

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit
Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Lesson # 7 October 11, 2022, to October 16, 2022

Unit II: Out of Slavery to Nationhood

Topic: Confidence Provides Necessary Courage

Text: Judges 6: 1-2, 7-16

Key Verse: “The LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die (Judges 6:23, KJV).”

Lesson Pointers

- 1) Blurred Memory (Judges 6:1-2)
- 2) Selective Amnesia (Judges 6: 7-10)
- 3) Encouraged by GOD (Judges 6:11-16)

Introduction

Now, lets be honest, there has been times in our lives when we felt that we were not good enough or that we were unworthy to be used by GOD for the assignment HE has called us to do. Our confidence in ourselves to do the task were low, we felt that someone else could do it better, and why me. Spiritually speaking, feelings of inadequacy result from failing to maintain and intimate, personal, and obedient relationship with GOD. You see the things that we lack, GOD has, all we need to do is to trust GOD. GOD can use us despite our inadequacy for what HE has called us to do. GOD knows us, and HE sees our inner potential, and GOD is willing to use anyone who trust HIM: GOD is omnipotent, all-powerful GOD and there is nothing to hard for GOD.

Lesson Pointer # 1

- Blurred Memory (Judges 6:1-2)

Now, it was forty years after Israel’s victory over the Sisera and the Canaanite army, that an existing faith show on the surface, but the passage of time blurred or clouded their memory. The Israelites had forgot how GOD delivered them and practiced worshipping idolatry, which caused the next generation to repeat the same practice of forsaking GOD through idolatry. Now, as a result, GOD give the Israelites into the hands of the Midianites (Judges 6:1). Because of the sin of the Israelite people, the Midianites, the descendants of Abraham though his secondary wife, Keturah (read Genesis 25:1-2), became bitter enemies, raiding their herds, crops, and fruits, causing the Israelites to hide in dens, caves, and stronghold mountainous areas of their land (Judges 6:2).

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Lesson Pointer # 2

- **Selective Amnesia (Judges 6:7-10)**

Now, the oppression by the Midianites had become too great for the Israelites to bare, they cried unto the LORD GOD for help (Judges 6:7). The LORD GOD heard them (Israelites) and sent unto them a prophet with a message for them, saying unto the Israelites that the LORD GOD'S grace delivered them from Egyptian bondage, and drove out other oppressors, and gave Israel their land (Judges 6:8-9). But, still, the Israelites repeatedly disobeyed and ignored the LORD GOD'S command to worship HIM only (Judges 6:10). You see, the Israelites had selective amnesia, in other words, they remembered what they wanted and still did the things that the LORD GOD said not to do.

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Lesson Pointer # 3

- **Encouraged by GOD (Judges 6: 11-16)**

Now, the LORD GOD always has someone to use for HIS purposes, even if they are unaware, unprepared, and inadequate in confidence. Despite Gideon's weakness the LORD GOD used him to fulfill the most extraordinary task (Judges 6:11). The angel of the LORD GOD encouraged Gideon by greeting him as "a mighty man of valour" (Judges 6:12). This greeting from the LORD to Gideon was the LORD'S predetermined purpose for Gideon's life. The pointer here, is that we are not to evaluate ourselves as unworthy or incapable of doing the task that the LORD has given us to do, based on our own opinion of our personal feelings of being inadequate. We should respond by trusting in the LORD and HIS Word and not to doubt (Judges 6:13). Despite Gideon's or our misguided questions to the LORD'S Word, the LORD still encourages us to accept the task that is before us (Judges 6:14). Now, even with the LORD'S promise that HE will be with Gideon and with us, he and we continue to list our shortcomings or our inadequacy to the LORD (Judges 6:15). It is a truth, that when the LORD calls you, HE will equip you with whatever is necessary to complete the task that HE (the LORD) has called you for. The LORD looks beyond our faults and failures to accomplish HIS purpose in us. Just as the LORD assured Gideon of HIS presence, the LORD does the same with us, by telling us, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee (Hebrews 13:5d)." The LORD assured Gideon victory over the Midianites, and the LORD assures us victory over our enemies as well (Judges 6:16).

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Lesson Nuggets

- 1) **Do not forget that the LORD delivered you out of bondage, and do not let the past blur your memory.**
- 2) **Do not disobey or ignore the LORD'S command to worship HIM.**
- 3) **Stop bringing up your inadequacies and trust the LORD and HIS Word, since the LORD said it, do know that it shall be done; for HIS (the LORD'S) Words shall not return to HIM void.**