

# GIDEON ATTACKS THE MIDIANITES

## *Judges 7:1-22*

### **Judges 7**

<sup>1</sup>Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh. <sup>2</sup>The LORD said to Gideon, “You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her, <sup>3</sup>announce now to the people, ‘Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.’” So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained.

<sup>4</sup>But the LORD said to Gideon, “There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will sift them for you there. If I say, ‘This one shall go with you,’ he shall go; but if I say, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ he shall not go.”

<sup>5</sup>So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD told him, “Separate those who lap the water with their tongues like a dog from those who kneel down to drink.” <sup>6</sup>Three hundred men lapped with their hands to their mouths. All the rest got down on their knees to drink.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Gideon, “With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the other men go, each to his own place.” <sup>8</sup>So Gideon sent the rest of the Israelites to their tents but kept the three hundred, who took over the provisions and trumpets of the others.

Now the camp of Midian lay below him in the valley. <sup>9</sup>During that night the LORD said to Gideon, “Get up, go down against the camp, because I am going to give it into your hands. <sup>10</sup>If you are afraid to attack, go down to the camp with your servant Purah <sup>11</sup>and listen to what they are saying. Afterward, you will be encouraged to attack the camp.” So he and Purah his servant went down to the outposts of the camp. <sup>12</sup>The Midianites, the Amalekites and all the other eastern peoples had settled in the valley, thick as locusts. Their camels could no more be counted than the sand on the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>Gideon arrived just as a man was telling a friend his dream. “I had a dream,” he was saying. “A round loaf of barley bread came tumbling into the Midianite camp. It struck the tent with such force that the tent overturned and collapsed.”

<sup>14</sup>His friend responded, “This can be nothing other than the sword of Gideon son of Joash, the Israelite. God has given the Midianites and the whole camp into his hands.”

<sup>15</sup>When Gideon heard the dream and its interpretation, he worshiped God. He returned to the camp of Israel and called out, “Get up! The LORD has given the Midianite camp into your hands.”

<sup>16</sup>Dividing the three hundred men into three companies, he placed trumpets and empty jars in the hands of all of them, with torches inside.

<sup>17</sup>“Watch me,” he told them. “Follow my lead. When I get to the edge of the camp, do exactly as I do. <sup>18</sup>When I and all who are with me blow our trumpets, then from all around the camp blow yours and shout, ‘For the LORD and for Gideon.’”

<sup>19</sup>Gideon and the hundred men with him reached the edge of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guard. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands. <sup>20</sup>The three companies blew the trumpets and smashed the jars. Grasping the torches in their left hands and holding in their right hands the trumpets they were to blow, they shouted, “A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!” <sup>21</sup>While each man held his position around the camp, all the Midianites ran, crying out as they fled.

<sup>22</sup>When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the LORD caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords. The army fled to Beth Shittah toward Zererah as far as the border of Abel Meholah near Tabbath.

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What did the Lord tell Gideon early in the morning? (Verse 2)
5		2.) How did the Lord choose 300 men to fight against the Midianites?
5		3.) What did the Israelites do before they attacked the Midianites? (Verse 20)
5		4.) Why do you think the Lord wanted only 300 men to fight against the Midianites?

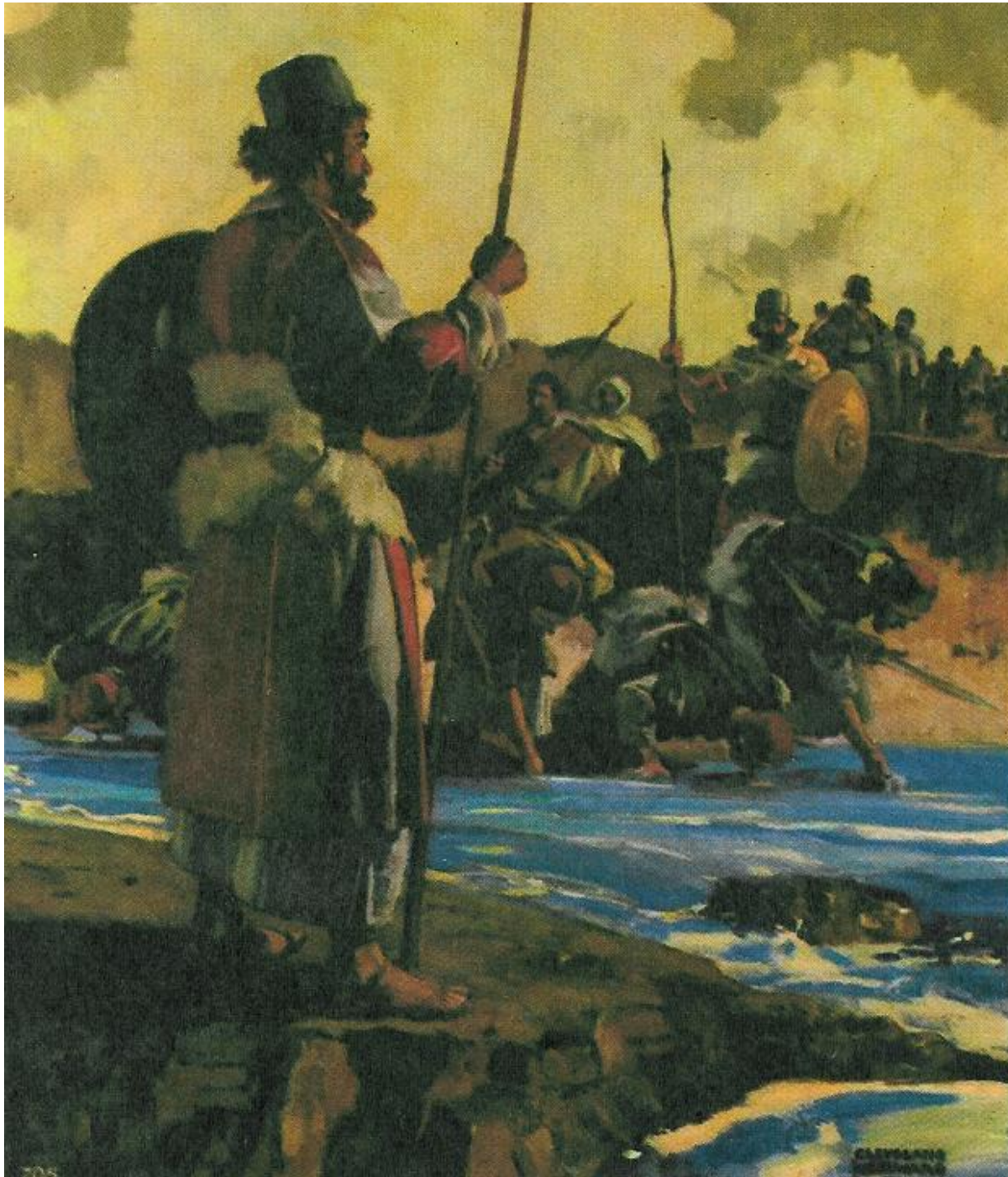
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1 Corinthians 15:57</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE __/__/__

# GIDEON ATTACKS THE MIDIANITES

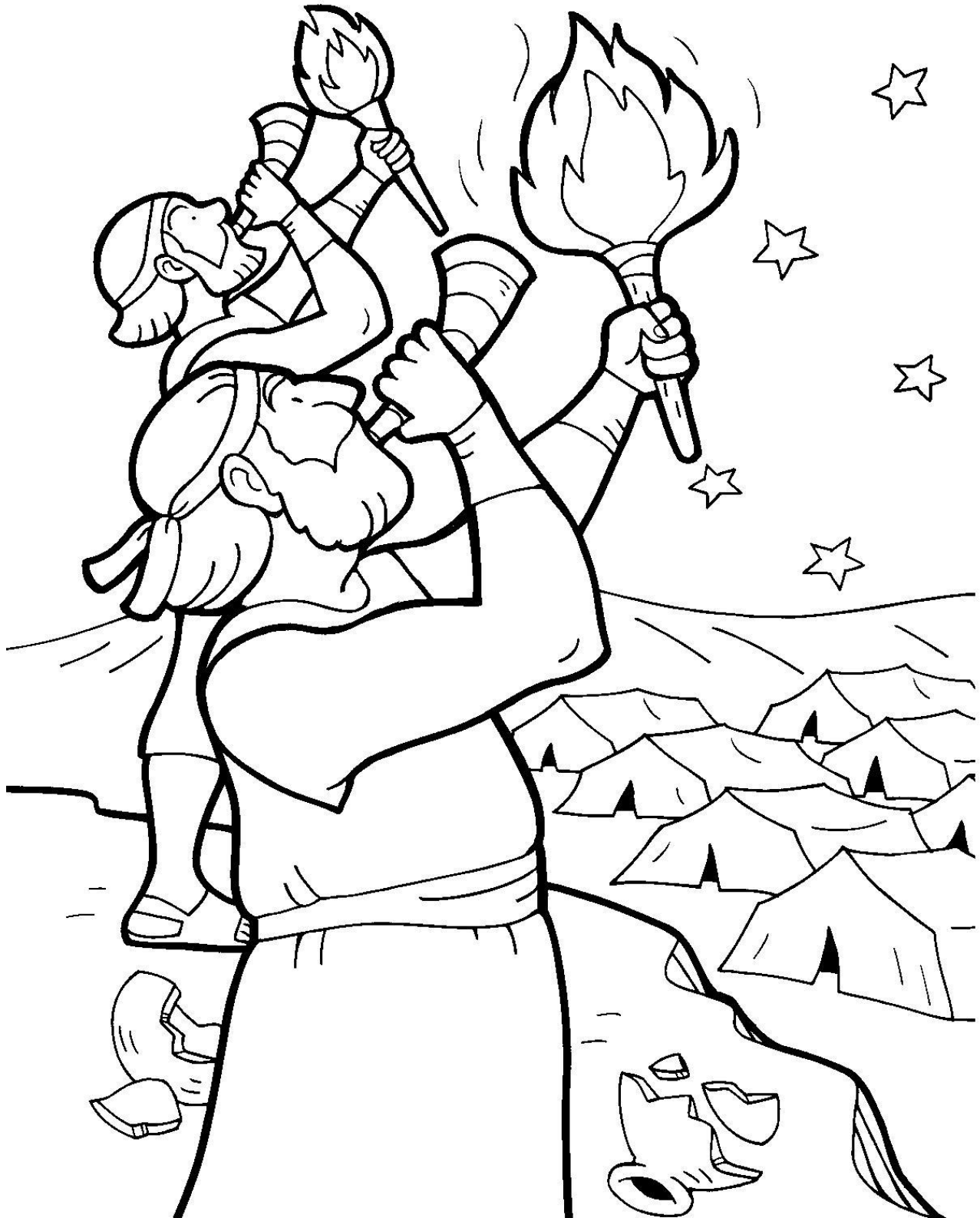
*Judges 7:1-22*



Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

# GIDEON ATTACKS THE MIDIANITES

*Judges 7:1-22*



*300 Israelites blow their horns and hold up torches*

# GIDEON ATTACKS THE MIDIANITES

*Judges 7:1-22*

## CRAFT/ACTIVITY: TORCHES

Students will make torches to remind them that Gideon and his 300 soldiers attacked the Midianites with torches in one hand and trumpets in the other.

### MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. White Cardstock
2. Torch Pattern
3. Glue or Tape
4. Crayons, Markers or Colored Pencils
5. Scissors
6. Aluminum Foil
7. Red and Orange Permanent Markers



### DIRECTIONS

1. Make a copy of the “Torch Pattern” onto 67 lb. cardstock for each student.
2. Have students color the torch brown with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
3. Instruct students to cut out the torch.
4. Glue or tape the tab to the opposite side.
5. Crumble up a piece of aluminum foil. Stuff inside the “torch”
6. Randomly color the foil with red and orange permanent markers to make it look like flames.

### FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on their torches, remind them that Gideon attacked the massive Midianite army with only 300 men. Without the Lord’s help, the Israelites would have never been successful attacking the Midianites. Even today God has the strength to conquer what we cannot conquer on our own. Help students realize that they can be thankful for the victory they have over sin through their Lord Jesus Christ.

**TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:** Approximately 15 minutes

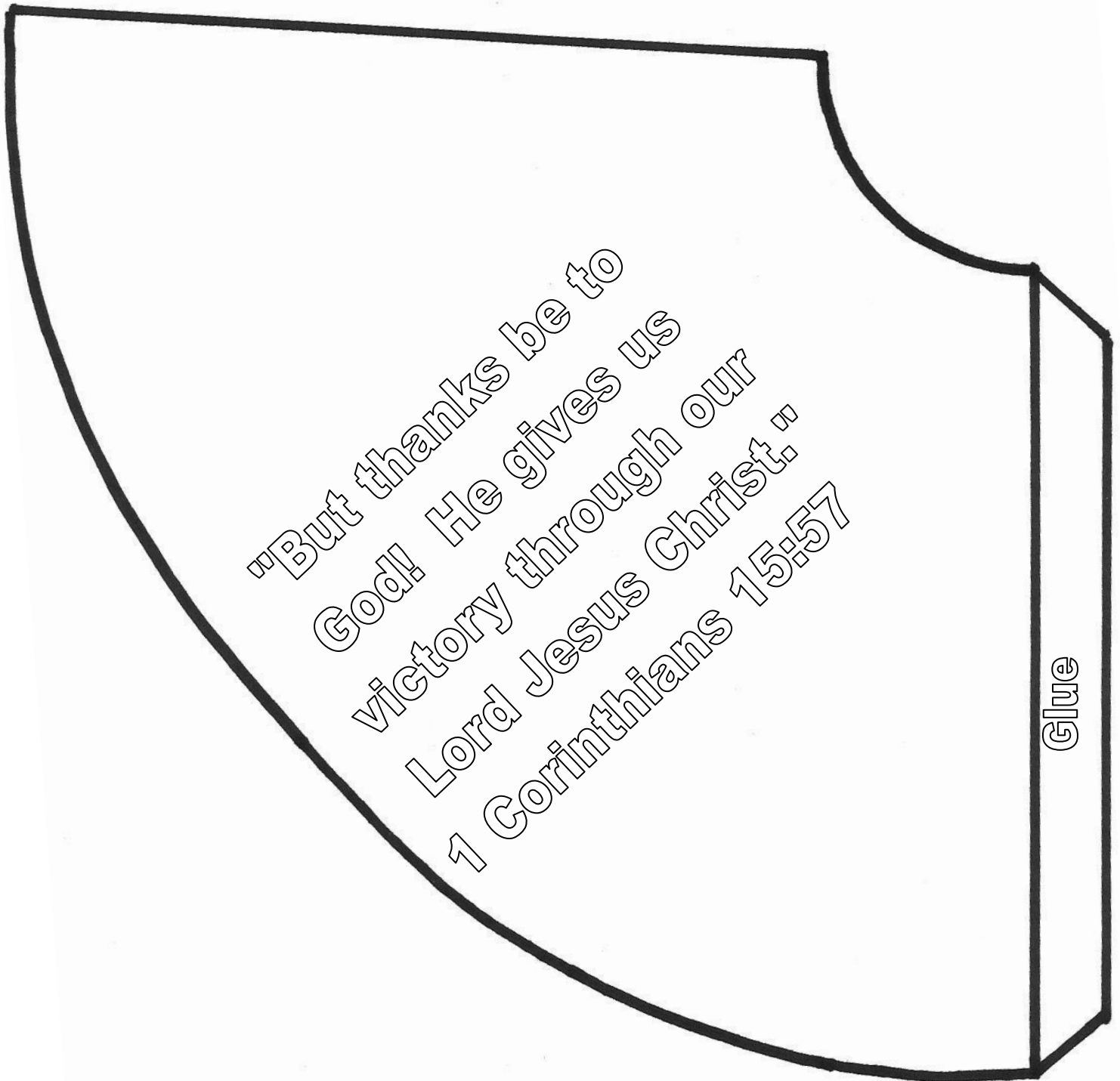
### MEMORY VERSE

*“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”  
1 Corinthians 15:57*

# GIDEON ATTACKS THE MIDIANITES

*Judges 7:1-22*

TORCH PATTERN



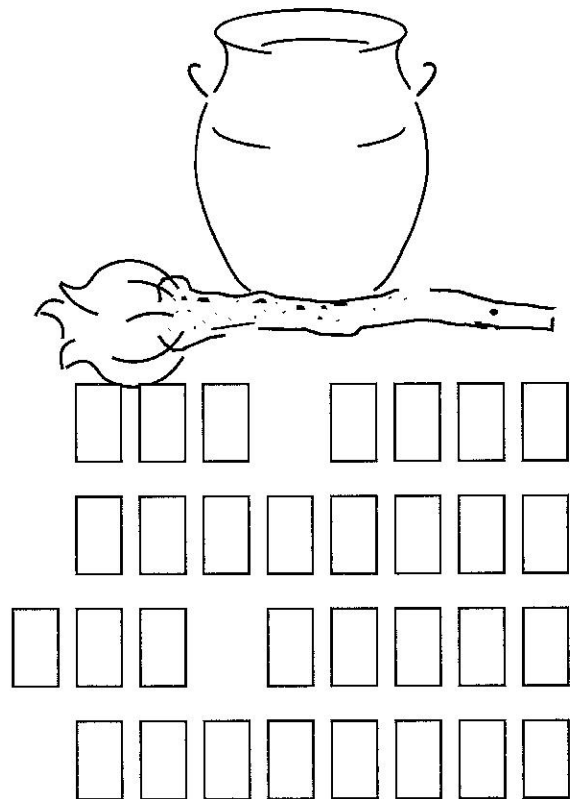
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*Judges 7:1-22*

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The Midianites invaded the land of Israel with so many men and camels that it was impossible to count them. Gideon had an army of only three hundred men. Use the missing alphabet puzzle to discover how Gideon was able to defeat such a mighty enemy. Find which letter is missing from each line and write it in the spaces below.

.....



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
 ABCDFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
 ABCDFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ  
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# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON JUDGES 7:1-22

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Early this morning, Gideon was spotted near a spring with a large number of soldiers.

“The Lord told me that I have too many soldiers. He told me to have any men who are scared turn back and

leave,” Gideon told our reporter. At that time 22,000 men left! It was clear to this reporter that God did not want the Israelites to brag about winning the battle with a large number of soldiers.

Gideon was seen taking his soldiers down to the water to drink. One witness saw Gideon send away another bunch of soldiers.

“It seems impossible to win with only 300 soldiers left,” Gideon remarked, “but God is with us!”

At night, Gideon snuck down to the enemy camp where he saw more people and camels than sand on the seashore!

Gideon overheard one of the soldiers share a dream he had. In the dream Gideon and his soldiers had won the battle.

With jars, trumpets, and torches, Gideon and his soldiers moved closer to the enemy. They blew their trumpets and smashed their jars. The enemies began to attack themselves! Gideon won the battle!

To find out more details about this story, read Judges 7:1-22 in your Bible.

## QUESTIONS

1. How many of Gideon’s soldiers fought in the battle?
2. What did Gideon and his soldiers bring to the battle?
3. How did Gideon and his soldiers win the battle?
4. Why do you think God did not want Gideon to have too many soldiers?

## MEMORY VERSE

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 15:57

## WORD SCRAMBLE

GIDEON	BATTLE	SOLDIERS
VICTORY	JARS	TORCHES

HCTORSE \_\_\_\_\_

NIGDOE \_\_\_\_\_

TBALET \_\_\_\_\_

SSODILRE \_\_\_\_\_

CVITROY \_\_\_\_\_

SJRA \_\_\_\_\_