

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: Hebrews 11:32 “And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon...”

Quote: “Trust in yourself and you are doomed to disappointment; but trust in GOD, and you are never to be confounded in time or eternity.” Dwight L. Moody

One definition of wit is “to come to know; to learn; the ability to think or reason.” Gideon was an individual who came to learn by experience and to know personally that “*little is much when God is in it.*”

“Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, ‘The LORD is with *you*, you mighty man of valor!’ Gideon said to Him, ‘O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us...? Now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.’ Then the LORD turned to him and said, ‘Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?’

So he said to Him, ‘O my Lord, *how can I save Israel?* Indeed

Gideon’s ‘Wit’

my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.’ And the LORD said to him, ‘Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man.’ Then he said to Him, ‘If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is *You* who talk with me’”¹. God strengthened Gideon’s weak faith with a sign. Gideon then gathered thousands to himself to fight the enemy host. “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’” (7:4). God trimmed Gideon’s army down to 300. Instead of combat, God prepared the hearts of the enemy to flee and to fight among themselves in mass confusion. Gideon heard one say, “This is nothing else but the sword of Gideon! Into his hand God has delivered Midian and the whole camp.” That night, Gideon’s 300 men surrounded the camp, broke clay pitchers that concealed torches, and shouted, “The sword of the LORD and of Gideon.” The terri-

Midianites slew each other in the darkness as they fled from what they thought were thousands. Learn from Gideon that what appears to be “*Little Is Much When God Is In It!*”

“In the harvest field now ripened
There’s a work for all to do;
Hark! the voice of God is calling,
To the harvest calling you.

Refrain:

Little is much when God is in it!

Labor not for wealth or fame;

There’s a crown, and you can win it,³
If you go in Jesus’ name.

In the mad rush of the broad way,
In the hurry and the strife,
Tell of Jesus’ love and mercy,
Give to them the Word of Life.

Does the place you’re called to labor
Seem so small and little known?
It is great if God is in it,
And He’ll not forget His own.

Are you laid aside from service,
Body worn from toil and care?
You can still be in the battle,
In the sacred place of prayer.

When the conflict here is ended
And our race on earth is run,
He will say, if we are faithful,
‘Welcome home, My child—well done!’”²

We will never know this side of glory what impact we might have made in the lives of others by just being faithful stewards of the job that God has placed before us. Often, it is when we do not feel up to the task that He uses us the most because we realize our dependency upon Him to fulfill all tasks, small or great. With Gideon, and a host of others, we come to learn by personal experience that “it is God who works in (us) both to will and to do *for His good pleasure.*” We can “do all things through Christ Who strengthens us.”⁴

¹ Judges 6:11-17 ² K.L. Suffield ³ 1 Cor.:9:24-25 ⁴ Phil.2:13; 4:13