

Gideon 300

Presented by Adrian Ebens at Waterford November 19, 2020

I am sure that we have been watching with great interest the events that are happening in the United States. Great things are taking place there. There is a lot of commotion going on in the world, and a lot of people are taking sides.

I just wanted to focus on some things tonight to remind us that the best way to prepare for the New World Order – I remember doing a presentation on this a few years ago – the best way to prepare for the New World Order, is to love whatever you might imagine your enemies might be; to love them. That's how you prepare; “Love your enemies”, for those who feel that you are their enemy.

So, we are not at war with Joe Biden, or Donald Trump. Lots of people are taking sides, saying very un-nice things..., how is that? ...un-Christian things about these men. They are both sons of God. They are both precious to Him. And it's our duty to love them. And we are reminded of what it says, “Resist not evil”. As in, don't rise up politically, or to motivate to oppose that which is evil because evil is coming; what is happening is evil. But we are not called upon to resist evil through political means.

The way that we resist evil is to be like Jesus; to be loving, kind and gracious, and encourage everyone. And as I was saying earlier today, getting angry about what is happening, means you are going to fail getting through. We need calmness, we need peace; we need to have that calm and peace of assurance that our Father is with us, and will look after us.

Voice commenting on how the morning worships has helped her to focus on kindness and praying for others, rather than judging and becoming frustrated. Diagnosis is the first step to remedy. So, the morning worships, I found really, sort of focusing... Yes, to realize we need to fill up on the Spirit of Christ; to have a spirit of prayer.

I have been noticing just around the world, our brethren around the world, quite a number are being assailed with affliction of one sort or another. Danny was afflicted with something similar to what Craig was. He had sort of an allergic reaction to something. And so, a number of people have been quite..., just afflicted here and there. I just noted that with interest.

But I just want to focus a little bit tonight on the story of Gideon. Those of you who have been on the journey with us for a little while have heard me mention Gideon-300 strategy, sometimes. I wanted to talk a little bit about Gideon tonight. And expand that a little more.

But before we do that, we would just like to kneel and pray. And I would like to pray for my cousin. *Voice: There is a prayer request for a lady with Di's message. The lady has got cancer..* Okay. I didn't see that. All right. Let's pray:

Father, we just thank You that we can kneel before You this evening. We thank You for the gift of Your Spirit. And I want to pray specially for my cousin, Anthony. To pray for help, for healing. He has been battling with cancer. Lord, I just ask for Your care of him. And for this other lady, that Di has mentioned. We just pray for her as well. And I pray for Di, with her cold and her cough. I just pray for her healing, that You'll bless and look after her. And we pray for our brethren that are listening. Lord, may they have a spirit of peace, a spirit of joy as they listen tonight. And as we meditate, as we think about the days just ahead of us, that You would bless us, and watch over us. And we thank You, in Jesus name. Amen.

[Some updates about the latest book projects, from 27:50-30:14 minutes into the video]

I'll mention this as we get into the story of Gideon. I've mentioned this a number of times. I want to read you a quote from the Spirit of Prophecy, form... I've forgotten its title, but it's OFC; Our Father Calls?... I am not sure. [It's Our Father Cares] I think it's probably devotional. But this is what it says; OFC, 180.2 [It's OFC, 205.5]:

“The Lord is willing to do great things for us. We shall not gain the victory through numbers,...” That's good news for us, isn't it? “We shall not gain the victory through numbers, but through the full surrender of the soul to Jesus.”

And we ask the question, as we have been studying this for some time now, how can you surrender yourself fully to Jesus if you do not know who He is? If you do not know that He is actually the begotten Son of the Father, then you can not surrender yourself to Him. If you do not know that He is completely non-violent, and completely non-judgmental, then you can not submit yourself to someone that you do not believe in. It's not that you won't submit; it's just that you don't know, and you are not familiar with this. So, it's very important for us.

We are not looking for numbers. And it's interesting that those who do not know Jesus as He is, are looking for numbers. Is there a correlation there, between those two things; the force of numbers, the democratic force of numbers? But when you know Jesus as He is, you do not need numbers. And this is what it says.

“We are to go forward in His strength, trusting in the mighty God of Israel.” Are we to trust in the mighty God of Israel? You know, the ones that would keep the statutes, and the judgments, and the feasts, and... “The mighty God of Israel.” And then she says this:

“There is a lesson for us in the story of Gideon’s army.” I pick up on things like that. (Welcome Danny! Glad you can join us) “There is a lesson for us in the story of Gideon's army.... The Lord is just as willing to work through human efforts now, and to accomplish great things through weak instrumentalities.”

Do you qualify as a weak instrumentality? *Voice: Oh, definitely.*

So this story, all these things “...are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.” This story is for us. And if I think of the brethren that are working with us around the world, it would be between two and three hundred people that we have around the world at the present time. Now, we have more people reading; there's more people studying this material, but to those that are actually committed to this message, fully committed to this message, it might be about 200 people. So, I think we qualify for... *Voice: So, we're gonna get our trumpets ready, and the pitchers...* Yes, we're gonna have a bit of a look at that.

Here's another quote. This is Patriarchs and Prophets, 553.3: “If they would cherish true humility, the Lord could do much more for His people;...”

So, what is it that... One is to, “fully surrender our soul to Jesus”. The other one here is, “cherish true humility”.

“...the Lord could do much more for His people; but there are few who can be trusted with any large measure of responsibility or success without becoming self-confident and forgetful of their dependence upon God.”

That's the only thing that's holding us up; is, that we would cherish humility, so that He can give us

greater things.

“This is why, in choosing the instruments for His work, the Lord passes by those whom the world honors as great, talented, and brilliant.”

Do you sometimes wish, “Oh, if only such and such would join us? If this individual would join our movement, then things would really start to move.” No! That's not the way it works.

“They are too often proud and self-sufficient. They feel competent to act without counsel from God.”

Voice: Is that why the disciples wanted Judas? They wanted Judas. He was confident; he was sharp; he was intellectual.

I just want to reflect a little bit on some of the things we've been teaching; particularly about Romans chapter 5, and verse 20: “Moreover the law entered...” And that word in the Greek is “entered privately”. The law entering into your mind, and you having an awareness of yourself privately. No one else may even know of the wrestle, or of the conflict that you are going through. And that's often the case. No one else knows the wrestle that we may be going through. But the Spirit is speaking to us. “Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:”

And as we have been saying that around the appointments that God has given us – the Sabbath, the new moon, and the festivals – just before the Sabbath, the new moon, and the festivals, there is often the law entering, and sin is caused to abound; an awareness of our character; an awareness of the failure that exists within our character. And if you are a proud person, as most of us are by nature, going through this process is very humiliating. Because elements of your character are revealed, and it's not very nice.

I had some experiences this week, just before the new moon. Because the new moon was yesterday, well, Monday night and Tuesday for us. And it was beautiful to see the new moon. I pulled the camera out, and we took pictures of it. There is just something very... It's such a blessing to see that thin sliver, that very thin sliver; a sense of the nearness of Christ, and His promise of four-fold blessing that comes at that particular time.

Voice: Cause everybody can see the full moon, but you only can see the new moon if you look for it. Yes, you have to really look for the new moon. Lorelle was jogging around the block, looking for the new moon. “I found it!” So she raced back. “I found it, I found it. There it is! Yey!” So we did a little dance. It was really nice. Voice: And I gave a book yesterday, because of it. There you go! You gave a book. So, that's a blessing. Who would have thought, just seven years ago, running around, looking for the new moon. [Laughter] “What is wrong with you people?”

But as it says in Ezekiel 46, verse 1; it says: “...The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the sabbath it shall be opened, and in the day of the new moon it shall be opened.” That means access; that means blessing. And I want to receive all of it, because I need it.

But what happened to me is, I had a number of events; about 3 different events happened to me just before the new moon. Just some exchanges with different people, and I could feel myself; the law entered. I could feel myself feeling frustrated and challenged. And I just thought, you know, “You've got to be more gracious, you've got to be more loving.” And I knew... I thought, okay, we are in the period just before the new moon, so this is the thing to expect.

It's wonderful when you see elements in your character, where you're defensive, where you're protective of self, instinctively you know that the Saviour doesn't condemn you; the Father doesn't condemn you. You go, "Okay, this is what my Father is showing me, so in the new moon He is going to heal me of these things." So, whereas in the past, in the performance based way, when you see elements in your [character], you think, "Ahhh! Failed AGAIN!" Whereas now, it's like, "Oh, okay. This is what You are wanting to heal. There is an element in my character that You are wanting to heal. And You are wanting to change this element in my character."

Both Lorelle and I have had good discussions pre new moon about elements in our characters that need to change. And so, having experienced the new moon, I am saying, "Thank You Father. I believe You're going to change this element in my character." If I simply bemoan or wail about the weakness of my character, I am only entrenching myself in the thought, "Woe is me! I am undone!" There is no value in that. But to recognize, "Oh there is a flaw in my character. There is something here that needs to change." So, just before the new moon, I'm saying, "Well, there is more of the Spirit coming. And I'm going to receive more of that blessing."

And I have been reminded that... When you read the book Identity Wars, we know that Satan's refusal to be a son of God led... What happened to Lucifer when he rejected Jesus as the Son of God; what happened to his identity? He ceased to be a son of God. And therefore, what happened to his value? He lost his value. He felt worthless.

When we feel someone doesn't value us, or they treat us inappropriately, and we feel that irritation, that frustration, that's evidence of the worth-less-ness that we feel, because we are outside of the channel of our Father's blessing. And we are not believing that we are beloved children of the Father. That's what happens when this comes up; when you feel irritated and frustrated and why people treat me badly; and why is this... Whenever you feel that feeling, you know that's your worthlessness, and the need to protect yourself, and to defend yourself from what people are saying. And to protect my feelings... Whenever any of those things happen, you know you've been drinking of the wine of Babylon; which is, "I will ascend into heaven; I will be like the most high; I should be more appreciated."

And of course, we are far more subtle in our sinfulness than "I should be more appreciated". It's far more subtle than that, isn't it? But thank the Lord! And I'm just saying, "Wow, thank You Father..." I got really blindsided by an email the other day; like, "Wahh!" Like, I'm trying... "Hey, hey! Steady, steady on!" You know, externally you are saying all the right things; internally you are like, "Grrr!" [Laughter] So, saying, "Lord..." I got down on my knees. I did. I got down on my knees, and said, "Father, Please!" I just stayed there for a while, and prayed. And then within two hours, everything was resolved; everything was sweet. "Thank You Father, thank You! Bless you! Wonderful!" Relationship saved. Friendship withheld, or held on to. And that was a great blessing.

Humility! And so, I was reminded this week of my past, that I have drunk at the fountains; the fountains, of broken cisterns of false gods, of false beliefs. And it's on this point that I want to mention something to help us realize. We are going into a period just ahead of us, that is going to be difficult. We are going to face difficulty. Some of us may experience shortages of power, shortages of food, shortages of a whole range of things. This is just ahead of us. And if we go into this experience with the idea of "Why is this happening to me?", I would suggest to you that you've forgotten what an idolater you are. Do you understand what I am saying? That you have worshipped a false god. We all have been part of a system that has worshipped a false god. Some will say, "I never worshipped the Trinity." Well, you may not have worshipped the Trinity, but you worshipped a god that killed people. At some point, if you have said, if you are saying to yourself, "I haven't done anything wrong", get a new pair of glasses. Get a new pair of glasses!

“ALL have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” ALL of us have been involved in apostasy. All of us have been involved in idolatry; if you are paying any attention to the message, and the pentagon of lies system. We have all been in the pentagon. We are all trying to escape this by God's grace. But because the movement that we have been involved in has sold itself completely to this system, and we have only come to this information now, it means that we are going to experience difficulty and suffering. If we accept this suffering is coming because of our sinfulness, and not say, “Oh, what have I done wrong?”... If you have that attitude, you are not going to survive. And if you think you're gonna sail through what's coming without any hardship, again, get a new pair of glasses.

There is going to be hardship. There is going to be difficulty. And we should bear it patiently. We should bear what's coming patiently, because we've all been involved in apostasy. But God is not going to forsake us. He is not going to leave us. But He is going to purify us through the consequences of the wrong choices that we've made earlier, falling upon us. Because God doesn't clear. Now, the Bible says “the guilty”, but they are supplied words. He does not clear. We have done things that are wrong. And God doesn't clear the consequences of the wrong choices that we have made. But He gives us His grace to go through them. He gives us His grace. To see whether we trust Him. Do we believe?

If things become very very difficult, will I be tempted to say, “Oh, I'm God-forsaken. God has left me. God has left me, because now I am suffering; now I am in sickbed; now I am in prison; now I am experiencing difficulty. It must be because of my sins, and God has forsaken me.” No! It's for our purification. Our Father doesn't condemn us. That's the test that we have to endure, if we want to get through this process.

And NOT to think of anyone as our enemy! They may consider us their enemy, but they are not our enemy. We don't have enemies. We only have brothers and sisters that do not yet know our Father. And these are the things that I think about.

When I from time to time watch the news, you feel the vibration, the energy that is in these news reports. It's hostility to some entity; whether on the left, or on the right. If you watch too much of that stuff, you are embracing hostility towards some foe. And this is the process by which human nature puts the blame for its sinfulness on somebody else.

We are all going into this great last conflict, because we as a human race have rebelled against God; we have rejected His commandments. It's too late for coming out of this. If the Seventh-day Adventist Church had accepted the 1888-message, it would have been a different ending. But it hasn't. It has rejected it, and it has rejected it twice. In 2001, it rejected it again. It is rejecting the begotten Son. It's getting very dark. It's going to get very dark. But God has given us great light in the midst of this darkness.

And so, we want to look a little bit at the story of Gideon. Because it's going to be through a small number of people around, I am saying, about two or three hundred people, that this thing is going to be turned around. 300 people around the world are gonna turn this around. But not them! They are weak. They need to know Jesus, and be fully surrendered to Him; and be humble, and full of humility, not trusting to themselves; they will not go through.

So, I want to read a little bit earlier in Patriarchs and Prophets, about Gideon. It says:

“Because his numbers were so few compared with those of the enemy, Gideon had refrained from making the usual proclamation.” This is 549.1. “He was filled with astonishment at the declaration that his army was too large.” God says “Your army is too large!” “But the Lord saw the pride and unbelief existing in the hearts of His people. Aroused by the stirring appeals of Gideon, they had

readily enlisted; but many were filled with fear when they saw the multitudes of the Midianites. Yet, had Israel triumphed, those very ones would have taken the glory to themselves instead of ascribing the victory to God.”

We do not want to look for great numbers of people, brothers and sisters. We are not looking for great numbers of people. We are looking for people that are fully surrendered to Jesus, and that are willing to cherish a true spirit of humility. That's what we are looking for.

That's why... One of the reasons why, I've mentioned to people, in our telecast, in our livestreams, I'm not focusing on all the bells and the whistles, and making it look all fantastic, in regards to our livestreams. And it's not the most perfect production, because that's part of the test. Because those who are looking for grandeur, those who are looking for these things, are going to be offended. They are going to be offended by some of the poor quality elements that are currently existing. But that was done with purpose. We could have spent money; we could have turned this place into..., with all the lighting, and got a full professional crew. It wouldn't have taken too much money to do that. We could have raised money to do all those things, and strut around in a three piece suit, and learned how to dance on a raised platform, and make everyone really really excited. But that's not what we are looking for. We are looking for people who are willing to hear the ring of truth, discern it, read it, study it, and to come with us in this walk that we are involved in.

So, we come to Judges chapter 6. I am overlapping slightly with another story; the story of Joseph, where there was a famine that was coming. And they had seven years of plenty, followed by seven years of drought. And in terms of our spiritual journey, for me, the last seven years, six to seven years..., well, since Tabernacles of 2013, it has been an absolute feast of the word of God. The things that we have learned in the last seven years have just been so phenomenal. And I'm so thankful to our Father that we know the things that we know. We believe them in our minds. We have confidence that God will manifest them in our hearts, and that we will manifest the character of Jesus; not by works, but by His Spirit shall these things be done.

So, this 7-year period of difficulty. Now, we notice in Judges chapter 6, there is another 7-year period mentioned here, so there's an interesting overlap:

“And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.”

Here is a 7-year story! What happened to the Israelites during this time frame? Well, let's keep reading; Judges 6, verse 2:

“And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds.” They had to go into hiding.

“And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them; And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass.”

What does that suggest for God's people? Remember the story of Gideon is... There are lessons for us in the story of Gideon's army, and also in the story of Gideon. *Voice: They were decimated.* They were decimated. They were placed in a difficult situation. Verse 5:

“For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for

both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it. And Israel was greatly impoverished..." They were feeble; they were weak. "...because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD." Hallelujah! That they cried unto the Lord.

"And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites, That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel,..."

Did he send them a deliverer? Not yet. What did he send them first? A prophet. What did the prophet say to them? Let's have a read:

"...which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;..." Do you remember? "...And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land; And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice."

Ouch! So they cry unto the Lord, and what does the Lord send them? A prophet. To remind them of what? *Voice: Their disobedience.* You have been disobedient. Did God do this to condemn them? *Voice: Diagnosis...* Diagnosis! So they can have a remedy. "You've not obeyed My voice." "Hear O Israel!" "Hearken!" "Listen!" "Listen to Me!" Verse 11:

"And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat..."

We know the rest of the story, and you can read how that he is speaking... Well, let's read it. I do want to read this. Verse 12:

" And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour."

The angel of the Lord; who is the angel of the Lord? *Voice: Christ.* Christ. And He says unto Gideon: "Mighty man of valour". Do you believe that? That's a test, isn't it? Do we believe that? Do you believe that? Is God saying to you: "O, mighty man of valour!" How did Gideon respond?

"And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us?"

Did Gideon just change the subject? Didn't Christ just say to him: "I am going to give you all the strength that you need to be a mighty man of God. I am promising to you you're gonna be a mighty man of God." And how does Gideon respond? *Voice: Why me?* "Why aren't You with us? Why aren't You helping us?" This proves that he is indeed a son of the children of Israel. Exodus chapter 6! *Voice: "Did He bring us out to the desert to kill us? Why didn't He just kill us in Egypt? We had food in our bowls then."* Yeah, all those things.

God said in Exodus 6, "I'll bring you out of this land. I'll bring you into a land. I'll do this. I'll rid you out of the bondage of the Egyptians. I'll do this..." And it says, "They hearkened not; because of cruelty of bondage, and anguish of spirit." And Gideon is tempted to do the same thing.

So, to those listening tonight, is Jesus actually saying to you: "Mighty man of valour"? Is He saying that to you? Well, we haven't quite come to the position of Gideon, in terms of physically speaking, have we? But since February of this year, March of this year, has the Church been decimated? Has assemblies been broken up? Is a health dictatorship being installed? Yes. It has. God's people have been overrun by a new system. And so, there is suffering. Have people been prevented from burying

their dead? From having their children married? From visiting their parents? Have they been prevented? Yes. *Voice: Husband and wife separated in aged care.* Yeah. One of the greatest scourges on a worldwide scale is now falling upon humanity. A stupendous crisis.

Voice: I wonder in verse 11, it says, "...and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites." So, their whole dominion was that they had to hide everything. So, that's the whole characteristic that they were as when Christ told him, "You are a mighty man of valour"... I have to crush my wheat with the winepress, so that they don't come and get it... Yeah, so they don't come and get it. And what for us? What is wheat symbolic of? Voice: Bread. Bread of God that we need to eat. The word of God. He is threshing it privately. Voice: With the winepress, where the grapes are crushed. Where the grapes are crushed. What does that mean? Interesting!

There will come a time when, the message that we have been given, we'll be thinking to hide in the winepress. To feed ourselves with the message that we've been given, for fear of the Jews, and for fear of the Romans. It's a combination, isn't it? Well, if you are threatened with your own life, you'll be tempted to hide it.

So, there is control of the food supply. Christ comes, and says to him, "Thou mighty man of valour". And what is it that Gideon is asked to do? This is interesting in this particular story. We're gonna come down to verse 25. I'm not gonna go through all of this detail tonight. Come down to verse 25:

"And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it:"

What is Gideon asked to do? Remove the idolatry. That's really pertinent to what we have been studying, isn't it? But he had to do it in such a way that he had to confront... Although... What does Gideon do? It says, verse 27:

"Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night."

He did it secretly. Can we blame him? Look at the result. It says, verse 28:

"And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built. And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they inquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing. Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die:..." Wow! What is going to happen now, mighty man of valour? Interesting, isn't it?

"...because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that was by it."

Interesting! The father, who was a worshipper of Baal, in love to his son, something happens to him: "And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar."

When Gideon cast down the altar of Baal, his father realized, "This is nonsense!" It brought his father to his senses; to say, "Well, if Baal was a god, he wouldn't have let this happen." And he spoke to the

other men, “Well, if Baal is a god, I'm sure he can look after himself. I'm sure he is big enough, and ugly enough to look after himself.” And so, he saved his son. And then the story goes on about how that the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon. Verse 34:

“But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him.”

The blowing of the trumpet. Are there trumpets that we are called to blow? They are related to the messages that we have? First, second and the third angel's message that we are called.

Now, come over to chapter 7. At the end of this 7-year period... You can read this a little bit more closely. It tells a story about how that many came and flocked to his standard. They had 32000; and then 22000 left; “Anyone who is afraid, go home”. 22000, boom! Gone! God says still too many. Anyone who bows down, and puts his face in the water,... You know the story. And then he was left with 300. Judges 7, verse 6:

“And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.”

They lost sight of their objective, to fulfil their temporal needs. How might we express this? “O, holy bank account, will you let me serve the Lord?” “I have to provide! If I don't provide, then... I have to provide for myself.” There is an element in there. Yes, we do need to provide, but we believe in Jehovah-Jireh, don't we? Our provider; that He provides our needs.

So, there were 300 left. Then we come down to verse 13 and verse 14. It is very interesting. I like this part of the story:

“And when Gideon was come, behold, there was a man that told a dream...” Let's go back a little bit. Verse 9:

“And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand.” And then He says this: “But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host: And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host.”

God knew that Gideon was a little bit afraid; a little bit afraid. And then we read in verse 12:

“And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude. And when Gideon was come, behold, there was a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread...” BARLEY! Interesting! “...barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along. And his fellow answered and said, This is nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: for into his hand hath God delivered Midian, and all the host.”

Oh, how I would've loved to see Gideon's face at that moment. [Expressing awe] “DID YOU HEAR THAT?” Spoken through the enemy! That encouraged Gideon, didn't it?

“ And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped,...” And I'm sure that he worshipped very silently. [Laughter] “...and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.”

And so, how does this take place. Come down to verse 20:

“And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.”

What is the sword that we carry? *Voice: The word of God.* The word of God. That is what we carry. We carry a message from the word of God. It is our sword. The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. That's the sword that we carry. The sword of the Lord is not a sword of violence. Gideon was obviously involved in violence. God wrought through this to tell us a story of how things are going to be in the last days.

And we read in verse 20, “And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands...” So, what was the pitcher? What is the pitcher made out of? Clay. Some translations say clay-jars; jars of clay. And the light, the lamp? This word “lamp” here, is exactly the same word as in Genesis 15, verse 17; when there was a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp. It's exactly the same word. And as in our studies, we have shown that the burning lamp is Christ. And Christ in a jar of clay; what does that represent? It represents humanity. Christ at this present time is hidden within us. Because we believe in the only begotten Son of God; the one who does no violence. We have fallen in love with this Messiah that's begotten of the Father. And He is within us. But that light is hidden now, isn't it?

So, what happens when the trumpet blows, and the pitcher is hit? What does that represent? *Voice: When the persecution comes...* When the persecution comes, Christ is revealed! When we make the decision that we are going to go forward and preach this message, when we are willing to lose everything for the sake of the truth and for the gospel, and circumstances arise that we sacrifice for the truth, and that earthen vessel, there'll be not one tread of human devising in the garment that we wear, and Christ will be revealed. And the brightness of those 300 around the world will shock the world! And the sword of the word of God, the whole earth will be lightened with its glory. It will only take 300 individuals to do this.

Voice: And the message is the trumpet in the right hand. And the right hand, as in the right hand of God. So Christ, next to the throne. Yeah, the hand of the Father; the trumpet of the voice of the archangel, and the trumpet of God. He will speak through His children. Because out of His mouth comes what? A sharp two-edged sword; the word of God, Revelation chapter 1. And His face was a countenance like the sun. This is the LAMP! “God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness...” (Collin shared on this, on Sabbath), “...has shone in our hearts in the face of Jesus Christ.” That's the lamp. And the words that we speak are the sword.

So, we are in the position now, where the pitchers are over the lamp; our earthliness is still hiding the glory of God as manifested in Jesus Christ. But when the conflict intensifies, when we are called to throw down the altar of our fathers of the last couple of generations, however that will take place – when there is a confrontation, and we throw down the altars, and they seek to come and kill us for exposing this abomination, this situations – that God's Spirit will be poured out in great measure. And then, we will go out in some capacity to the world. The earthen vessels will be broken, and the brightness of the Son of God, the brightness of the Father's glory will be manifested in these 300 around the world, and the forces of Midian will be defeated.

But notice that it was seven years that they were held by Midian. And I think, I pray, that's the time we are entering. It's going to be difficult. We are going to be challenged, so we need to go into this with the right mindset. Why are we in this situation now? Judges chapter 2, and verse 9 tells you.

Because we have repeated the history of the Judges. We have repeated it exactly. Verse 9:

“And they buried him...” (that's Joshua), “...in the border of his inheritance in Timnathheres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash. And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers:...” All of our forefathers; John Loughborough, J.N. Andrews, Haskell; all of these men have been gathered, and fallen asleep. And it says: “...and there arose another generation...” led by Le Roy Froom, and many others with him, “...which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:”

And what could be greater evil amongst God's people than the slaughter of infants unborn? Amongst God's people; in our hospitals, in our institutions. There is no more unspeakable evil than this, that has been brought amongst God's people. Shall we say, “O, not I Lord. I was not involved in this abomination.” We are part of this people. We have sinned. We have done this inequity. And for this inequity, there is going to be difficulty; there is going to be suffering.

And if you want to say “I'm not part of this organization; I'm not part of this situation; I did not partake in any of these things”, you'll not be prepared for what is coming upon the earth. Because when suffering and difficulty comes to you, you'll have the opinion that it was done to you unrighteously and unfairly: “Why has God allowed me to suffer like this? Why has He put me in this situation when I have done nothing wrong?” But if you know you have done wrong things, you'll suffer it gladly; for righteousness sake, you'll suffer it gladly; knowing we brought all this upon ourselves; we are worthy to die.

But God is going to prove us, and He is going to take us through this conflict, and refine us. And then there'll be the shattering of the jars of clay. And then the brightness of the Father's glory will be manifested in our faces. And it will only take 300 around the world for this to take place. And there will be a great routing of the enemy. The earth will be lightened with the glory of this message. 300 is all we need for this to take place.

And as it was divided into three companies, we are hoping that we can have particularly a centre; the way we can release information, from here, and from Europe, and from North America; three areas, particularly from which we can release this information. There are other places where this will take place as well; South Africa, and other places; but this is how I am looking at this message. And I pray... [Looking at the comments on the live chat] Thank you sister Jutta; I'm moved with you. This is what we believe. This is what the Lord is going to do for us.

So, the reason I'm sharing this with you is because at the beginning of the new moon, this story was brought to my mind, and I had the impression, this is what you must share; there is a message for you within this story. And God will do it with 300. But we have seven years to go through. I don't know when that seven years will begin, but there will be, as I have observed over periods of time, things come in cycles of seven. And there is going to be a difficulty. As we lay out the story of Joseph, there were seven years of plenty, and there were seven years of difficulty. And it would appear that that time is coming upon us.

Now, who knows what's going to happen. If Trump somehow manages to win this election... How can I say win this election? If he convinces the people that there has been voter fraud that has taken place, maybe there'll be a withholding of forces. But it just would seem that the forces of liberalism and the forces of conservatism are no longer going to tolerate each other, and there is going to be war. And the Adventist Church is not far behind. The forces of liberalism and the forces of conservatism, they just can't deal with each other any more. The polarization is too great. We've come to a point where there is going to be a great reset; either from the left, or from the right. We don't know which it is at this particular time.

My appeal to all of us at this particular time is, as we come to this river, and it may be... Trump was compared to Julius Caesar; we saw something recently. What did Julius Caesar do? He crossed the Rubicon. He took his army into domestic territory, and took control of the whole country. Is this what he was referring to, twelve month ago, to “the calm before the storm”; when he stood there with all of his generals? Is this “the calm before the storm”, when he will take control, in order to keep up with China and Russia; to install himself as a Tsar of the United States? We don't know. We've got no idea, as to whether this will happen.

Or, will the left come in, with all their progressive agenda, and we all will be forced into a transgender existence; with a whole lot of vaccination programs, and the whole 1984 unloading on us right before our eyes? We don't know.

And it's not for us to fear, or worry about these things. Let us accept that we are going to go through difficulty because of our sins, and the sins of our fathers. Accept it! We have committed idolatry against the God of Heaven. But He will use this to purify us, and to prepare us for this final message. We need this purification so that the earthen vessel will be broken. Ruben talks often about broken vessels. Brother, we need broken vessels, so that the glory of God can shine out. Those that are whole and complete aren't going to make it. We need broken ones. So, if you feel like a broken vessel, you are the one; you are the one. God is speaking to you, “Mighty man of valour”. Oh, it's good to hear those words from our Father, “Not by might; nor by power; but by My Spirit”.

So, I want to encourage you brothers and sisters. I pray that this is a message of comfort and encouragement to you. I believe that as we are going into this next phase, we are coming to the end of a... [Reading comment on the live chat] Yes, we all fall short! That's right, Tony. We come short of the glory of God. But God is going to do great things through us.

In my reckoning and understanding, we are entering into a 7th-year, from this... is that right? I can't remember now. Lost track. Anyway. We are nearly ending a 7-year period. I have to go and check the information on that again. And that soon, things are gonna become difficult. But let's not be downhearted; let's not be discouraged.

I was very inspired by Gavin's testimony, of how the hail missed him... And I was talking to Ruben about this. The thing is, when we see these things coming, all we have to do is kneel down, and say, “Father, I know that You'll take care of me. I know You'll look after me. And You'll protect me.” That's all we have to do. We may feel completely overwhelmed. We can just say, “Father, I believe that You're gonna to take care of me. And whatever happens, I am in Your hands.” Joseph was thrown into a dungeon; he was thrown into prison. He faced hardship. It doesn't mean we are not going to face hardship. As long as we know that God is with us, and we are His children, then we're gonna be able to go through this.

So, I'd like to kneel and pray with you all. And I'd like to challenge you that Jesus is saying to you: “You mighty man of valour; mighty woman of courage”. [Painful sound] You are right, Daniel? He just hit his hand. Oh, sorry buddy. Daniel just came out, and hit his finger in the door. You'll get there. Let's pray. [Painful sound] Let's pray for Daniel, shall we?

Father in Heaven, we thank You that we can kneel before You. We see that Satan is busy again. Just pray for Daniel. He has just hurt himself. I pray that You would comfort him. Thank You that You will help him and bless him. Father, I pray for all of us around the world. I pray for those listening to this message. You only needed 300. And Father, I pray that amongst my brethren, those that will listen to this, that they would choose to be part of that 300 around the world. And that You will help us. We know that Midian is coming. Satan is coming to destroy; to try and eat up the message; the

wheat, that we'll have to thresh it in the winepress; in the winepress, where characters are developed. And I pray, Father, that we would accept, this suffering comes not because God wishes to harm us, but because we have sinned; we have done evil. And therefore, this is a process of cleansing, a purification; not because You condemn us, but because You want to save us. And I just pray, Father, for everyone around the world, give us opportunities to share. Let us make up this number of 300, complete and full. And bless us, we pray, in Jesus name. Amen