### Judges

## Chapter 7

1So, JeroBaAl (GideOn) got up early and camped his army at the So, JeroBaAl (GideOn) got up early and camped his army at the <span class="placename">Spring of HaradSo, JeroBaAl (GideOn) got up early and camped his army at the <span class="placename">Spring of Harad</span>, with the camp of MidiAn to the north… [Their camp] stretched from So, JeroBaAl (GideOn) got up early and camped his army at the <span class="placename">Spring of Harad</span>, with the camp of MidiAn to the north… [Their camp] stretched from <span class="placename">BabaAhSo, JeroBaAl (GideOn) got up early and camped his army at the <span class="placename">Spring of Harad</span>, with the camp of MidiAn to the north… [Their camp] stretched from <span class="placename">BabaAh</span> and So, JeroBaAl (GideOn) got up early and camped his army at the <span class="placename">Spring of Harad</span>, with the camp of MidiAn to the north… [Their camp] stretched from <span class="placename">BabaAh</span> and <span class="placename">ThamorAiSo, JeroBaAl (GideOn) got up early and camped his army at the <span class="placename">Spring of Harad</span>, with the camp of MidiAn to the north… [Their camp] stretched from <span class="placename">BabaAh</span> and <span class="placename">ThamorAi</span> down into the valley.  
  
2And the Lord said to GideOn:  
  
 ‘There are too many people with you, so I won’t deliver MidiAn into your hands; for then IsraEl would boast before Me and claim that they’d saved themselves!  
  
 3‘So, tell the people this:  
  
 ‘All that are nervous or afraid may now leave Mount GileAd.’  
  
Well, of the 22,000 that came with him, only 10,000 remained.  
  
4Then the Lord said to GideOn:  
  
 ‘There are still too many people!  
  
 ‘So now, lead them all down to the water, and I’ll reduce their numbers for you. Then, whichever ones I select and say:  
  
 ‘This one must go with you.’  
  
 ‘...you must take.  
  
 ‘And those whom I tell you not to take must not go with you… Make sure that they don’t come along!’  
  
5So GideOn led the people down to the water, and the Lord said to GideOn:  
  
 ‘Now, I want you to set aside all those who lap the water like a dog from those who get down on their knees to drink.’  
  
6Well, 300 men lapped water with their hands to their mouths, while all the rest got down on their knees to drink.  
  
7Then the Lord said to GideOn:  
  
 ‘Now I’m going to save you and give MidiAn into your hands with these 300 men who lapped the water... All the rest must leave.’  
  
8So, they gathered the provisions from the rest of the people and took their trumpets before sending them back to their tents.  
  
  
And after that, he armed the 300 and got them ready; for the army of MidiAn was camped just below them in the valley.  
  
9And that night, the Lord told {GideOn]:  
  
 ‘Now, get up and go down into their camp, for I’ve given it into your hands!  
  
 10‘However, if you’re still afraid, I want you and your servant Phara to go down into their camp 11and listen to what they’re saying…  
  
 ‘Then you won’t be afraid anymore!’  
  
So he went down to the edge of where the companies of fifties were camped, along with his servant Phara... 12For MidiAn, Amalec, and all the sons of the east were scattered throughout the valley like locusts, and their camels were like the sands on the seashore.  
  
13Then GideOn overheard a man telling his comrade about a dream he had, saying:  
  
 ‘{Look} I had a dream! And in it, I saw a cake of barley bread roll into [our] camp; then, when it reached a tent, it knocked it down.  
  
 ‘And as [the tent] fell, it turned upside down!’  
  
14And his comrade said to him:  
  
 ‘This was none other than the sword of GideOn, son of JoAs, an IsraElite man... For God has given MidiAn and our entire army into his hands.’  
  
15So when GideOn heard the story of the dream and its interpretation, he thanked Jehovah.  
  
Then he returned to the camp of IsraEl and said:  
  
 ‘Now get up, for Jehovah has given the camp of MidiAn into our hands!’  
  
16So he divided his 300 men into three companies, and he gave each of them trumpets, torches, and empty pitchers. He had them put their torches inside the pitchers, 17and he said:  
  
 ‘Now, watch me and do what I do!  
  
 ‘For I’m going down to the edge of their [camp]... 18Then I’ll blow my trumpet, and at the same time, you must each start blowing your trumpets all around their camp and shout:  
  
 ‘For Jehovah and for GideOn!’  
  
19So GideOn and his company [crept] down to the edge of their army towards the start of the middle watch, and he aroused the guards by blowing his trumpet and breaking the pitcher that was in his hands.  
  
20Then all three companies blew their trumpets and broke their pitchers, and they held the torches in their left hands as they blew their trumpets with their right hands and shouted:  
  
 ‘A sword for Jehovah and for GideOn!’  
  
21Well, all [that GideOn’s people] really did after that was just stand around the camp while the [MidiAnite] army sounded alarms and everyone started running about!  
  
22For, after the 300 blew their trumpets, Jehovah caused the entire [MidiAnite] army to start attacking each other with swords! 23And then they started running away, retreating as far as And then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEdAnd then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEd</span> and And then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEd</span> and <span class="placename">TagaraGathaAnd then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEd</span> and <span class="placename">TagaraGatha</span>, from And then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEd</span> and <span class="placename">TagaraGatha</span>, from <span class="placename">AbelMeulaAnd then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEd</span> and <span class="placename">TagaraGatha</span>, from <span class="placename">AbelMeula</span> to And then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEd</span> and <span class="placename">TagaraGatha</span>, from <span class="placename">AbelMeula</span> to <span class="placename">TaBathAnd then they started running away, retreating as far as <span class="placename">BethSeEd</span> and <span class="placename">TagaraGatha</span>, from <span class="placename">AbelMeula</span> to <span class="placename">TaBath</span>.  
  
Then the men of IsraEl (those from NaphTali, Asher, and everyone from ManasSeh) also came to chase after MidiAn. 24So, GideOn sent messengers throughout the mountains of Ephraim, telling them:  
  
 ‘Come down to join [in my fight against] against MidiAn… Take [control of] all the water and the JorDan as far as BethEra!’  
  
Well, all the men of Ephraim started shouting, and they took control of all the water along the JorDan up to BethEra, 25where they captured the leaders of MidiAn, Oreb and Zeb.  
  
Then they killed Oreb at Then they killed Oreb at <span class="placename">Oreb’s RockThen they killed Oreb at <span class="placename">Oreb’s Rock</span>, and they killed Zeb at Then they killed Oreb at <span class="placename">Oreb’s Rock</span>, and they killed Zeb at <span class="placename">Zeb’s WinepressThen they killed Oreb at <span class="placename">Oreb’s Rock</span>, and they killed Zeb at <span class="placename">Zeb’s Winepress</span>. And after they chased down MidiAn, they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeb back to GideOn from across the Then they killed Oreb at <span class="placename">Oreb’s Rock</span>, and they killed Zeb at <span class="placename">Zeb’s Winepress</span>. And after they chased down MidiAn, they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeb back to GideOn from across the <span class="placename">JorDanThen they killed Oreb at <span class="placename">Oreb’s Rock</span>, and they killed Zeb at <span class="placename">Zeb’s Winepress</span>. And after they chased down MidiAn, they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeb back to GideOn from across the <span class="placename">JorDan</span>.