

“PREPARATION FOR SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY” (Judges 6:17-34)

I. THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF ISRAEL (6:1-10)

A. The HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

B. The NATIONAL BACKSLIDING (6:1-10)

II. THE SPECIFIC CALL OF GIDEON (6:11-40)

A. The DIVINE COMMISSION By the Angel of the Lord (6:11-16)

B. The DEFINITE CONFIRMATION By the Sign of the Lord (6:17-24)

1. Gideon requested a _____ to reassure himself that this promise was from the LORD. (6:16-19)

** What does this say about Gideon's faith?*

2. Before giving Gideon his first spiritual assignment, the _____
(*mal'ak Yahweh*) reveals Himself to His servant. (6:20-22)

** Was this merely a created spirit-being?*

** Who in particular was this person?*

** How would this encounter have prepared Gideon for future service?*

3. Having encountered the LORD, Gideon now expects to _____. (6:22-23)

** Why did he expect this? What does this tell us about God?*

** What can you learn from this about preparation for serving God?*

C. A SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENT to Test Gideon (6:25-32)

1. Gideon and Israel had to learn the lesson that before _____ could be defeated, _____ had to go. (6:25-26)

** What does this say about spiritual priorities in our Christian life?*

** What does this teach us about separation to the Lord and ministry?*

2. Gideon _____ the Lord by _____; but it was mixed with _____. (6:27)

** Are these always mutually exclusive?*

** What does this teach us about spiritual growth?*

3. Though Gideon's fellow Israelites wanted to _____ him, he left a faithful _____ for others to follow. (6:28-32)

** Who appears to have followed Gideon's act of courage and faith?*

** What did this result in for Gideon?*

D. A SUPERNATURAL ABILITY to Enable Gideon (6:33-34)

1. The spiritual need for such enablement was due to a powerful _____, namely the Midianites. (6:33)

** Do we have such a need in the Christian life?*

2. God gave Gideon a more powerful _____, namely the Holy Spirit. (6:34)

** What can you learn from all of this?*