

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) The root problem that the western Church faces today is that we have lost the sense of needing to be on alert. We have been lulled into complacency.
- 2) Erosion of anything takes time. What is going on in our world today didn't begin with you... but it is your watch now!
- 3) 6:1 Israel abandoned God and was thus punished by the removal of God's protection.
- 4) 6:6 Israel was brought very low. This says as much about their emotional state as about their economic condition. Israel was completely paralyzed.
- 5) Restoration came through God's Word. The aim was not merely to deliver them from the evil to which they were subjected, but it was to root out the unbelief.
- 6) 6:7-10 Israel's cry of distress was heard instantly by God, and the answer began to come at once. But they were not immediately going to get what they asked for; Blessing from God always comes with obedience.
- 7) 6:13 Gideon blamed God for their troubles, even though it was Israel who abandoned God.
- 8) It is always hard to recognize spiritual blessing in the absence of material prosperity.
- 9) 6:14 The strength Gideon possessed was the promise of the Lord's presence with him.
- 10) 6:15-16 Why do we always feel the need to remind God of what we cannot do? Once God has revealed His will, we should never argue with His plans.
- 11) 6:25-26 Before God can use him in this mission of deliverance, Gideon must deal with the issues at home. Personal repentance has to take place first.

12) It is not possible to succeed by only talking about removing evil from our lives. Sin must be rebuked; wrong practices must be directly confronted and eliminated.

13) Throwing down and removing the instrument of sin is only half the work. Something else must take its place or there will only be a void waiting for another activity to replace it.

14) It takes courageous action to stand against the tide of society, especially when they are your neighbors. What about when they are your own family?

15) **Recognize** your circumstances. Don't blame the circumstances, but be aware of their consequences if left unchanged.

Remember who it is that has given you the strength and has called you onto the field...the God of wonders!

16) Hesitancy comes from considering your own abilities; true confidence comes from looking to God.

HEBREW & GREEK WORDS USED

Huper-Nikao (hoop-er-nik-ah'-o)—to vanquish beyond, i.e. gain a decisive victory :- more than conquer
Gibbor hehayil - mighty man of valour