

# THE SUPREMACY OF GOD

Part 3 of Knowing God. Judges 6:1-32.

Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. February 11, 2024.

## THE QUADRENNIAL ELECTION YEAR PANIC FEST

**We must stay focused on the one true God.**

- We're prone to wander into idolatry and trust in false gods.
- The cure for idolatry is to believe and live in light of God's supremacy over every thing.
- Judges Chapter 6 is an excellent place to study God's supremacy.

## THE CONTEXT OF JUDGES

**Judges explores the bittersweet history of the baby nation of Israel.**

- Repeated cycles of unfaithfulness, God's severe discipline, the people's desperation, and God's gracious salvation through judges - unlikely heroes.

## THREE LESSONS ON THE SUPREMACY OF GOD

**Lesson One: Avoid Idolatry - verses 1-6.**

- Israel wandered into idolatry.  
1 The people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD ...
- The Lord responded with severe discipline - verses 1-6a.  
6 And Israel was brought very low because of Midian.
- Israel responded in desperation.  
6 And the people of Israel cried out for help to the LORD.
- When God's people turned from God, he gave them what they wanted.

- When individuals or nations turn from the Lord they get what they want - a godless life or nation.

## **Lesson Two: When Chaos reigns, Pray for God's Intervention - verses 7-24.**

- The Lord heard their prayer for help, and answered in three ways:
- 1. The Lord sent a preacher - verses 7-10:

10 And I said to you, 'I am the LORD your God; you shall not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.' But you have not obeyed my voice."

- 2. The Lord called a peasant - verses 11-14:

12 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor." God is always good to us; he cannot be anything else.

- 3. The Lord revealed his presence - verses 16-24:

16 And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man."

- God doesn't need us to be extraordinary.
- When he calls us, he renames us. Gideon was called "mighty man of valor."
- God can change the direction of our lives and our nation with a word.

## **Lesson Three: Partner with God in Doing the Right Things - verses 25-27.**

- Gideon's family farm was a center for Baal and Asherah worship.

**Baal:** The Hebrew noun ba'al means 'master', 'possessor' or 'husband'. ... He was Hadad, ... the storm-god, the most important deity in the Canaanite pantheon ...

**Asherah:** A Canaanite mother-goddess, a goddess of the sea and the consort of ... Baal (e.g. Judges. 3:7).

From: The New Bible Dictionary

- Gideon partnered with the Lord to tear down the altars of Baal-Asherah.  
27 So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the LORD had told him.
- Stand firm in your Christian faith and do not concede anything to rival gods, pagan cultural movements, or ungodly political agendas.
- Be a peaceful, loving presence in the community. Don't apologize for your biblical stance, share the gospel, never be ashamed of following Jesus.
- The result: see what happened when Gideon did the right thing: a cultural revolution and the restoration of his idolatrous faith - verses 28-32.

## **BELIEVE IN AND LIVE UNDER THE SUPREMACY OF GOD**

**Our nation is similar to Israel - idolatrous and oppressed.**

- But we trust in God, who is supreme over the chaos.
- Don't panic, don't hide in shame, step out of the wine press and face down the altars of the false gods in your life and community
- Stand up for Jesus. He is supreme. He never fails.

Revelation 11:15(ESV) "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

# SMALL GROUPS GUIDE

## READING

- This week, read Chapter 5 of Ingram. Or Chapters 4 and 8 of Packer. Or pages 139-142 and 234-237 of Wilson.

## GET STARTED

- Is this the warmest February you can remember? Discuss.

## DIVE IN

- Review the study guide. What were Peter's main ideas, insights, or Bible passages related to the supremacy of God?
- Have you noticed the hype and panic concerning the presidential election year? What biblical or theological precepts, principles, or promises have helped you stay calm in all the groaning and doom talk?
- Read Daniel 4:34-35. Discuss its context and content. What are the parallels between Daniel's circumstances and ours? How does Nebuchadnezzar's affirmation of God's dominion help you trust in the supremacy of God today?
- Read Acts 2:24, 32-33; Ephesians 1:20-23; and Revelation 11:15-17. How do the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ support the idea of God's supremacy? Where is Jesus today? Who is the ruler of the rulers today? How does knowing this help you?

## PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for each other to rest in the supremacy of God in all situations.
- Pray for the Cornerstone - people, leaders, health, and faithfulness.
- Pray for our families, communities, and nation.