

Judges 6:33 – 7:25

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| 6:33 – Midianites | (p.n.) | people from Midian |
| 6:33 – Amalekites | (p.n.) | a tribe of people descended from Amalek, a grandson of Esau. Esau was the twin brother of Jacob (Israel), the forefather of the Israelites. |
| 6:33 – ‘joined forces’ | (phrase) | worked together with someone else to achieve something |
| 6:33 – the Jordan | (p.n.) | the main river in the land of Canaan (see map) |
| 6:33 – valley | (n.) | a low area between two mountains |
| 6:34 – summoning | (v.) | officially ordering someone to come to a place |
| 6:34 – Abiezrites | (p.n.) | people from the clan of Abiezer, of the tribe of Manasseh |
| 6:35 – Manasseh | (p.n.) | a tribe in the nation of Israel. Israel was made up of 12 tribes. |
| 6:35 – ‘calling... to arms’ | (v.) | getting people to take action in an attempt to deal with a bad situation |
| 6:35 – Asher | (p.n.) | a tribe in the nation of Israel. |
| 6:35 – Zebulun | (p.n.) | a tribe in the nation of Israel. |
| 6:35 – Naphtali | (p.n.) | a tribe in the nation of Israel. |
| 6:37 – fleece | (n.) | the wool on a sheep |
| 6:37 – threshing floor | (n.) | a hard, flat surface on which wheat, corn etc is beaten to separate the edible grains from the rest of the plant |
| 6:37 – dew | (n.) | small drops of water that form on the ground and other outdoor surfaces overnight |
| 7:2 – boast | (v.) | speak proudly of your own achievements |
| 7:3 – trembles | (v.) | shake because you are frightened or cold |
| 7:5 – laps | (v.) | uses short quick movements of the tongue to take liquid into their mouth |
| 7:5 – kneel | (v.) | put one or both knees on the ground |
| 7:8 – provisions | (n.) | food and other necessary supplies for a journey |
| 7:11 – encouraged | (adj.) | made to feel confident or brave |
| 7:12 – locusts | (n.) | large insects that fly in groups and eat crops |



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| 7:12 – camels | (n.) | a kind of desert animal |
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| 7:13 – tumbling | (v.) | falling with a rolling or bouncing movement |
| 7:13 – struck | (v.) | hit deliberately |

7:13 – tent (n.) a shelter made of fabric and held up by poles



7:13 – force (n.) power, strength

7:13 – overturned (v.) turns upside down or on its side

7:13 – collapsed (v.) fell very suddenly

7:15 – interpretation (n.) an opinion about what something means

7:16 – companies (n.) groups of soldiers

7:16 – jars (n.) clay containers used for storing drink or food



7:16 – torches (n.) a piece of wood that is burning at one end to provide light

7:20 – grasping (v.) holding tightly onto something

7:21 – fled (v.) ran away from danger

7:23 – pursued (v.) chased someone in order to catch them

7:24 – seize (v.) take hold of someone violently

7:25 – captured (v.) catch someone, especially in a war

7:25 – winepress (n.) a device used to extract juice from grapes to make wine

Judges 6:33 – 7:24 (New International Reader's Version)

³³All the Midianites and Amalekites gathered their armies together. Other tribes from the east joined them. All of them went across the Jordan River. They camped in the Valley of Jezreel. ³⁴Then the Spirit of the LORD came on Gideon. So Gideon blew a trumpet to send for the men of Abiezer. He told them to follow him. ³⁵He sent messengers all through Manasseh's territory. He called for the men of Manasseh to fight. He also sent messengers to the men of Asher, Zebulun and Naphtali. So all those men went up to join the others.

³⁶Gideon said to God, "You promised you would use me to save Israel. ³⁷Please do something for me. I'll put a piece of wool on the threshing floor. Suppose dew is only on the wool tomorrow morning. And suppose the ground all around it is dry. Then I will know that you will use me to save Israel. I'll know that your promise will come true." ³⁸And that's what happened. Gideon got up early the next day. He squeezed the dew out of the wool. The water filled a bowl.

³⁹Then Gideon said to God, "Don't be angry with me. Let me ask you for just one more thing. Let me use the wool for one more test. But this time make the wool dry. And let the ground be covered with dew." ⁴⁰So that night God did it. Only the wool was dry. The ground all around it was covered with dew.

⁷Early in the morning Jerub-Baal and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. Jerub-Baal was another name for Gideon. The camp of Midian was north of Gideon's camp. It was in the valley near the hill of Moreh. ²The LORD said to Gideon, "I want to hand Midian over to you. But you have too many men for me to do that. Then Israel might brag, 'My own strength has saved me.'" ³So here is what I want you to announce to the army. Tell them, 'Those who tremble with fear can turn back. They can leave Mount Gilead.'" So 22,000 men left. But 10,000 remained.

⁴The LORD said to Gideon, "There are still too many men. So take them down to the water. There I will reduce the number of them for you. If I say, 'This one will go with you,' he will go. But if I say, 'That one will not go with you,' he will not go."

⁵So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD said to him, "Some men will drink the way dogs do. They will lap up the water with their tongues. Separate them from those who get down on their knees to drink." ⁶Three hundred men brought up the water to their mouths with their hands. And they lapped it up the way dogs do. All the rest got down on their knees to drink.

⁷ The LORD spoke to Gideon. He said, "With the help of the 300 men who lapped up the water I will save you. I will hand the Midianites over to you. Let all the other men go home." ⁸ So Gideon sent those Israelites home. But he kept the 300 men. They took over the supplies and trumpets the others had left.

The Midianites had set up their camp in the valley below where Gideon was. ⁹ During that night the LORD said to Gideon, "Get up. Go down against the camp. I am going to hand it over to you." ¹⁰ But what if you are afraid to attack? Then go down to the camp with your servant Purah. ¹¹ Listen to what they are saying. After that, you will not be afraid to attack the camp." So Gideon and his servant Purah went down to the edge of the camp. ¹² The Midianites had set up their camp in the valley. So had the Amalekites and all the other tribes from the east. There were so many of them that they looked like huge numbers of locusts. Like the grains of sand on the seashore, their camels couldn't be counted.

¹³ Gideon arrived just as a man was telling a friend about his dream. "I had a dream," he was saying. "A round loaf of barley bread came rolling into the camp of Midian. It hit a tent with great force. The tent turned over and fell down flat."

¹⁴ His friend replied, "That can only be the sword of Gideon, the son of Joash. Gideon is from Israel. God has handed the Midianites over to him. He has given him the whole camp."

¹⁵ Gideon heard the man explain what the dream meant. Then Gideon bowed down and worshiped. He returned to the camp of Israel. He called out, "Get up! The LORD has handed the Midianites over to you." ¹⁶ Gideon separated the 300 men into three fighting groups. He put a trumpet and an empty jar into the hands of each man. And he put a torch inside each jar.

¹⁷ "Watch me," he told them. "Do what I do. I'll go to the edge of the enemy camp. Then do exactly as I do." ¹⁸ I and everyone with me will blow our trumpets. Then blow your trumpets from your positions all around the camp. And shout the battle cry, 'For the LORD and for Gideon!'

¹⁹ Gideon and the 100 men with him reached the edge of the enemy camp. It was about ten o'clock at night. It was just after the guard had been changed. Gideon and his men blew their trumpets. They broke the jars that were in their hands. ²⁰ The three fighting groups blew their trumpets. They smashed their jars. They held their torches

in their left hands. They held in their right hands the trumpets they were going to blow. Then they shouted the battle cry, "A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!" ²¹ Each man stayed in his position around the camp. But all the Midianites ran away in fear. They were crying out as they ran.

²² When the 300 trumpets were blown, the LORD caused all the men in the enemy camp to start fighting one another. They attacked one another with their swords. The army ran away to Beth Shittah toward Zererah. They ran all the way to the border of Abel Meholah near Tabbath. ²³ Israelites from the tribes of Naphtali, Asher and all of Manasseh were called out. They chased the Midianites. ²⁴ Gideon sent messengers through the entire hill country of Ephraim. They said, "Come on down against the Midianites. Take control of the waters of the Jordan River before they get there. Do it all the way to Beth Barah."

So all the men of Ephraim were called out. They took control of the waters of the Jordan all the way to Beth Barah. ²⁵ They also captured Oreb and Zeeb. Those men were two of the Midianite leaders. The men of Ephraim killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb. They killed Zeeb at the winepress of Zeeb. They chased the Midianites. And they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon. He was by the Jordan River.



1 Corinthians 2:1-5

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| v1 – eloquence | (n.) | the ability to easily say what you want to say; the ability to use words in a forceful and beautiful way |
| v1 – proclaimed | (v.) | stated publicly |
| v1 – testimony | (n.) | someone’s statement about what they saw or experienced |
| v2 – resolved | (v.) | decided firmly |
| v2 – crucified | (v.) | killed by being nailed to a cross |
| v3 – trembling | (v.) | shaking because you are frightened |
| v4 – preaching | (n.) | the act of publicly telling people about God |
| v4 – persuasive | (adj.) | likely to convince someone to believe or do something |
| v4 – the Spirit | (p.n.) | the Holy Spirit. Christians believe in one God who is three Persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. |
| v5 – faith | (n.) | trust in God; dependence on God |

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (New International Reader’s Version)

¹And this was the way it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I didn’t come with fancy words or human wisdom. I preached to you the truth about God’s love. ²My goal while I was with you was to talk about only one thing. And that was Jesus Christ and his death on the cross. ³When I came to you, I was weak and very afraid and trembling all over. ⁴I didn’t preach my message with clever and compelling words. Instead, my preaching showed the Holy Spirit’s power. ⁵This was so that your faith would be based on God’s power. Your faith would not be based on human wisdom.