

MOUNT GILBOA - GIDEON



The army of the Midianites came against Israel. They destroyed the fields Israel had planted. They stole or killed all the sheep, oxen, and donkeys of Israel. Thousands of Midianites came to make war against Israel. They came into the valley below Mount Gilboa. They were ready to fight.

God called Gideon to lead Israel against the enemy. Gideon had to be sure God would be with him. Gideon asked God for a sign. If God wanted Gideon to go up to fight the Midianites, Gideon asked God to put the dew on his fleece and no dew at all on the ground. God did this. Then Gideon asked for another sign. Gideon asked God to make the fleece dry and the ground wet. God did this too. Then Gideon went with the army of Israel and camped on Mount Gilboa beside the well.

God told Gideon to take only a small army into this battle so that the people would know that it was God who gave them the victory. Gideon told the men who were afraid to go home. Half of the army left Mount Gilboa and went home. But the army that was left was still too big. Gideon chose an army of only 300.

Gideon was on the side of Mount Gilboa with a very small army. The Midianites were in the valley with a big, big army. That night Gideon put a trumpet in the hand of each of his men.

TURN CARD OVER

In the other hand he put a pitcher with a lamp burning inside. In the dark Gideon and his men crept down the hill. They came closer and closer. All at once every man blew his trumpet. Each man took out the light and broke his pitcher. Together they shouted. The Midianites suddenly were awake. They were afraid and confused. That night the great army of the Midianites was defeated. They were defeated by the Lord. God used Gideon's small army to defeat this great army.