

Gideon

May 7, 2019
NOTES

IT'S HARD TO END WELL

Judges 8:22-35

Today's passage is a story of the danger that success brings to a person. As we study the end of Gideon's life, we are going to see, especially in success and prosperity, how hard it is to end well.

SOME KEYS TO ENDING WELL:

1. Be careful that you don't substitute good intentions for obedience (v. 27).
2. Make your practice as good as your theology (v. 23-26, 29-32).
3. Remember to be just as watchful after the victories as before the battles (ch. 6-8).

FOUR INDICATORS THAT YOU MAY BE FALLING INTO THE SUCCESS TRAP THAT GIDEON FELL INTO:

1. Infrequent communion with God.
2. Failure to allow others to speak into your life.
3. Resenting those who challenge you.
4. Leveraging your success to bless only yourself.

WE NEED A BETTER JUDGE

Judges is a book of broken saviours that points us to our need of the perfect Saviour who was broken for the broken.

Study Guide

Reflect + Discuss + Apply

1. In success and prosperity, why can it be so hard to end well?
2. Is Gideon's reluctance to judge in the past the same reluctance to rule now?
3. Is there an inconsistency in Gideon's refusal to reign and the naming of his son? Why is it important to "practice what we preach"?
4. Do you think Gideon's intentions were good in creating the ephod? In what areas of your own life do you have good intentions but aren't being obedient in?
5. Why does Gideon desire more than what the LORD had already provided? In what ways do we do the same thing?
6. Why is it just as important to be watchful in the victories as before the battles?
7. There are four indicators in the notes that you may be falling into the success trap. Are any of these evident in your own life? Are there other indicators you can think of besides these?
8. Why does Israel begin to lose the privilege of rest?
9. Does Gideon "end well" with Israel and with the LORD?
10. How does the story of Gideon point us to our need of Jesus?