

# GIDEON (Part 1): WEAK FAITH IS SUFFICIENT FAITH

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Judges 6-7—Central Baptist Church—June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## INTRODUCTION

When it comes to faith, the Bible speaks of either disbelief or growing confidence.

**2 Thessalonians 1:3**—*We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly...*

God's favor does not rest on us because our faith is perfect, but because our faith is present.

Weak faith is sufficient faith.

## REVIEW

**Judges 2:11–13**—*[11] And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals. [12] And they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the LORD to anger. [13] They abandoned the LORD and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth.*

Judges' Cycle = sin > servitude > supplication > salvation

## THE POWER OF A WEAK FAITH

Locust = similar to a grasshopper / able to swarm crops

**Deuteronomy 28:38**—*"You shall carry much seed into the field and shall gather in little, for the locust shall consume it."*

Hard circumstances can often challenge our faith.

If we're going to go after the idols of the culture, we need to first destroy the idols that live among us.

Idolatry is only truly conquered when we destroy our devotion to the idol and turn our full devotion to the one true God.

*"Man's nature, so to speak, is a perpetual factory of idols."* —**John Calvin**

The sign of the fleece is not a commendation of Gideon's faith, but an incredible display of God's patience with those of weak faith.

## **THE POWER OF A STRONG GOD**

God is clearly showing through this story that he does not depend on the strength of man to accomplish his purposes.

Sometimes when God fights for us, he first strips us of those things we are most confident on, so we can rest on his power alone and not in our personal abilities.

It is when we lose confidence in self and gain confidence in Christ that we are victorious in life.

**Philippians 3:7–8**—*[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...*

The Lord knows we need encouragement to accomplish the work he has called us to accomplish.

**Colossians 2:15**—*[15] He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.*