



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH
SERMON, 5 MARCH 2023

SURE OR NOT?

Judges 6:11-17

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DISinformation

MISinformation

Fake News

Half Truths

Disinformation and Misinformation Spreaders: the joker, the politician, the conspiracy theorist, the insider, the scammer, a relative (including friends and family) and celebrities.

Source: BBC

**“We are
shaped by
our
THOUGHTS;
We become
what we
think.”**

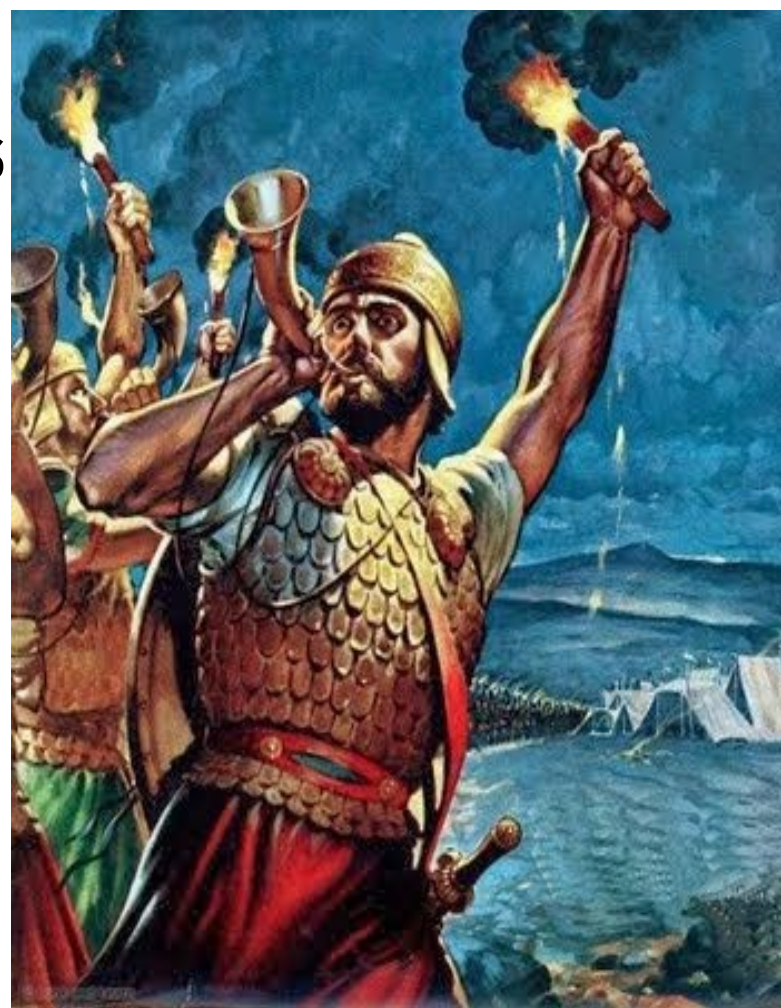


***As a man
thinks in
his heart,
so is he.
Proverbs
23:7***

The story of GIDEON begins

SCEPTICISM
(SURE or NOT?)

Doubt, Mistrust, Disbelief,
Cynicism, Suspicious,
Incredulity, Pessimism



A people in DISTRESS

- v.1 **Again** the Israelites did evil
- v.2 The Midianites were **so oppressive**
- v.3 Midianites, Amalekites and eastern people
- v.4 **crops destroyed and animals confiscated**
- v.5 they (raiders) were like **swarms of locusts**
- v.6 the **land ravaged** and people **impoverished**
the Israelites cried out to the LORD
- v.10 I am the LORD your God. But you have not listened to me.

A people in DISTRESS

v.11 The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was **threshing wheat in a winepress** to keep it from the Midianites.

A people in DISTRESS

WINEPRESS

**“the treading of the winepress”
emblematic of divine judgement
(Isaiah 63:2 ; Lamentations 1:15 ;
Revelation 14:19 Revelation 14:20).**

LESSON :

The LORD is HERE.

There is no situation so hopeless and place so forsaken that GOD cannot be there. Call on Him and He will reach out to you.

LESSON :

1. Consequences from our own actions.

Judges 6:1-10

2. Consequence from following Christ.

Mark 4:35-41

3. Call on Him. He will reach out to you.

Judges 2:1, Isaiah 49:14-16

LESSON :

**Move from the position of
SCEPTICISM to FAITH and
ENCOUNTER**

LESSON :

12. When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, **"The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."**

13. **"But sir,"** Gideon replied, **"if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all His wonders that our fathers told us about when they said, 'Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian."**

QUESTIONS: WHY, WHY, WHY ???????

LESSON :

14. The LORD turned to him and said, "**Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?**"

15. "**But Lord,** " Gideon asked, "**how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.**"

EXCUSES/PRESENT REALITY

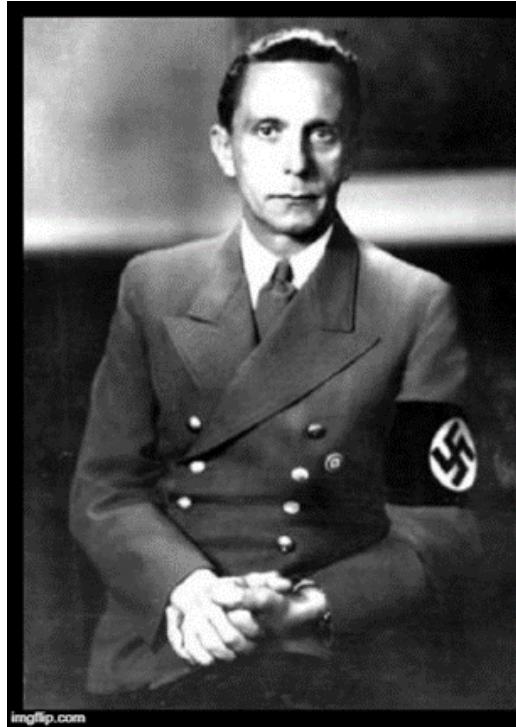
LESSON :

16. The LORD answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites together."

17. Gideon replied, "**If now I have found favor in Your eyes, give me a sign** that it is really you talking to me.

FAITH and ENCOUNTER

ILLUSIONARY TRUTH



"If you repeat
a lie often
enough, people
will believe it,
and you will
even come to
believe it yourself."

—*Joseph Goebbels*

Repetition makes statements easier to process relative to new, unrepeated statements, leading people to believe that the repeated conclusion is more truthful.

RECOGNISE

- 1. Satan is the father of lies and half truths**
(AMP John 8:44)
- 2. Jesus gives true and total freedom**
(John 8:36)
- 3. Obey Jesus' truth, you will be set free**
(John 8:31)
- 4. Surrender leads to transformation and renewing of mind** (Rom 12:1-2)

FIXED or GROWTH MINDSET

1. I am GOD of my life.

2. I am a Christian.



There's a difference between knowing God and knowing about God. When you truly know God, you have energy to serve Him, boldness to share Him, and contentment in Him.

— *J. I. Packer* —

AZ QUOTES

SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

INVITATION

ENCOUNTER JESUS