

“The Call of Gideon”

Judges #06

Judges 6:1-24

February 19, 2017

Scripture Reading: Judges 6:11-16

Introduction

- Our words have power | Proverbs 18:21, Proverbs 12:18, James 3:7-10

Big Idea: Our words carry power because we’re created in the likeness of God. When God speaks, his word is more true and powerful than our feelings, experiences, or circumstances.

I. The Story

Cruel Oppression | vs. 1-6

God’s Prophet | vs. 7-10

- K. Lawson Younger Jr. — In a practical sense, this passage addresses a common problem in the area of prayer. We turn to God in a moment of need, even when we have not been walking in his ways. Yet we expect God to answer our prayers because (and often for no other reason) we are in need! Over and over the Bible (including the book of Judges) addresses this issue of manipulation in prayer. Relationship with God is never a mechanical process.

The Angel of the Lord | vs. 11

1. Angel *or* messenger
2. Sometimes an angel
3. Sometimes the LORD himself
 - a. Walter Elwell — The most important form of divine manifestation in the OT is the “Angel of the Lord” or the “Angel of God.” This remarkable angel, who is clearly distinguished from angels in general and who both represents himself as deity as well as distinguishing himself from God, appears to Hagar (Gn 16:7), to Abraham and Lot (18; 19; 22:11, 12), to Jacob (32:29–31; cf. Hos 12:4, 5), to Moses (Ex 3:2–6), to Balaam (Nm 22:22), to Joshua (Jos 5:14, 15), to Gideon (Jgs 6:11–14), to Manoah and his wife (Jgs 13), and to David (1 Chr 21:15, 18, 27). He goes before the Israelites to lead them out of the land of Egypt (Ex 13:21; 14:19), and he remonstrates with the Israelites when they disobey God after settling in the land of Canaan (Jgs 2:1–4). A study of these passages reveals that the Angel of the Lord appeared in human form (cf. Gn 18:2, 22; Heb 13:2) and performed normal human functions (Gn 32:24; Nm 22:23, 31), yet he was an awe-inspiring figure (Gn 32:30; Jgs 6:22; 13:22) exhibiting divine attributes and prerogatives including predicting the future (Gn

16:10–12), forgiving sin (Ex 23:21), and receiving worship (Ex 3:5; Jg 13:9–20). The title Angel of the Lord is particularly striking because it is used in many of these passages interchangeably with the terms Yahweh (Jehovah) and God in such a way as to leave little doubt that the angel is a manifestation of God himself.

- b. Louis Goldberg — The connection between the angel of the Lord and the preincarnate appearance of the Messiah cannot be denied...The functions of the angel of the Lord in the Old Testament prefigure the reconciling ministry of Jesus. In the New Testament, there is no mention of the angel of the Lord; the Messiah himself is this person.

Gideon's Call | vs. 11-12

Gideon's Questions | vs. 13-16

Gideon's Worship | vs. 17-24

II. God's Word in this Story

1. God is a God who communicates | 6:1-24
2. God's Word is multifaceted | 6:8, 11
3. God's Word is more than communication, it's power | 6:22-24 (Isaiah 55:10-11)
4. God's Word is our highest need | 6:7-10
5. God's Word is more true than our feelings or circumstances | 6:12

III. Third Section: Gospel Connection

1. Jesus is God's ultimate Word | Hebrews 1:1-2, John 1:14
2. Jesus is more than communication, he is power and life! | John 5:24-25

IV. Application

If the previous two things are true, then this is true as well:

3. God's Word is still more true than our feelings or circumstances | Romans 4:17, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Benediction

Romans 16:25-27 — ²⁵ Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶ but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.