

The Lord's Messages (Part 1)

	Judges 2	Judges 6	Judges 10
Israel's Cry		6 and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD . 7 And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites,	10 And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD , saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim.
Message from the Lord	1 And an (the) angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said,	8 That the LORD sent a prophet [-man] unto the children of Israel, which said unto them,	11 And the LORD said unto the children of Israel,

2Cor. 12:7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. 8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. 9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.

Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Heb. 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son,

The Lord's Messages (Part 2)

	Judges 2	Judges 6	Judges 10
The Exodus	I made you to go up out of Egypt ,	Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage; 9 And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians ,	Did not I deliver you from the Egyptians ,
Victories over Enemies		and out of the hand of all that oppressed you , and drave them out from before you,	and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines? 12 The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites, did oppress you ; and ye cried to me, and I delivered you out of their hand.

Heb. 10:26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. 28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

The Lord's Messages (Part 3)

	Judges 2	Judges 6	Judges 10
Gift of the Land	and have brought you unto the land which I sware unto your fathers;	and gave you their land ;	
Assurance of Covenant	and I said, I will never break my covenant with you.	10 And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God ;	

Ex. 6:6 Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments: 7 **And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God**: and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

Ex. 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then **ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people**: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.

Ex. 20:2 **I am the LORD thy God**, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

The Lord's Messages (Part 4)

	Judges 2	Judges 6	Judges 10
Governing Command	2 And ye shall make no league [covenant] with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars:	fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell:	
Disobedience	but ye have not obeyed my voice:	but ye have not obeyed my voice.	13 Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other gods:

Rev 21:8 But the **fearful**, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

The Lord's Messages (Part 5)

	Judges 2	Judges 6	Judges 10
Consequences	<p>why have ye done this? 3 Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.</p>		<p>wherefore I will deliver you no more. 14 Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation.</p>
Israel's Cry			<p>15 And the children of Israel said unto the LORD, We have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us only, we pray thee, this day. 16 And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.</p>

Gideon's Restoration

6:11-23, Call

6:24-32, Internal Revival

6:33-7:25, External Victory

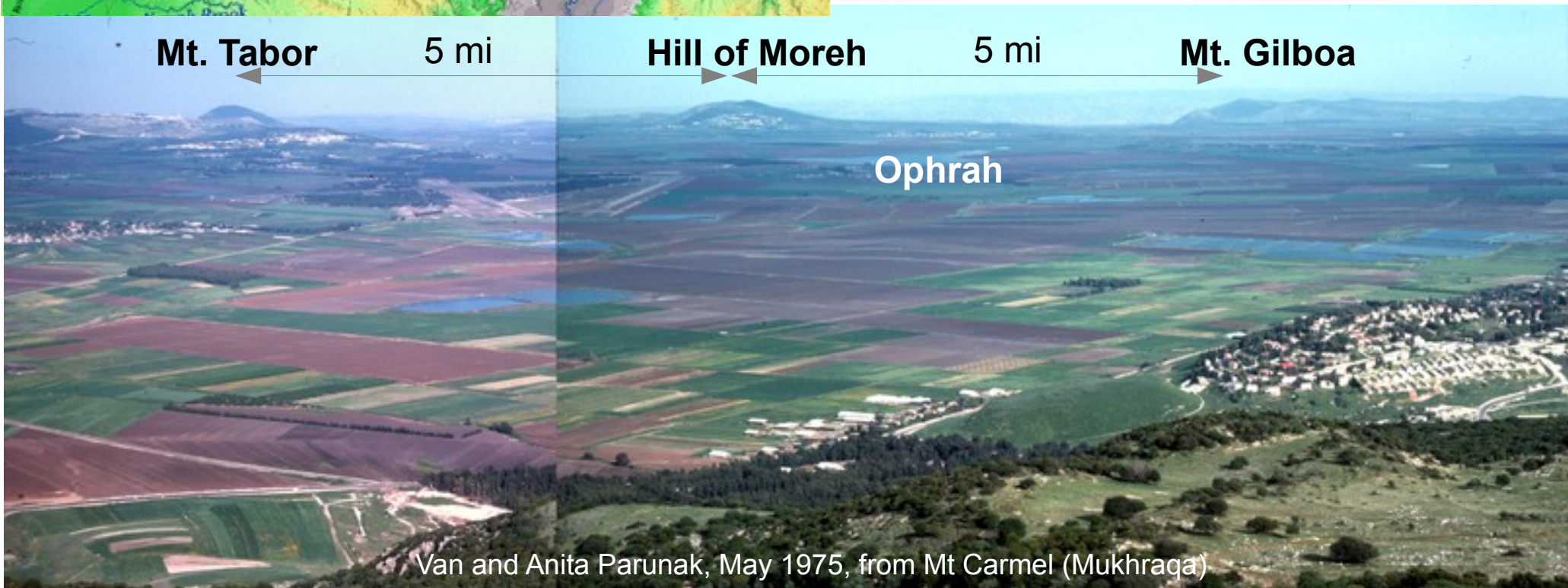
6:33-7:15, Preparation

7:16-25, The Battle

8:1-35, The Perils of Victory

8:1-21, Internal Dissension

8:22-35, Arrogance



Van and Anita Parunak, May 1975, from Mt Carmel (Mukhraqa)

6:11-23, The Call of Gideon

A consistent pattern when God calls someone to do a task: Moses, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekiel; cf Abraham and Eliezer.

Element	Gideon	Application
1. Divine Confrontation	11-12, Appearance of the Angel of the Lord	Respond to the Lord, not our own ideas or desires
2. Introductory word	12 “The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valor”	
3. Commission	14 “Go in this thy might ... have not I sent thee?”	
4. Objection	15 “Wherewith shall I save Israel”	Expect to be stretched
5. Reassurance	16 “Surely I will be with thee”	God will strengthen and encourage us
6. Sign	17-20 “Show me a sign ... there rose up fire ...”	

Symbolic Names

Name	Abiezer—my divine Father is my help	Gideon—hacker, hewer
Divine Word	12a The Lord is with thee	12b thou mighty man of valour
Gideon's Questions	13 If the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us?	15 I am the least in my father's house
Reassurance	16 Surely I will be with thee,	and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man

Gideon = Hacker

Deut. 7:5 ... ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and **cut down** their groves, and burn their graven images with fire. ... 12:3 And ye shall overthrow their altars, and break their pillars, and burn their groves with fire; and ye shall **hew down** the graven images of their gods, and destroy the names of them out of that place.

An Israelite Winepress



Van and Anita Parunak, El Jib (Gibeon), Sept 1974