



# TESTIMONIES OF TRANSFORMATION

**Gideon—Ordinary People Used in Extraordinary Ways**  
**Judges 6–7; Hebrews 11**  
**July 17, 2022**

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be **conformed** to this world, but be **transformed** by the renewal of your mind, that by **testing** you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1–2 (ESV)

<sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight...<sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.

**<sup>37</sup> They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. <sup>39</sup> And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised...**

**Heb 11:33-39**

“Perhaps the **transformation** of the disciples of Jesus is the greatest evidence of all for the resurrection, because it is entirely **artless**. They don’t invite us to look at themselves, but to look at the empty tomb and the collapsed graveclothes and the Lord whom they had seen.”

John R.W. Stott’s *Basic Christianity*

**11** Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was **beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it** from the Midianites.

**Judges 6:11 (ESV)**

12b “...The Lord is with you, **O mighty man of valor.**”

Judges 6:12b

# I. GOD'S AFFIRMATION:

He will encourage me. Jdg. 6:11-16

**Now the angel of the Lord came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor.”**

And Gideon said to him, “Please, my lord, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the Lord has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian.”

And the Lord turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?” And he said to him, “Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.” And the Lord said to him, “But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man.”

Judges 6:11-16 (ESV)

**20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us.  
Ephesians 3:20 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> And Gideon said to him, “**But**, my lord, if the LORD is with us, **why** then has all this happened to us? And **where** are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, ‘**Did not** the LORD bring us up from Egypt?’ **But** now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian.”

Judges 6:13 (ESV)

# Gideon's Excuses:

<sup>15</sup> And he said to him, “But, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.”

Judges 6:15 (ESV)

❖ Wrong **town**

❖ Wrong **family**

❖ Wrong **person** in the family

<sup>14</sup> And the LORD turned to him and said, “**Go** in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; ***do not I send*** you?”

<sup>16</sup> And the LORD said to him, “But ***I will be with you***, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man.”

# Three Messages of Encouragement:

❖ I'm **sending** you

❖ I'll be **with** you

❖ You will **not** fail

**31 What then shall we say to these things? If  
God is for us, who can be against us?  
Romans 8:31 (ESV)**

## II. GOD'S REVELATION:

He will meet me. Jdg. 6:17-24

**17** And he said to him, “If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me. **18** Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you.” And he said, “I will stay till you return.”

**19** So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. **20** And the angel of God said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them.” And he did so. **21** Then the angel of

the LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight. <sup>22</sup> Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face."

**2<sup>3</sup> But the LORD said to him, “Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die.” 2<sup>4</sup> Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD Is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.**  
**Judges 6:19-24 (ESV)**

# III. GIDEON'S CONFRONTATION

God will test me. Jdg. 6:25-32

# Three Ways God May Test You:

❖ **Spiritually** (vv. 25-26)

**25**That night the LORD said to him, “Take your father’s bull, and the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it **26** and build an altar to the LORD your God on the top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down.”

**Judges 6:25-26 (ESV)**

# Three Ways God May Test You:

❖ Spiritually (vv. 25-26)

❖ **Emotionally** (v. 27)

So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the LORD had told him. But because he was **too afraid** of his family and the men of the town to do it by day, he **did it by night**.

Judges 6:27 (ESV)

# Three Ways God May Test You:

❖ Spiritually (vv. 25-26)

❖ Emotionally (v. 27)

❖ **Physically** (vv. 28-31)

**28 When the men of the town rose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was broken down, and the Asherah beside it was cut down, and the second bull was offered on the altar that had been built. 29 And they said to one another, "Who has done this thing?" And after they had searched and inquired, they said, "Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing."**

<sup>30</sup> Then the men of the town said to Joash,  
“**Bring out your son, that he may die**, for he has  
broken down the altar of Baal and cut down the  
Asherah beside it.” <sup>31</sup> But Joash said to all who  
stood against him, “Will you contend for Baal?  
Or will you save him? Whoever contends for  
him shall be put to death by morning. If he is a  
god, let him contend for himself, because his  
altar has been broken down.”

Judges 6:28–31 (ESV)

# IV. GIDEON'S TRANSFORMATION

God will empower me. Jdg. 6:34

“Then the Spirit of the Lord **came upon**  
Gideon...”

Literal: “The Spirit **clothed Himself** with  
Gideon.”

Judges 6:34a

