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YouTube Prayer Link

God Himself chooses for us, what are we afraid of?

Judges 7:

7:4 And Jehoah said to Gideon, There are too many men. Take them down to the water, and I may try them for you. Whoever I instruct says, "If this man can go with you, he will go with you." I point out to whoever says, "This man is not allowed to go with you, he is not allowed to go with you."

In this chaotic world, we are often lost at the crossroads of choice, not knowing where to go. Sometimes we think we have everything in control, but we feel lost when it matters most. Maybe that's part of life, a journey of meaning and direction.

However, while we are hesitating, there may be some mysterious force behind the choice for us. Maybe it's some kind of cosmic arrangement, some kind of God's will, or maybe it's just a game of fate, but this power is somehow revealed in our lives.

When we feel helpless, dazed, or even disoriented, perhaps God Himself has chosen the path for us. The path may not be satisfactory, full of challenges and difficulties, but it is a journey we must take. At a time when we don't know where to go, this force paves a path to growth and development.

Perhaps, this is the power of faith. When we fail to make sense of life's twists and turns, we turn to believe that there is some kind of mysterious arrangement behind the scenes. This belief may give us peace of mind knowing that even though our choices are not perfect, there is still some higher level of wisdom guiding us.

In either case, we may never fully understand the meaning behind this mysterious choice. But perhaps it is this belief that keeps us hopeful in the midst of life's thorns and challenges. When we feel helpless, we may turn to trust that God Himself chooses everything we have for us.

When all the disguises will be revealed, when God's choice is revealed before our eyes, we may realize that we are not alone in this interweaving of pretense and choice. In the final revelation,

we may find that the mysterious force has always been around us, guiding us towards a more authentic and complete version of ourselves.

There are several passages in the Bible that may relate to this view, but there are a few passages that illustrate God's sovereignty and guidance over life.

Proverbs 16:9: "The heart of man makes a sign, and the mouth counsels the Lord." The implication of this passage is that although people can plan and choose, in the end, all fate and outcome will be in God's Lordship.

Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know for myself that the thoughts I have set forth to you are thoughts of peace, and not of evil, that you may have hope in the end." This passage shows that God has a good plan for people to bring hope and a future.

Romans 8:28, "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who have been called according to his purpose." This passage emphasizes God's plan and will and how He works in all things for the good of those who love Him.

But many passages in the Bible emphasize God's sovereignty and His guidance in life, implying that God plays an important role in our lives and has a wonderful plan and purpose. Maintaining confidence while waiting is a challenge, but it is also an opportunity to develop your inner tenacity. Here are some ways to help you maintain faith while waiting for God's will:

Prayer and Meditation: Find time to build a relationship with God and express your questions, desires, and feelings through prayer and meditation. This will help you connect with God and feel calm and guidance as you wait.

Study the Bible deeply: By reading the Bible, look for God's teachings on waiting, faith, and obedience. The stories and lessons in the Bible may help you find strength and wisdom in waiting.

Connect with the faith community: Share your faith and difficulties with other believers.

Participating in a church or faith community to pray, encourage, and share experiences with others will help each other grow and support.

Accepting uncertainty: Accepting uncertainty while waiting is an important part. Trust that God will reveal and guide you at the right time in time. It is also trust and obedience to God.

Look for opportunities to grow: The process of waiting can be a journey of growth. Try to find opportunities to grow and develop while waiting, which can be a time to learn Xi patience, tenacity, or a deeper understanding of yourself and your beliefs.

Keep Hope: Keep hope alive even in the midst of hardship and waiting. Trust that God's plan is good, and while it may not meet your expectations, it is still best for you.

No matter what awaits you, maintaining faith requires persistence and patience. It's an ongoing process, but through faith, prayer, and sharing with others, you can find strength and peace in waiting.

Let's pray together:

Dear Heavenly Father, we are here to come to You with a humble heart. We admit that in this journey full of difficulties and challenges, our faith is sometimes shaken, and we feel lost and weak. But we believe that You are our strength and strength, the source of our faith.

Enlighten our faith and strengthen our hearts in Your love and grace. When we face difficulties, please give us the courage to persevere in our faith and know that Your will is the best and best for us.

Give us wisdom so that we can understand Your guidance and plan in our lives. May our faith be built not on outward circumstances or superficial comfort, but on Your solid and stable foundation.

Help us to keep hope in our waiting, knowing that Your time is perfect. Let our faith grow in waiting, so that we can come to a deeper understanding of Your love and grace and walk in faith. Thank You for hearing our prayers, and You are our strength and refuge. Paint our faith so that we can walk with You every day and remain steadfast in our faith in Your good plans. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Judges Chapter 7

Ju. 7:1 Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh.

Ju. 7:2 The LORD said to Gideon, “You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her,

Ju. 7:3 announce now to the people, ‘Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.’” So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained.

Ju. 7:4 But the LORD said to Gideon, “There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will sift them out for you there. If I say, ‘This one shall go with you,’ he shall go; but if I say, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ he shall not go.”

Ju. 7:5 So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD told him, “Separate those who lap the water with their tongues like a dog from those who kneel down to drink.” Ju. 7:6 Three hundred men lapped with their hands to their mouths. All the rest got down on their knees to drink.

Ju. 7:7 The LORD said to Gideon, “With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the other men go, each to his own place.”

Ju. 7:8 So Gideon sent the rest of the Israelites to their tents but kept

the three hundred, who took over the provisions and trumpets of the others. Now the camp of Midian lay below him in the valley.

Ju. 7:9 During that night the LORD said to Gideon, “Get up, go down against the camp, because I am going to give it into your hands.

Ju. 7:10 If you are afraid to attack, go down to the camp with your servant Purah

Ju. 7:11 and listen to what they are saying. Afterwards, you will be encouraged to attack the camp.” So he and Purah his servant went down to the outposts of the camp.

Ju. 7:12 The Midianites, the Amalekites and all the other eastern peoples had settled in the valley, thick as locusts. Their camels could no more be counted than the sand on the seashore.

Ju. 7:13 Gideon arrived just as a man was telling a friend his dream. "I had a dream," he was saying. "A round loaf of barley bread came tumbling into the Midianite camp. It struck the tent with such force that the tent overturned and collapsed." Ju. 7:14 His friend responded, "This can be nothing other than the sword of Gideon son of Joash, the Israelite. God has given the Midianites and the whole camp into his hands." Ju. 7:15 When Gideon heard the dream and its interpretation, he worshipped God. He returned to the camp of Israel and called out, "Get up! The LORD has given the Midianite camp into your hands."

Ju. 7:16 Dividing the three hundred men into three companies, he placed trumpets and empty jars in the hands of all of them, with torches inside.

Ju. 7:17 "Watch me," he told them. "Follow my lead. When I get to the edge of the camp, do exactly as I do.

Ju. 7:18 When I and all who are with me blow our trumpets, then from all around the camp blow yours and shout, 'For the

LORD and for Gideon.'"

Ju. 7:19 Gideon and the hundred men with him reached the edge of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guard. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands.

Ju. 7:20 The three companies blew the trumpets and smashed the jars. Grasping the torches in their left hands and holding in their right hands the trumpets they were to blow, they shouted, "A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!"

Ju. 7:21 While each man held his position around the camp, all the Midianites ran, crying out as they fled.

Ju. 7:22 When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the LORD caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords. The army fled to Beth Shittah towards

Zererah as far as the border of Abel Meholah near Tabbath. Ju. 7:23 Israelites from Naphtali, Asher and all Manasseh were called out, and they pursued the Midianites.

Ju. 7:24 Gideon sent messengers throughout the hill country of Ephraim, saying, "Come down against the Midianites and seize the waters of the Jordan ahead of them as far as Beth Barah." So all the men of Ephraim were called out and they took the waters of the Jordan as far as Beth Barah.

Ju. 7:25 They also captured two of the Midianite leaders, Oreb and Zeeb. They killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb, and Zeeb at the winepress of Zeeb. They pursued the Midianites and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon, who was by the Jordan.

The Book of Judges, Chapter 7 in the Christian Bible talks about the continued story of Gideon and the defeat of the Midianites. After reducing his army to only three hundred men, Gideon and his soldiers encamped near the Midianite army, which numbered in the tens of thousands.

The Lord then instructed Gideon to lead a nighttime attack on the Midianites, but first, he must reduce his army even further by having all those who were afraid leave. Gideon followed the Lord's instructions, and two-thirds of his already small army left, leaving only one hundred men.

That night, Gideon and his men surrounded the Midianite camp and at his signal, broke the jars covering the torches they were carrying, revealing their presence and causing the Midianites to panic and attack each other. Gideon and his men then pursued the fleeing Midianites and defeated them.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of trusting in the Lord and obeying His commands, even when they may seem counterintuitive or challenging. It also demonstrates the power of the Lord to accomplish great things through a small and faithful group of people.

Overall, the story of Gideon and the defeat of the Midianites in chapter 7 of The Book of Judges serves as a reminder that victory does not always depend on numerical superiority or human strength but on faith and obedience to God's will.

Here are some key verses from chapter 7 in The Book of Judges in the Christian Bible in English:

- "The Lord said to Gideon, 'You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, "My own strength has saved me."' - Judges 7:2
- "So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the Lord told him, 'Separate those who lap the water with their tongues as a dog laps from those who kneel down to drink.'" - Judges 7:5
- "With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the others go home." - Judges 7:7
- "The Midianites, Amalekites and all the other eastern peoples had settled in the valley, thick as locusts. Their camels could no more be counted than the sand on the seashore." - Judges 7:12
- "Watch me," he told them. "Follow my lead. When I get to the edge of the camp, do exactly as I do." - Judges 7:17
- "When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the Lord caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords. The army fled to Beth Shittah toward Zererah as far as the border of Abel Meholah near Tabbath." - Judges 7:22 These verses recount the story of

how God used Gideon and a small group of 300 men to defeat a much larger army of Midianites through a strategic battle plan and the power of God.

! Judges chapter 7 provides a reflection on the story of Gideon and the defeat of the Midianites. It highlights the themes of faith, trust, and God's power to bring victory through unlikely means.

The chapter begins with Gideon preparing for battle against the Midianites. However, God instructs him to reduce the size of his army. Gideon initially gathers 32,000 men, but God tells him that the army is still too large. He instructs Gideon to offer a test to the soldiers, and only those who drink water from the stream in a specific manner are to be chosen for battle. As a result, the army is reduced to a mere 300 men.

This significant reduction in the size of the army is a reflection of God's desire to demonstrate His power and sovereignty. The purpose is to ensure that the Israelites understand that victory does not come through their own strength or numbers, but through God's intervention.

With the small but dedicated army of 300 men, Gideon and his soldiers approach the Midianite camp. God assures Gideon of victory and instructs him to divide the soldiers into three groups, providing them with trumpets, empty jars, and torches. At the appointed time, they blow their trumpets, break their jars, and shout, causing confusion and fear among the Midianites. The Midianite army turns on itself, resulting in their defeat.

The reflection in Judges chapter 7 emphasizes the importance of trust and faith in God's guidance and provision. Gideon's army was intentionally reduced to a size that seemed impossible to achieve victory. However, God wanted to demonstrate that He is the source of triumph and that His power transcends human limitations.

The story also reflects God's preference for using unconventional means to bring about victory. The use of trumpets, jars, and torches instead of traditional weapons showcases God's ability to accomplish His purposes in unexpected ways. It reminds believers that they should not rely solely on human strategies or resources, but on God's wisdom and power.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder that God's strength is made perfect in weakness. The small army of 300 men magnifies God's power and highlights His ability to accomplish great things through those who trust and obey Him.

Overall, Judges chapter 7 reflects the importance of faith, trust, and reliance on God's power. It encourages believers to recognize that victory comes from God and that they should depend on His guidance and strength in all circumstances, even when facing overwhelming odds.