness by the way you l_____ (words and actions).
 - b. God wants you to look for opportunities to move them closer to s_____ things.
 - 1) By i_____ them to church services or events.
 - 2) By s_____ with them how Jesus has made a difference in your life.
 - 3) Ask God for s_____ to rise above your fears.

Doing the impossible brings God glory (16-25)

- A. Gideon brings his army of 300 men against a camp of over _____ thousand warriors (see 8:3)
1. Gideon divided the 300 into _____ companies and strategically placed them around the enemy camp.
 2. Each man was given a t_____ and a pitcher with a lighted torch hidden inside the pitcher.

3. At the changing of the guard everyone was to break their pitchers revealing the lighted torch, blow their trumpets, and shout a s_____ for the Lord and for Gideon (a reminder of the dream)
 4. The enemy warriors p_____, killing one another with their swords as they try to escape out of the camp.
 5. The result – 120,000 enemy swordsmen killed, but no indication of one Israelite casualty. God had done the impossible t_____ Gideon.
- B. What impossible tasks has God given?
1. Missionaries – Elisabeth Elliot was given the impossible task of evangelizing the Auca Indians of Ecuador who murdered her h_____ and his missionary team. Many in the tribe, including the murderers accepted Christ. TO GOD BE THE GLORY.
 2. The church has been given the impossible task of making disciples of _____ the nations (lit. ethnic groups). The gospel is advancing to people groups who have not heard the name of Jesus and hundreds of ethnic groups are seeing people saved. TO GOD BE THE GLORY.
 3. You – is there a deep seated problem you have that seems impossible to overcome? We have seen God's power among the following to God's glory!
 - a. Drug addicts
 - b. Alcoholics
 - c. A person with 7 different personalities
 - d. A relationship beyond repair

Conclusion:

- A. Rom 3:23 – *all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.*
1. The word *sin* literally means to miss the m_____.
 2. The mark God wants us to hit is the g_____ of God. In other words to glorify Him.
- B. Two barriers to giving God glory
1. P_____
 2. F_____
- C. When faced with an impossible task that God wants you to do, get excited. Through your obedience God will make His power known to many.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!