

Daily Devotional, October 20, 2020

“The Sword of the LORD and of Gideon!”, (Judges 7:18, NKJV)

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Gideon had been chosen by God to deliver the children of Israel from their Midianite oppressors. The Lord was careful to make it known that this deliverance was clearly divine in nature, and not because of the strength of men. “**And the LORD said to Gideon, “The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, “My own hand has saved me””**” (Judges 7:2). Gideon and only **“three hundred men”** (Judges 7:6), the ones who showed the greatest readiness and alertness, would be enough for God to achieve the victory. Notice in our text that **“the sword of the LORD”** comes first. The battle belonged to Him. Then it says, **“and of Gideon.”** Gideon was not to stay in the camp eating bonbons while the battle was being fought. He and his chosen men had to get up, gird on their swords, and get involved in the battle themselves.

We see here, by way of application, that in all our battles of life, it is the Lord who will fight for us. But it is the believer’s responsibility to **“take up the whole armor of God”** (Ephesians 6:13). We cannot expect God to do what we ask if we ourselves are not doing the footwork. You can pray for a job all you want, but if you are not contacting prospective employers, how then will you be employed? The same applies to schoolwork, excellence in your trade or in ministry, athletic or artistic competitions, and anything else you can think of. Start with prayer. If you need human help, seek assistance from those wise, ready, and alert to the task. Recognize that all things are possible for our omnipotent God. And get going doing the work on the ground. **“The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!”**