

Pastor Jeon's Sermons



Volume IV

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Preface

Sequence

The Sermons for the Judges

The Eternal Leader (Judge 1:1-10)

After the death of Joshua, the people of Israel inquired of the Lord, “Who shall go up first for us against the Canaanites, to fight against them?” 2The Lord said, “Judah shall go up; behold, I have given the land into his hand.” 3And Judah said to Simeon his brother, “Come up with me into the territory allotted to me, that we may fight against the Canaanites. And I likewise will go with you into the territory allotted to you.” So Simeon went with him. 4Then Judah went up and the Lord gave the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand, and they defeated 10,000 of them at Bezek. 5They found Adoni-bezek at Bezek and fought against him and defeated the Canaanites and the Perizzites. 6Adoni-bezek fled, but they pursued him and caught him and cut off his thumbs and his big toes. 7And Adoni-bezek said, “Seventy kings with their thumbs and their big toes cut off used to pick up scraps under my table. As I have done, so God has repaid me.” And they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died there. 8And the men of Judah fought against Jerusalem and captured it and struck it with the edge of the sword and set the city on fire. 9And afterward the men of Judah went down to fight against the Canaanites who lived in the hill country, in the Negeb, and in the lowland. 10And Judah went against the Canaanites who lived in Hebron (now the name of Hebron was formerly Kiriath-arba), and they defeated Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai.

Introduction:

1) In the contemporary time the people focus on the leadership to lead the church rightly. What is the biblical leadership? We can learn out of the historical books. Among them we can find the example of biblical leadership in the church. First of all, we admit that real leader is our God, our Lord, Jesus Christ not the man. James 3:1 says “Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.”

2) Who is our real leader? He is Jesus Christ. Joshua who occupied Canaan had died, but God who is the eternal leader of Israel works still. After 400 years, their faith was corrupted because they did not drive out the remaining tribes of the

Canaanites completely and they were threatened in the spiritual aspect. Then God established the judges and led them toward the purpose of God.

3) Who controls the warfare that the text reveals?

1. First, God Himself had controlled all warfare.

1) When they asked “who is the first fighter in this battle?” the Lord showed the direction obviously to them. (1-2) God who commanded the fighting was with them. He himself is a warrior against his enemies and also, he absolutely overcomes the war, for He Himself controls the warfare. (Rev 6:2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer. The rider of the vision points the Christ and his gospel. Jesus Christ controls every war in our lives.

2) Among our spiritual warfare, our personal fighting is main point in our life. What is our spiritual fighting? It is not the fight of blood and flesh. But it is to sustain the intimacy fellowship with God by listening to his words and praying our need to God. Giving and taking are the main point in our Christian life. This is spiritual warfare. Then we find our real enemies those are; the Satan, the world and the sinful desire (Sarks). Among them Sarks is the most dangerous enemy in our Christian life because two enemies work at the outsides but this enemy works in the inside those are, the soul, the spirit and the emotion, the intellect and the volition.

And we can find the contesting point of our spiritual warfare. Where is it? It is the area of thinking. So, the Scripture says repeatedly to us. In Rom8:5-8 we can find that teaching to us. “For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. [6](#)For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. [7](#)For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. [8](#)Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.” When we take care of our thought, we can enjoy the special grace.

3) When we study the Bible and the theology we should take care of our thinking before God. The function of thought is very important to know the truth

rightly. How is it important in our lives? The Scripture says “For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. [5](#)We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion rose against the knowledge of God, and takes every thought captive to obey Christ. (II Cor 10:4-5) “Here, what are they, argument, opinion, all thought? In a short word, it is our thinking fiction. Actually, our thought is ourselves. What is the method to manage our thought very well? It is to depend on the thought of God, the scripture deeply. We have to make us dwell in the Word of God. Do you and your thinking stay in the Word of God, or, you’re thinking? Especially if we remain in the secular thought in our heart. Many problems and many bad thinking shall be happened in our lives. So, the Lord warned us to careful in our lives for the bad things came out of inside to the outside. “Mark 7:20-22 “For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, [22](#)coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. [23](#)All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

2. Second, they could overcome the warfare by following God’s command.

1) Judah and Simon tribes destroyed the Canaanites and the Brithite and killed Adonibethek and occupied Jerusalem and Southern mountain (5-10) by obeying the command of God.

2) The secret of their victory is to follow the order to the Lord. If they did not admit the authority of the Lord, they surely shall fail in the warfare. Obedience is the main key to overcome the spiritual warfare. Paul had pointed the important things of this warfare as followings: in Ephesian 6:

- It is the fighting against the evil spirit.

- It is to stand firm up in Christ and to be weaned with Christ,

The helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of the truth, the sword of Holy Spirit, the shield of the faith

And the sandal of gospel of peace.

- Simply these points to the obedience of the order of God.

3) Every day we have to learn to obey the word of God in our warfare life. Ex: When we preach the word of God at a house of a village. I explained the gospel by using the picture. He had great concern of the Jesus. When we lead to

the invitation place. Rooster cried out in several times and, two children made some noise. I felt that Satan attacked to our important time. Then I obeyed the direction of God. My duty was to proclaim the gospel. He accepted Jesus Christ as his savior. Already he became new person in his life. Whenever, we need to follow the direction of God. This is the obedience. The successful evangelism is to preach the only Christ to him and to commit the result to God.

4) In our lives although we walk through the great valley, if we follow the command we can overcome all things. So, we have to learn to enjoy obeying the Word of God. Our Lord Jesus Christ commanded the great mission for us. “Go to all nations, make disciples and baptize them and teach the word of God in order to keep his teaching.” What is the only condition to get his wonderful blessing? It is to follow Him no turning back. Then we are very happiness in our lives.

3. Third, the Lord led coming and going of Israel by his will.

1) Verse 2 says “2The Lord said, “Judah shall go up; behold, I have given the land into his hand.”

Moses, Joshua and the other leaders had died at their due dates, the Lord; Jehovah himself commanded their way in Canaanite life, the life of warfare. He commanded to Judah the priority of the warfare.

And He guided the union of them for the successful warfare. Our leader led us as his will.

2) The Lord is our Lord, Jesus Christ. Actually, he is the Angel of Jehovah, who revealed before Joshua, led the warfare of occupying Jericho and helped Israel in the several battles until overcoming all the Canaanite.

The Lord leads us into the abundant life in our lives.

Ex: Ps 23: 1-3 “1The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

3 He restores my soul.

*He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.”*

Ex: Ps 126:1-6 says “ 1When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

2Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”

3The Lord has done great things for us;
we are glad.”

4Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like streams in the Negeb!

5*Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!*

6*He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.*

= *Why did they sow the seed with tear, weeping and struggle? Because they
were so truthful. The will of God is stood firm in the soil of truth, faithfulness.*

Then we shall meet wonderful fruit in our lives.

Conclusion:

1) Cambodia history proves that good leader was very important for their great life in the family. We know that Pol Pot who was a dictator killed many peoples. Now they taste the influence in our lives. And also, a Buda's guiding teaching influences to all Cambodia persons in their lives. When I proclaim the gospel to them they incline into the religious verity trends. That is very severing situation. One leader to lead the church in the earth is very

important. Who is true leader in the history and in the contemporary? Only Jesus Christ must be a real leader. (John14:6)

Who is your eternal leader? We should follow his guide as the good shepherd in our lives.

2) In our school life, we should assure our leader is Jesus Christ and should serve him humbly and learn his attitude, his purpose and his method.

Conquering by the Faith (Judge 1:11-21)

From there they went against the inhabitants of Debir. The name of Debir was formerly Kiriath-sepher. [12](#)And Caleb said, “He who attacks Kiriath-sepher and captures it, I will give him Achsah my daughter for a wife.” [13](#)And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb’s younger brother, captured it. And he gave him Achsah his daughter for a wife. [14](#)When she came to him, she urged him to ask her father for a field. And she dismounted from her donkey, and Caleb said to her, “What do you want?” [15](#)She said to him, “Give me a blessing. Since you have set me in the land of the Negeb, give me also springs of water.” And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

[16](#)And the descendants of the Kenite, Moses’ father-in-law, went up with the people of Judah from the city of palms into the wilderness of Judah, which lies in the Negeb near Arad, and they went and settled with the people. [17](#)And Judah went with Simeon his brother, and they defeated the Canaanites who inhabited Zephath and devoted it to destruction. So the name of the city was called Hormah.^a [18](#)Judah also captured Gaza with its territory, and Ashkelon with its territory, and Ekron with its territory. [19](#)And the Lord was with Judah, and he took possession of the hill country, but he could not drive out the inhabitants of the plain because they had chariots of iron. [20](#)And Hebron was given to Caleb, as Moses had said. And he drove out from it the three sons of Anak. [21](#)But the people of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites who lived in Jerusalem, so the Jebusites have lived with the people of Benjamin in Jerusalem to this day.

Telos: You can enlarge your spiritual territory by offering yourself as living sacrifice, depending the promise of Immanuel and applying the faith to the problem.

Introduction:

1) Occupying of Kiriath-sepher by Othniel (11-15) and occupying of Hebron by Caleb (20) and occupying activities of Judah and Simon reveal the

character of faith in our ministry. If we can learn this teaching in our ministry, we can enjoy God's victory in our ministry. But if we cannot learn this important faith principle, we cannot handle our inner sinful desire in our actual ministry.

2) Today, through this example we think the successful principles in our actual ministry.

Whenever I have served the village church by evangelism, Bible study and worship preaching, I have felt strong burden to prepare some organized method for help the village people. So, I think to prepare some evangelism papers, some faith growth steps and making disciple program etc. But today the text reveals more important, fundamental factors to us for successful ministry. What are they?

First, there was the surrendered offering for the victory.

1) Caleb who offered his daughter to God and Othniel who devoted himself to God. Just these actions were like the burnt offering on the altar. After that, God accepted the offering and permitted the victory to them.

2) When the Christian offers himself as the living sacrifice to God, finally he can get the victory in his life. (Rom12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2Do not be conformed to this world,^c but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.).

What is the living sacrifice? It points and offered animal slayed by the priest. It is not a simple donation or, a mere contribution. It should include the activating life. As a man points the water, we have no some serious feeling in our heart but he points the blood, "look at the blood!" we have the serious feeling to it. Why? Because the blood reveals the main point of the life, we feel seriously to that. A living sacrifice is the life, the blood, a complete offering as a burnt offering or, the wine offering poured on the altar. Did you offer your body (whole body) as a living sacrifice to God? Our God wants such offering from you.

Ex: As we know, David wanted to drink some water brought in the Bethlehem well, even if he stayed at the outside against his enemies. Then his companies went and brought it in the dangerous situation. Then David did not drink the water. Why? He thought that this water is their blood. And he poured out the water on the ground. It means that he offered their precious offering, their blood to the living God.

When we follow Christ, we should offer ourselves as living sacrifice to God. Then our Lord works through us. Without surrendering, no victory. So, when we study English, we should study as living sacrifice in our lives. Why? Because we are the living sacrifices in our lives for God.

Second, God was with them.

1) Always the victory belongs to the Lord. Here, how could they overcome their enemies? Verse 19 says that as Jehovah was with Judah, they got the victory. It is the grace of Immanuel. It is the best weapon, the greatest wisdom and the most powerful straight in our ministry.

2) What is Immanuel? It means God be with us. Actually, it is the name of Son of God. (Is 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.) And it points the presence of God, the purpose of redemption and main fruit of our covenant.

And also, Immanuel is the core of our blessing, the restoration of God's image. What does it mean? Why did God use it in the warfare's victory? It means that the people of God can enjoy the wonderful grace in the confusing situation. This is the method of victory and also it is the purpose of victory. When we go to heaven we shall enjoy the grace of Immanuel. In the earth we can pursue the grace as the best happiness in our lives. So, the worker that takes the Immanuel is the happiest persons in the world, because he knows the grace of Immanuel.

For example, in our ministry if we cannot enjoy the grace, it is very big problem in his life as Samson did. As we know he was very weak to the

worldly sexual temptation. After he lost supernatural power of God because of his sins, his remaining life was fallen down into the miserable state. His eyes were picked out by the enemies and he was worked to turn around the big millstone by his own power as a one. When he lost the grace of Immanuel, all his talents were lost and he was thrown away at the outside.

So, we should pursue to sustain the state of intimacy fellowship with God in our whole live. This is the victorious way.

Third, they had respected their inheritance.

Achsah did not depend on her husband, Othniel. And she asked her own inheritance to her father boldly because she knew that the inheritance was great, most variable in her life. (15 *She said to him, "Give me a blessing. Since you have set me in the land of the Negeb, give me also springs of water." And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.*)

James says that the main reason that does not get something is not to ask them to God. "You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. [3](#)You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. Asking, seeking and knocking are very important in enjoying the valuable grace in our actual life. Do you enjoy such thing?

Christian victory is made by knowing the value of the spiritual abundant inheritance in his life. As we know, Jesus Christ used parables for us to learn the value of the kingdom of God in Matthew 13: Mt.13:44-46 says "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.[45](#)"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, [46](#)who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

What is the most important in the passages? "He goes and sells all", "who, went and sold all that he had"

In his explanation, Jesus focuses on the devoted action to buy the treasure and the great pearl.

Our faith is like such things. When we believed in Jesus as my Lord, we offered our whole life to Christ to get Him. So, we assure that only Jesus is my way, my truth and my life. Why? Because we found the wonderful treasure in Jesus Christ in our lives, I believed and followed Him until now and eternally. Now I want to offer my whole life to follow Jesus, because He is my only treasure in my life. Actually, this assurance is the way of victory.

What kind of treasure do you have in your heart? Jesus, gospel, his word and his grace are my treasure. In the school lives you have to possess sure this treasure that we must sell all (wisdom, money, power, pride and all family) you have.

= As Achsha did, we should stand firm on the foundation of Jesus and we should ask my treasure, my inheritance, my gift that come out of my God. The Christian should seek to get the abundant grace to God by praying. Mt 7:7-8 says, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. [8](#)For everyone who asks receive, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.”

Conclusion:

My beloved brother and sisters.

Now we are standing up to occupy our Canaan in our school life. Approach to them with the faith that God is with us. God prepared everything for our victory. Especially we asked our inheritance to God, because the Lord promised to us. Present our body to God as living sacrifice. Then Our Lord shall pour out his wonderful grace to us.

Let's pray

Lord We thank you for your grace and power to overcome our all enemies. Provide us your grace and spirit to us to know you and your truth. Make us known the real treasure, Holy Spirit, your word and your mission. Strengthen us with your right hand. I pray these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

To Be Strong... (Judges 1:22-36) 2014.3.13

The house of Joseph also went up against Bethel, and the Lord was with them. [23](#)And the house of Joseph scouted out Bethel. (Now the name of the city was formerly Luz.) [24](#)And the spies saw a man coming out of the city, and they said to him, "Please show us the way into the city, and we will deal kindly with you." [25](#)And he showed them the way into the city. And they struck the city with the edge of the sword, but they let the man and all his family go. [26](#)And the man went to the land of the Hittites and built a city and called its name Luz. That is its name to this day.

[27](#)Manasseh did not drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shean and its villages, or Taanach and its villages, or the inhabitants of Dor and its villages, or the inhabitants of Ibleam and its villages, or the inhabitants of Megiddo and its villages, for the Canaanites persisted in dwelling in that land. [28](#)When Israel grew strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor, but did not drive them out completely.

[29](#)And Ephraim did not drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, so the Canaanites lived in Gezer among them.

[30](#)Zebulun did not drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, or the inhabitants of Nahalol, so the Canaanites lived among them, but became subject to forced labor.

[31](#)Asher did not drive out the inhabitants of Acco, or the inhabitants of Sidon or of Ahlab or of Achzib or of Helbah or of Aphik or of Rehob, [32](#)so the Asherites lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land, for they did not drive them out.

[33](#)Naphtali did not drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh, or the inhabitants of Beth-anath, so they lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land. Nevertheless, the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and of Beth-anath became subject to forced labor for them.

34The Amorites pressed the people of Dan back into the hill country, for they did not allow them to come down to the plain. **35**The Amorites persisted in dwelling in Mount Heres, in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim, but the hand of the house of Joseph rested heavily on them, and they became subject to forced labor. **36**And the border of the Amorites ran from the ascent of Akrabbim, from Sela and upward.

Introduction:

1) The man loves the strong state in his every area. So, he eats good food, to drink health drinking, to have proper exercise and to try to think good things in his daily life. The text reveals the facts that Joseph tribe attacked to Bethel (22-26) and the Menaseth tribe, Ephraim tribe executed the occupying ministry positively (27-29) and also Zebulon, Nabalim and Dan tribes did not drive out the Canaanites (33-36). Here, God encourages us how to be strong in the Christian life as Paul claim in Philiphian 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2) "Do you have any power to endure the poverty or, the prosperity in your life? He confessed " ". We need to learn the secret of his power in our actual life. know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

3) How can we become strong for our Christian lives?

First, when we trust God, the source of all power, we can become strong.

1) In the passages, we see that Joseph tribes could drive out the Amorite come out of trusting God. The only power that the saint can have is to love God and to obey the Word of God.

(22) The house of Joseph also went up against Bethel, and the Lord was with them. And God gave the assistants to one who obey his command.

(25) And he showed them the way into the city. And they struck the city with the edge of the sword, but they let the man and all his family go.

(28) When Israel grew strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor, but did not drive them out completely.

Who is the real warrior? He is almighty God, Jehovah. Although they went to the warfare according to the command of the Lord, their real warrior was God. When God was with them, they could overcome their enemies. What is their thing that they did at the battle? They should depend on the Lord.

As we know, Proverb 3:5-6 says “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. “

So we have to learn the assurance as David did in the PS18:1-2 ([1](#)I love you, O Lord, my strength.[2](#)The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.) as sevenfold assurance of God. those are; my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, my God, my rock, my refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2) Our contemporary day needs the real, actual power in every area. In Cambodia case it is the same issue. Our concern is the state of their distorted, corrupted heart that the Buddhism and several religions rule over them in actual life. Their heart is very dark, chaos and confusing. Don't you think so? Do you have any power that handle them by the Word of God? We who know the truth should challenge to them by showing the blessed world and by tasting the abundant grace, that they want to give up their own way voluntarily. How can we handle that?

Apostle Paul knew that way. So, he could exhort to the king, Agrippa boldly “whoever should be resemble me.” In Acts26: 29, “And Paul said, “Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains.”

And also, he declared the fact tht I can do every thing in Christ Jesus, for his burning passion grace, even he remained in the prison.

Why? Because he had the power of almighty God, he could claim it. Actually, his power is our power in Christ. If you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord, already you have such power that you can transform Camobodia into the season of Christ.

3) When I got the time to trevel in Cambodia. Whereever, Whenever I enjoyed the green colors in the world. But I saw the black colors in their spiritual heart because they are wondering in their lives. In this time, we should provide exact answer to them. “Believe in Jesus you shall be saved out of the darkness. Your true Lord is Jesus Christ.”

4) About 9 years ago I had shouted that Chist is your only way at the Inland areas in Serthern California in America with my church members. Then I was very weak physically. So, it is very hard job to shout out same message to the public place. At the least two years continuously I got evangelism every Saturday. What is the real power in America? It is to follow Christ as the power of their lives.

= In our school life, we are very happy because we know the almighty God in our heart and apply his power to our actual lives. So, we can claim any place, any time I can do all thing in Christin in poverty or, in prosperity. This is real strong state. Can you cliam that thing in your heart?

Second, when we have to fight the sinful desire in us, we can become strong.

1) Why did not the other tribes drive out the primitive people? Because of their unbelief and covet, not their enemy’s powerful strategy, they could not occupy them. Actualy their real dangerous enemy had dwelt in them. It is the sinful desire. That fact reveals obviously the reality of failing main reason to us, although they crossed the Jordan River miraculously, their sinful desire worked in them. The way that they overcome the sinful desire, must be remain in the presence of God. The presence of God descended on them as the truth worked in them.

Here, the symbolism of the canaanite teaches the reality of our sinful desire. Verse 31-36 pointed that their failing reason is their sinful desire.

Asher did not drive out the inhabitants of Acco, or the inhabitants of Sidon or of Ahlab or of Achzib or of Helbah or of Aphik or of Rehob, [32](#)so the Asherites lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land, for they did not drive them out.

[33](#)Naphtali did not drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh, or the inhabitants of Beth-anath, so they lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land. Nevertheless, the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and of Beth-anath became subject to forced labor for them.

[34](#)The Amorites pressed the people of Dan back into the hill country, for they did not allow them to come down to the plain. [35](#)The Amorites persisted in dwelling in Mount Heres, in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim, but the hand of the house of Joseph rested heavily on them, and they became subject to forced labor. [36](#)And the border of the Amorites ran from the ascent of Akrabbim, from Sela and upward.”

Actually, this issue was Paul’s issue and our issue in Christian life.

So above of all, our Lord stressed that we have to deny ourselves to follow Jesus. (Lk 9:23 And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.) Do you know this meaning of that passages?

- The denial of self is not human prohibition of our inner desire. It is the thing that we devote ourselves to God.

2) True faith is the same way in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament. After we are saved by the faith, we should watch out our sinful desire.

Ex: Why was the king, Saul destroyed in his life? Although he served Jehovah very much, the main reason was his failure to the attack of his sinful desire.

Ex: Why were Hophni and Phinehas killed at the battle? By their habitual sinful desire, they were killed by God’s providence.

Ex: Anania and Sabbira were killed by God's righteousness because their sinful desire.

Sometimes, the sinful desire reveals as the mode of adultery, murder, greedy and ungodly attitude. Its products the sin and death in the life. When we become the slave of sinful desire, we fall down into the miserable seat.

3) In our school life we have to caution the sinful desire. This is our main ministry.

Third, when we lived as a helper of God's ministry, we can become strong. (24-26)

1) verses 24-26 says" [24](#)And the spies saw a man coming out of the city, and they said to him, "Please show us the way into the city, and we will deal kindly with you." [25](#)And he showed them the way into the city. And they struck the city with the edge of the sword, but they let the man and all his family go. [26](#)And the man went to the land of the Hittites and built a city and called its name Luz. That is its name to this day. "

2) The passage tells us that a man helped two spies to search for the way. He helped the work of the Lord. Directly or, indirectly the helpers for the Lord are the blessed person. Then we can become strong.

We can find that the man refused the king of his country and he man chose the will of God and the man followed the kingdom of God. When we lived as a helper of God's ministry, we can become strong.

Conclusion:

1) My beloved students, we have no strong power in ourselves because of our sinful desire. But when we trust the merit of Christ, we can be strong. Christ crucified our sinful desire on the cross 2000 years ago. His death had accomplished to delecte our sinful desire. Only as the Holy Spirit works in us, we can overcome our powerful sinful desire in us. Therefore, we need to understand the Word of God every day. Beause Beliving the promise can remove our sinfu desre in us.

2) Especially in our training duration we should be changed by the grace of Christ in our lives for our future ministry. Gradually our personality shall be changed by the grace of Holy Spirit.

Let's pray

Dear Lord, provide your grace to us to know you and your truth.

Pour out your word and your spirit to us.

I pray these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Follow the Angel of the Lord! (Judges 2:1-10)

1Now the angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, “I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you, **2**and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall break down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed my voice. What is this you have done? **3**So now I say, I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you.” **4**As soon as the angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the people of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. **5**And they called the name of that place Bochim.^a And they sacrificed there to the Lord.

6When Joshua dismissed the people, the people of Israel went each to his inheritance to take possession of the land. **7**And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the Lord had done for Israel. **8**And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of 110 years. **9**And they buried him within the boundaries of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, north of the mountain of Gaash. **10**And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel.

Introduction:

Both the beginner and the consummator of the restoration of God’s image, Christ reveals His identification more obviously to us in the book of Judges by the role of the angel of the Jehovah. The issue that Christ worked in the Old Testament is very important to understand the stream of the redemption in the history, the main source of the restoration of the image of God. I Corinthians 10:1-2 comment obviously to us the important stream. “For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual

drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.” Apostle Paul stressed that Christ who is Rock have followed them always. More important fact is to apply to every event in the Old Testament and the New Testament. So we have to find the wonderful proofs out of the revelation in the Old Testament. It means that the symbolism and the typology should be interpreted by the perspective of redemption. Among them the Angel of the Lord in the text belongs to this stream.

The angel of the Lord who worked at Bochim and rebuked Israel was the unique angel, who was called for the pre-incarnated Christ. It is very wonderful fact that Christ had worked in the day of the Old Testament for his people. What is the evidence?

First, because he revealed as the deliverer of Israel, we can admit it.

1)Verses 1-2 says, “Now the angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, “I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you”

He claimed that he himself saved the Israelites out of Egypt. Exodus 15:1-2 reveals that the Almighty Jehovah God delivered them out of the miserable state. “Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying, “I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider^a he has thrown into the sea.²The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.”

Now, the Almighty God appeared as the face of the angel of the Lord to Israel in canaan.

2)In the day of Judges, He was still working for his people. He who appeared as face of a angel was not a general angel. He worked as Almighty God. Actually He was the same to the commander of militaryinJoshua 5:, the same being who led the Israelite to enter into Canaan. Who is he? Really, He is the

Christ before incarnation. Although Joshua passed away, He led his people without pause in the Egypt life, in the wilderness life and in the Canaan life. In the light of the New Testament Jesus Christ is with us eternally. (Mt.28:18-19) the lifted Jesus Christ works in his people, church or, Christians by the power of the Holy Spirit. What does he work in our lives? He accomplishes the redemption in His people personally and universally. Today the angel of the Lord works in our lives to accomplish the redemption.

3)When we read that passage we understand that the Angell of Jehovah works in us to accomplish our redemption in the world. Actually, the Holy Spirit is the spirit of the angel of the Jehovah who God sent us as another counselor to lead the world of truth.” “In the chaos day, the spiritual dark day and in the wondering day, we should accept his teaching, his rebuking, his correcting and his righteous guiding in our lives.

Second, because He was the one who established the covenant and keep it faithfully we understand it.

1)As the subjective partner of covenant, Jehovah God Himself claimed to establish it faithfully in the world. Verse 1-2 says, “Now the angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, “I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you,” This passage claims that He Himself is God and has the same authority of God. It is very wonderful expression. He was the same unique angel to appear to Gideon and Manoa, the parent of Samson. He was bowed by them and He commanded to them. In Genesis 18: He had revealed to Hagai by the well and to Abraham who was sitting down on the shadow of an oak tree at Mamre and to Jacob by the river Jabbok. Although they were appeared as several modes, He was the same Angel of the Lord who will be accomplished by Jesus Christ.

2)Why did he reveal to his people sometimes? In a word he establishes the covenant faithfully. Holy war was not a simple fighting to get some territory or, to sustain their inheritance. It had more important purpose, to get the heavenly territory, to accomplish the universal church in the world. So, the small warfare of the Israelite in Canaan belongs to the great redemption of the

church. The angel of the Lord worked faithfully to accomplish the redemption of his people.

3) Now we live in the wonderful day to accomplish the redemption because we participated into the work and we taste the fruit in our every area.

A student asked an important question about the experience of the redemption. If we accept Jesus Christ as my savior, we already have stayed in the such wonderful experience. Sometimes we have burning heart, abundant richness, sweetening love, hopeful vision and obvious insight in our lives. Why? Because we follow to the angel of the Lord, Jesus Christ, we enjoy the reality of Canaan.

Third, because the Israelite accepted his explanation and repented their rebellion against the Lord, we have to admit the fact. (4-5)

1) Their blessing and curse depended on the attitude of obedience to his command. Verses 4-5 says, "As soon as the angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the people of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. [5](#) And they called the name of that place Bochim.^a And they sacrificed there to the Lord." They could repent their sins as they contact his real authority of the word of God. Whoever contact to the real authority of Christ absolutely should accept and repent because He works in them. So, we have to accept humbly, honestly and faithfully, his word in the preaching time.

Really it is surprised to know the fact that Christ in the New Testament saved the church of wilderness out of the sin and lead and provided the grace. Therefore, we have to assure that only the one who obeys the Word of Christ who is the fulfillment of all symbolisms and all types, shall be saved out of the miserable sins.

2) We should assure that whenever we contact to the words, verses of the Scriptures we listen to it and obey it very well because, the angel of Lord reveal the will of God to us. We have to ask his Illumination of the words.

And we have to read, meditate the words faithfully Surely, we can see the wonderful world of the truth and the grace. James 1:25 says "But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. "

Conclusion:

What is the light of our day, our society, our family and our school? Surely It is to follow the angel of the Lord as the generation after Canaan did. Do you assure that. What is your purpose of your life? Why do you study the word of God in our school? It is to obey his word and his command in order to accomplish our redemption completely in our lives. Let us to follow the Angel of the Lord, Jesus Christ, our savior.

Let's pray:

Dear Lord, we thank you for your teaching about our Lord Jesus Christ, as the unique Angel of the Lord. We thank you for your abundant promise to know you and your truth. Help us to follow him faithfully. Provide your illumination to see the world of the truth and the grace. Especially bless your people in ITCS to glorify you and to enjoy you. Lead us to proclaim the gospel in Cambodia and South Eastern Asia by following the angel of the Lord. I pray these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The Method of God's Salvation (Judges 2:11-23)

And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. [12](#)And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. [13](#)They abandoned the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroath. [14](#)So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them. And he sold them into the hand of their surrounding enemies, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies. [15](#)Whenever they marched out, the hand of the Lord was against them for harm, as the Lord had warned, and as the Lord had sworn to them. And they were in terrible distress.

[16](#)Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them. [17](#)Yet they did not listen to their judges, for they whored after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their fathers had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the Lord, and they did not do so. [18](#)Whenever the Lord raised up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge, and he saved them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge. For the Lord was moved to pity by their groaning because of those who afflicted and oppressed them. [19](#)But whenever the judge died, they turned back and were more corrupt than their fathers, going after other gods, serving them and bowing down to them. They did not drop any of their practices or their stubborn ways. [20](#)So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he said, "Because this people have transgressed my covenant that I commanded their fathers and have not obeyed my voice, [21](#)I will no longer drive out before them any of the nations that Joshua left when he died, [22](#)in order to test Israel by them, whether they will take care to walk in the way of the Lord as their fathers did, or not." [23](#)So the Lord left those nations, not driving them out quickly, and he did not give them into the hand of Joshua.

Introduction:

1) What is the salvation of God? God Himself saves his people out of miserable state. Their salvation out of their enemies is a symbolism of our salvation out of the sins and conviction. The symbolism includes the destruction of sin, the salvation of God and the peace of victory. So, this treats the issue of sin. God reveals the reality of sin and salvation effectively through revealing the picture revelation, a warfare. The reality was hidden in the symbols.

2) How does God deliver his people out of the miserable state?

First, he restores the personal fellowship.

1) What is the salvation? It means to restore the personal relationship with God because their relationship was broken with God by their committed sin they need the restoration the fellowship between God and Israel. This broken relationship can restore by removing the sins.

Verses 11-12 says “And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. [12](#) And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. “When they returned to Baal and Ashtarothe God gave the war to the people and the angel of the Lord rebuked them because they break the faithfulness in their lives.

And verse 14 says “So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them. And he sold them into the hand of their surrounding enemies, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies.”

And also verse 22 says” in order to test Israel by them, whether they will take care to walk in the way of the Lord as their fathers did, or not.”

2) This method of salvation is same in the New Testament. So, when we come back to God and believe in Jesus Christ, our personal relationship was changed by applying Christ's merit to us by Holy Spirit. The intimate relationship was changed into the living loving relationship between the Father and the son.

It means that restoration of fellowship to God. I John 1:7 says “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. “This is above the recovery of the first fellowship that Adam lost at the garden of Eden. Paul claimed that Christian recovery was more powerful than Adam’s deathful power. “Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. (Rom5:14) “

What is the real life of Christian? It is the personal relationship with God. It is the eternal life. What does to know God mean in Jhon17:3? It means the personal relationship. So, we have to concentrate on it in our actual life? We have to invest our time to this thing. Actually, when we try to keep the relationship in Christ we can enjoy the reality of eternal life by praying and by meditating the Scripture. Living word.

Do you have true relationship to the Lord now? If you say in your conscience to God it is very wonderful blessing? Unless you can confess yes first of all solve that issue in your heart. Because this point is the primary essence of our salvation we can restore that place by the light of the Word of God.

Second, He delivers them through the judges. (17, 18)

1) They, as the authority of the people, are the types of Christ. The judges themselves have no any power but they have the power as the Holy Spirit who was ascended on them.

Verses 17-18 describe the work of Jehovah through the channel of God, judges as followings; yet they did not listen to their judges, for they whored after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their fathers had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the Lord, and they did not do so. Whenever the Lord rose up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge, and he saved them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge. For the Lord was moved to pity by their groaning because of those who afflicted and oppressed them.

In this passage we find that God used the judges, “Whenever the Lord rose up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge, and he saved them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge.

As we know, God waited that his people approached to Him with some asking seeking and knocking the door because of some problems. These activities made them participated into his gory, the redemption. This is God’s method. Although God himself removed the enemy he did not fight to them, but he wanted to work in Judge.

So, the church has many works of hades authority in the ministry. Then we should think that it is good cha. Nice for us.

Ex: Look at the resurrection of Lazarus after his death, Then Lord command “come out of the death” he was resurrected soon Then again Jesus commanded “let him release by removing the covers i=on his body. Here this event includes the help of the people. No, only God did it. Why did Jesus order it to them? Jesus invited them into his glorious grace of resurrection.

Ex: Rather Peter understood that when we meet some sever suffering for without some reasons, we have to should rejoice. What did he say? “If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. (IPeter4:14)”

Third, God wants to sustain the obedience. (22)

1) Verse 22 says, “in order to test Israel by them, whether they will take care to walk in the way of the Lord as their fathers did, or not.” The victory of the judges and their people depend on their obedience. However, when they served the other idols spiritual adultery, some thorns picked into their loin.

2) As soon as we have believed in Christ, we entered into the school of obedience, and follow to the Lord with the poor heart for arriving to the abundant salvation. Let us try to obey the blessed command.

Generally, when we meditate the Word of God we shall become the man of obedience.

If we think that we have no any talent in my lives, obey the word of God, then you shall know wonderful things in your life.

- Christ learned the obedience through some suffering. If we meet some suffering in our Christian life, we have to think that it is good chance to learn the obedience.

Conclusion:

My beloved students learn how to be saved out of miserable state.
Recovery of personal relationship, the work of God through the judges and learn the obedience.

Let's pray

God who permits the trial (Judges 3:1-11)

We can overcome every temptation in the hand of God fully.

First, the purpose of the trial is the train of the faith. The Satan aims to the fall down into the sins but God to train them by some suffering in to bring the patience. (James1:1-2) It is the reason that God permit the Canaanites as picking thorns. (1-2)

Second, we need some trials to slay the old man. God wants to take off their slave character, the sinful desire, out of their lives through a serial of trial. The sinful desire makes us to have the consciousness of God's presence and make our family, our society to be sinful.

Third, the result of trial is the victory. Through the supplication of Israel, Thiel overcome their enemy and ruled over them for 40 years. Let's offer ourselves through the train of trial.

The Restoration out of the failure (Judges 3:12-31)

The day of the judges reveals that Israel shall be restored by four cycles, those are; depravity, discipline, cry and salvation out of the failure.

First, we have to stand firm before God. The sins that was begun in the presence of Jehovah can be solved again only the presence of God. (7) When we stand firm up before God as the meaning of Jehovah who points to keep his promise (7), we can get the compassion out of God. (James1:3)

Second, He should approach to God by crying prayer. When Israel cry sorrowfully and repent to God (2:18, 3:9, 15), He sent the judges and delivered them out of miserable place. Only through Third, Christ we shall be saved out of the sins. They who was oppressed for 18 years and were delivered and enjoyed by his dominion. The judges are the types of Christ. The salvation of Jehuda as limited but the salvation of Christ who was the complete judge, fulfilled our salvation once of all. (Heb10:12) Let us follow him passionately.

God of Love (Judges 3:1-10)

After Jehudah passed away God transferred them to the king Jabin who was the king of Canaan because their rebellion. God in the text is our God Father. Who is he?

First, he was the criteria between the good and the evil. (1) The discernment of the goodness and the evil shall be accomplished before God. It is important to receive the discernment of God.

Second, He cherished his people because of His love. (2) The fact that God transferred them to the king of Canaan was not the punishment but love of God. The temporary pain made them to become fresh.

Third, He himself, the object of prayer solves the suffering of their people. (3) Although we are oppressed by enemy, the moment is the most blessed hour, but although they stay in the abhorring situation under the criticized seat, it is miserable.

The Method of Spiritual Warfare (Judges 4:11-24)

A believer's life is a life of spiritual warfare, so he must know the way to victory. How to win?

First, we must believe that God is fighting ahead of us. The reason why Canaan's main force was defeated and all the remnants were destroyed was because God fought before them. (14-15) Believers are sure to win in everything because of God who fights before them. Second, it must be a tool of faith. At first Barak won, but because of his unbelief, the task of killing the commander of the army was given to someone else. Because he put more faith in Deborah than in God, he lost the glory of victory. (8-9) Third, we must believe that He has made all the preparations.

The victory of this war was ended by a woman named Yael. (11-24) No matter how weak you are, if God is with you, you can do great things. This is because God has prepared everything we need for our spirituality. We can definitely overcome all the problems our family faces with faith.

The Song of Deborah (Judges 5:1-18) 3/16/2014

Then sang Deborah and Barak the son of Albinism on that day:

2“That the leaders took the lead in Israel,
that the people offered themselves willingly,
bless the Lord!

3“Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes;
to the Lord I will sing;
I will make melody to the Lord, the God of Israel.

4“Lord, when you went out from Seir,
when you marched from the region of Edom,
the earth trembled
and the heavens dropped,
yes, the clouds dropped water.

5The mountains quaked before the Lord,
even Sinai before the Lord, the God of Israel.

6“In the days of Shamgar, son of Anath,
in the days of Jael, the highways were abandoned,
and travelers kept to the byways.

7The villagers ceased in Israel;
they ceased to be until I arose;
I, Deborah, arose as a mother in Israel.

8When new gods were chosen,
then war was in the gates.
Was shield or spear to be seen
among forty thousand in Israel?

9My heart goes out to the commanders of Israel
who offered themselves willingly among the people.
Bless the Lord.

10“Tell of it, you who ride on white donkeys,
you who sit on rich carpets^a
and you who walk by the way.

11To the sound of musicians^b at the watering places,
there they repeat the righteous triumphs of the Lord,
the righteous triumphs of his villagers in Israel.

“Then down to the gates marched the people of the Lord.

12“Awake, awake, Deborah!
Awake, awake, break out in a song!
Arise, Barak, lead away your captives,
O son of Abinoam.

13Then down marched the remnant of the noble;
the people of the Lord marched down for me against the mighty.

14From Ephraim their root they marched down into the valley,^c
following you, Benjamin, with your kinsmen;
from Machir marched down the commanders,
and from Zebulun those who bear the lieutenant’s^d staff;

15the princes of Issachar came with Deborah,
and Issachar faithful to Barak;
into the valley they rushed at his heels.

Among the clans of Reuben
there were great searchings of heart.

16Why did you sit still among the sheepfolds,
to hear the whistling for the flocks?

Among the clans of Reuben
there were great searchings of heart.

17Gilead stayed beyond the Jordan;
and Dan, why did he stay with the ships?
Asher sat still at the coast of the sea,
staying by his landings.

18Zebulun is a people who risked their lives to the death;
Naphtali, too, on the heights of the field.

Let's pray

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your wonderful grace and for your faith leading us. Although we were saved out of miserable sins by the blood of Jesus Christ., still we are sinner. Clean our sins by the blood of Jesus Christ. Open our eyes to know you and your truth. Lead us to the world of the truth.

Introduction:

1) The song that Deborah and Barak who took the victory of God praised the Lord reveals an example of our faith. What examples does it reveal about our faith? Among them we can see the wonderful grace of our redemption in the sanctification. The song shows us the background of the warfare victory between Israel and the remaining Canaan united tribes. Then Deborah praised Lord's salvation, Lord's power and Lord's grace. In the contents, this song relates to the Moses's song, Hannah's song and Mary's song because they reveal the sovereignty Lordship of the salvation. [3](#)“Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes; to the Lord I will sing; I will make melody to the Lord, the God of Israel.[4](#)“Lord, when you went out from Seir, when you marched from the region of Edom, the earth trembled and the heavens dropped, yes, the clouds dropped water. [5](#)The Mountains quaked before the Lord, even Sinai before the Lord, the God of Israel.”

2) Especially what do we learn out of Deborah's song about the redemption in the holy war?

First. Only the devotional people are able to be used by God. (2)

We see the true warriors in his warfare. Who are they? Verse 2 says ““That the leaders took the lead in Israel, that the people offered them willingly, bless the Lord!”

Verse 9 says “My heart goes out to the commanders of Israel who offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless the Lord.”

Verse 10 “the people of the Lord marched - Tell of it, you who ride on white donkeys,
you who sit on rich carpet and you who walk by the way.

Verse 13 “same expression – “Then down marched the remnant of the noble;
the people of the Lord marched down for me against the mighty.

Verse 11 Deborah, Barack- To the sound of musicians at the watering places;
there they repeat the righteous triumphs of the Lord, the righteous triumphs of
his villagers in Israel.

Verse 14-18 “Benjamin Zuph, Issachar, Reuben, Dan, Asher participate into
this warfare.”

1) Now our Lord is searching for the devotional men for his kingdom.
After he got them he used them for his holy war. Our day call for these people
for eternal victory. Who shall go to the holy war? Then we have to response to
the Lord as Isaiah response, “And I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send
me.” (Is 6:8)

Today we have to response to the Lord. “Here am I?”

Ex: Basically, Martin Luther was not a strong man; he was a simple person, a
weak person. When he received the calling letter from the pope to come to
the court. Then he response to God “Here I stand “. Although the roofs of
Worms’s court will change into the devil, I shall be there.” His response led to
the victory of the Reformation in history. The enemy of Jehovah, the enemy of
righteousness and the enemy of the Word of God cannot help himself to live
the dark life as the tree beside the sun. When we devote ourselves to the
spiritual warfare, moment by moment, he can enjoy the devotional life to the
Lord in the suffering.

May the grace of Lord be with you, until you see the wonderful victory in Cambodia? Become the man of God in this day.

2) Actually, when we accept Jesus Christ as my Lord in my life, basically we began as devotion to Christ. I am not mining but Christ. So, our constant concern is the devotional life.

Long time ago when I believe Jesus Christ as my Lord, I devoted myself to the Lord because of his cross love. When I prayed to God on the mountain in the campus, I always asked that you lead me to the way of the truth and also proclaim it to my neighbor rightly. And whenever I considered his cross, my conclusion was my confession of my devotion. Offer myself and my life to you with the thankful heart. Until now I have served my Lord to Jesus Christ my Lord in the one way. Although I met some suffering s in my life without cause, I want to offer my whole life. I cannot give up my devotion to Him. Cambodia may be my last ministry. I always want to follow him devotionally. My only vision must be used by the Lord for his kingdom. I am sufficient in present situation.

I exhort you to devote yourself to Him for your blessed life in Cambodia. You can live your life as the happiest person.

Second, the Lord Himself fought against their enemy.

1) Who fought to the enemy? Although the devoted people fought against their enemy actually the Lord himself executed the warfare. So, to the Lord she offered the praise, the bless and the victory.

Verse 2 says blessed the Lord- “That the leaders took the lead in Israel, that the people offered them willingly, bless the Lord!

Verse 3 to the Lord, the God of Israel- “Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes; to the Lord I will sing; I will make melody to the Lord, the God of Israel.”

Verse 9 blesses the Lord – “My heart goes out to the commanders of Israel who offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless the Lord.”

Verse 11 the righteous trumpets of the Lord. – “To the sound of musicians at the watering places, there they repeat the righteous triumphs of the Lord, the righteous triumphs of his villagers in Israel.”

2) Holy war that pointed to the redemption of his people shall be accomplished by the Lord, the angel of the Lord, almighty God, the creator, the provider and the consummator who shall be fulfilled by Jesus Christ. So, Revelation 5:9-10 reveals the wonderful victory as following; “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

3) And also, the text reveals that the work of Jehovah was very marvelous power in 4-5. The earth, heaven and clouds, mountain, Sinai. What does it mean? It means the presence of God. Why did the Pentecost day, the upper room was shaken in the coming of Holy Spirit? They saw the mysterious fire. It means the proof of presence of God.

In our Christian life our warfare was depended on the fighting of the Lord. We have to follow the lamb in his grace. It means to participate into his fighting to get his grace of victory.

4) What is your enemy? As the union military of Cannon tribes, we confront to the invisible being, evil spirit. They are appeared by wicked character, bad habits, secular culture, charming emotion and complex able thinking. We can overcome them only in Christ Jesus.

John stressed in IJohn2:13-14 “I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one.

I write to you, children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.” So, we should praise the Lord. For the victory of our moment we have to cast ourselves to him. Then the Lord shall work for us.

4) What is your worst enemy in your life? It must be invisible being in our heart the sinful desire, the corrupted nature. I heard of the information of Cambodia about the danger of virus and bacteria in the soil. A famous Korean actor was dead by infection of virus in his blood after took picture for a cinema in Cambodia. As soon as he came back to Korea he got high fever because the virus controlled his blood. Finally, he passed away. Although the virus is very micro cell that we cannot observe with our eyes, it is very dangerous. Just like our sinful desire is more sever being in our heart. Every sin was come out of the sinful desire. We have to admit our weak not to handle that. Only our God remove them in our life. We have to quickly come back to Cross. Only Jesus Christ killed it 2000 years ago. When we follow our absolute warrior Jesus Christ we can overcome every enemy.

Third, the holy war was the universal. (4)

1) Deborah’s song pointed the character of the warfare. What is it? It was the universal warfare. Why? Because although the war was happened in the small area, the influence attained to the universal. “Verse 4 says “Seir, Edom” it was one of the pagans.

2) So, this song suggested seeing the glory of the New Testament salvation. Deborah saw the glory of redemption by Holy Spirit. This is not simple fighting but the spiritual war, the accomplishment of the redemption. Christ who was the tribe of Judah fulfilled the redemption in the world. Now we are trained by God for his holy war, evangelizing our areas. So, we have to prepare everything for calling. We have to make to evangelize our local village by our creative thought to solve the spiritual problems.

3) I enjoy to go and to watch that markets. Cambodia Phnom Penh has public market 25, private market 21, and mart 90. And I know town in Cambodia. I heard of many towns has no the church. Bour pagoda exists many things any town. If we abandon them finally they shall fall down into the hell fire. Who shall go to the village? I expect that you should go to the villages to evangelize them with the Scripture. So, God called for us here. Here am I send me! You have to response to the Lord. Actually, our resent is not bright. We need many struggles and endurance of every area. My illumination of God is with you all. If you decide to offer your life to him sully God shall open the wonderful way in Cambodia. Furthermore, you may go to other nations with the gospel. Remember that God called for you as global person for the kingdom of God.

Conclusion:

My beloved brothers and sisters,

We reviewed the redemption in the song of Deborah. The holy war was executed by the devoted person in the hand of the almighty God and also the holy war was universal in the world. We now are executing this warfare in Cambodia. We should prepare the warfare for the glory of God.

May the grace of God be with you for holy war?

Let's pray

We thank you for your wonderful salvation out of miserable sin. We thank you for you fight to our enemy. We believe that you died on the cross for destroying the enemy. Lord Provide your power, your wisdom and your race to follow you. Give us the song of Deborah in our life. Especially bless your Chom Chou church.

I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The Assurance of Deborah (Judges 5:19-31) 3/20/2014

19“The kings came, they fought;
then fought the kings of Canaan,
at Taanach, by the waters of Megiddo;
they got no spoils of silver.

20From heaven the stars fought,
from their courses they fought against Sisera.

21The torrent Kishon swept them away,
the ancient torrent, the torrent Kishon.
March on, my soul, with might!

22“Then loud beat the horses’ hoofs
with the galloping, galloping of his steeds.

23“Curse Meroz, says the angel of the Lord,
curse its inhabitants thoroughly,
because they did not come to the help of the Lord,
to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

24“Most blessed of women be Jael,
the wife of Heber the Kenite,
of tent-dwelling women most blessed.

25He asked for water and she gave him milk;
she brought him curds in a noble’s bowl.

26She sent her hand to the tent peg
and her right hand to the workmen’s mallet;
she struck Sisera;
she crushed his head;
she shattered and pierced his temple.

27Between her feet
he sank, he fell, he lay still;
between her feet
he sank, he fell;

where he sank,
there he fell—dead.

28“Out of the window she peered,
the mother of Sisera wailed through the lattice:
‘Why is his chariot so long in coming?
Why tarry the hoofbeats of his chariots?’

29Her wisest princesses answer,
indeed, she answers herself,

30‘Have they not found and divided the spoil?—
A womb or two for every man;
spoil of dyed materials for Sisera,
spoil of dyed materials embroidered,
two pieces of dyed work embroidered for the neck as spoil?’

31“So may all your enemies perish, O Lord!
But your friends be like the sun as he rises in his might.”

And the land had rest for forty years.

Introduction:

1) Continuously we think of the song of Deborah. Her song was the revelation of the kingdom of God, not the victory of Israel or, the kingdom of humanism. At the other time we thought her finding truth among the warfare about the character of holy war. Those are he found that almighty God works through the devotional person in the universalism. Today we think that she assured the coming of the kingdom of God although she lived at limited area in the Old Testament. She believed that almighty God who worked in the holy war to accomplish the kingdom of God.

2) Essentially her assurance was our assurance about the kingdom of God because we find the same knowledge of the kingdom in the New Testament out of the text. Deborah assured that God shall destroy his enemy, as prophesying that Meres shall be cursed because of helping Jehovah and

assured that only Jehovah accomplished the thing. (23) And also, she concludes such wonderful assurance at the closed part of Deborah song. “So, may all your enemies perish, O Lord? But your friends are like the sun as he rises in his might.” (31) What is her assurance in the redemption?

First. She declared to curse Meroe in verse 23.

1) Verse 23 “Curse Meroz, says the angel of the Lord, curse its inhabitants thoroughly, because they did not come to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty.” Deborah found that God searching for the devotional person in the redemption warfare. The devotional persons are very important for God’s ministry. Before we devote ourselves to the Lord he should not think any redemption.

Meroz was one place of northern Palestine and they did not participate into the glorious holy war. It proves that they did not accept the Lord and His redemption in their lives positively. So, they shall be cursed by the righteousness of God because they stood up in place of the enemies of God. Christ tells us “whoever does not collect with God destroy me.” “ ” Christ wants to participate into the kingdom of God positively. Always the intermediate state is very dangerous, that is the Meroz state.

2) Although Deborah lived in the Old Testament, she assured that the redemption of God has the absolute character. If anybody accepts the redemption he shall get the eternal life. (Jn 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”) As we know very well, I Jn 5:11-12 says, “And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. [12](#)Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. “

= Look at the attitude of Zacchaeus. He accepted the Lord positively. “So, he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. “(Lk19:6)

= I have observed that Cambodia people have three evil habits, “no report”, “no excuse”, “no thankful”. It is very big problems. These habits are against the Bible and the living God. The influence must be revealed all life style in the

community life. If he knows the redemptive word, he shall be changed positively. What is the proof of your salvation?

A certain claim that heavenly lounge exits, “Thank you”, “I am sorry”, “forgive me act.” Our negative attitude shall make to go to the way of Meroz. Please do not go the way of Meroz.

When we proclaim the gospel to his people, we have to expect the wonderful grace.

Always walk in the camp of Chits. De not hesitates to cast you to God.

= Look at the historical contest at Mountain Calmel. We have to choose Baal or, Jehovah. And Elijah came near to all the people and said, “How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.” And the people did not answer him a word. (IKing18:21) Which do you want to choose? Meroz’s attitude or, Deborah’s attitude?

I want that you follow to Debora’s assurance of the redemption of Christ.

3) As we know, we should not curse to any people even the enemy. “Love your enemy”. But Paul declared that one who does not love Jesus Christ shall be cursed by God. Why did he stress such thing? It was not conflict. Here, Paul thought the enemy of God. We cannot work together with God’s enemy because God’s enemy must be our enemy. Actually, we have to make sure our devotional state in our school life.

Second, she declares to destroy all enemies in verse 31.

1) Verse 31 says, “So may all your enemies perish, O Lord!

Not only the attitude of intermediate state but also the attitude of rebellion shall be fallen into the destruction. What is the attitude of rebellion? It is the rebellion against the church. (Gen12:1-3) “Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. **2**And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. **3**I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

2) Deborah understood the danger of rebellion in Sisra's attitude. He was a symbol of God's enemy. Verse 24-27 reveals the death of Sisra. Barak could not kill Sisra but only a weak woman, Jael could kill him because God permitted it. She participated into the wonderful ministry, the divine ministry to establish the redemption of God. So, the Scripture evaluated her to become a blessed woman. Verse 24 says "Most blessed of women be Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, of tent-dwelling women most blessed." Just like Mary did, "for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;(Lk 1:48)

Do you want to become a wise person? Come back to the divine ministry, the holy warfare. Cast your whole life to that ministry. This is the only blessed way in your life.

Verses 28-30 expressed the cry of his mother for his son's death. And also, the Scripture pointed that his mother was frustrated by the bad news. Why did the Word express the cruel state to us? Satan should be crushed by the righteousness of God in Gen3:15." I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." Satan gives some harmful to the church but the church executes absolute destruction to the Satan's head. This is the promise of the primitive gospel. So, we can claim that among any situation, any suffering and any problems, we can overcome them in the hand of almighty God. Jael who was killed Sisera, his husband's friend, because she saw the kingdom of God and could cut the human relationship for the kingdom. Just like Rahab or, Ruth did, she could stand up firm in the camp of God because she saw the glory of God. One who loves the Lord very much shall have the future hope and shall be filled with living hope.

What is your goal in our school? You have to attain to the same goal of Jael as the blessed woman (man) by choosing the will of God. Sometimes I have listened to weak voice of shaking faith persons because they do not cut the relationship to the human emotion. If he stays in the shaking person in his life he shall be lost the privilege in his life.

Third, she proclaimed the eternal glory of the church in verse 31

1) Verse 31 says” but your friends be like the sun as he rises in his might.”

What does “your friends” mean? They include Deborah, Barak, Jael and several tribes that are the church in the Old Testament.

She had seen that God destroyed his enemy by shaking of the earth that pointed the presence of God. (4-5) For the victory of spiritual warfare shall be gotten by putting on the whole armors. Deborah, Barak, Jael and Israel had obeyed the command of the Lord for the victory. The principle of victory of spiritual battle is to love the Word of the Lord with their passionate heart in our ministry.

The seven full armor of God that Paul pointed, salvation, righteousness, truth, evangelism, faith, word and prayer must be stood firm on the devoted heart. (Ephesian 6:14-18)” Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, [15](#)and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. [16](#)In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; [17](#)and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, [18](#)praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,”

2) We are treating the issue of eternity in our study and our ministry. If we cannot proclaim it, the world cannot understand it and shall be despaired in their lives. Our ministry is very wonderful thing in the world. Our job is like a treasure.

3) Paul who found the fact declared that he has the treasure in clay vessel in II Corinthians 6: Here the clay vessel means us but the treasure means our job, our ministry. Did you consider your position as a precious treasure? At the other time I saw that Cambodia habitants in Ratanakili was digging the holes on the mountain with their sacrifice to get some treasure as ruby, emerald and sharpie ect. It is very dangerous in the process of searching for treasures. Why did they give their sacrifice to the work? Because they knew the value of treasure, they devoted themselves to find them. The eternal life is

the treasure, Jesus, church; gospel and position are our precious treasure. Do you think so? We are called by God for this ministry. We have to give the way to get the treasure. Debora knew the wonderful treasure in her life by the illumination of Holy Spirit. So, she proclaimed” But your friends be like the sun as he rises in his might.” And she enjoyed the eternal glory of the church. Today we need such assurance, the absolute devotional life to the Lord, the absolute destruction of the enemy and the eternal glory of the church.

Conclusion:

Our ministry that we have tried to prepare our future repeatedly is very precious. As Deborah did, we have to make sure our assurance of Absolut victory. Now we see the same glory that Deborah had seen in her day in Christ. Our enemies, Satan, world and sinful desire shall be demolished and the eternal will of God shall be stood in us. Therefore, when we meet some suffering we can claim the wonderful victory. Sometimes we meet very surprised events in our lives. Then we have to the complete victory of Deborah, the glory of redemption in Christ. We can do everything in Christ Jesus because he prepared everything for us.

Let's pray

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for our wonderful grace in Christ for our absolute victory. We believe that you accomplished the redemption for us 2000 years ago. Provide your illumination to know the world. Strengthen your people with your right hand in order to overcome any enemies. I pray these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Mission of a Prophet (Judge 6:1-10)

The people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord gave them into the hand of Midian seven years. **2**And the hand of Midian overpowered Israel, and because of Midian the people of Israel made for themselves the dens that are in the mountains and the caves and the strongholds. **3**For whenever the Israelites planted crops, the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East would come up against them. **4**They would encamp against them and devour the produce of the land, as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel and no sheep or ox or donkey. **5**For they would come up with their livestock and their tents; they would come like locusts in number—both they and their camels could not be counted—so that they laid waste the land as they came in. **6**And Israel was brought very low because of Midian. And the people of Israel cried out for help to the Lord.

7When the people of Israel cried out to the Lord on account of the Midianites, **8**the Lord sent a prophet to the people of Israel. And he said to them, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of slavery. **9**And I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. **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.”

Introduction:

After 40 years of peace, Israel committed sins again. They were fallen down into the corruption of miserable state and God disciplined them. Then they cried out to the Lord because of the oppression of the enemy. In order to deliver them out of there God worked through a prophet. Verse 7-9 says, “**7**when the people of Israel cried out to the Lord on account of the Midianites, **8**the Lord sent a prophet to the people of Israel. And he said to them, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of slavery. **9**And I delivered you”

Today, the Scripture is the prophet. Ephesian 4:11-12 says, “And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds^e and teachers,^d [12](#)to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,” Here the apostle and the prophet and the evangelist pointed the Scripture. So, we cannot search for the other prophet except the Scripture. When we follow the Scripture, we follow to the prophet. According to depend on this teaching we think the mission of the prophet. What is the mission of a prophet?

First, it is to inform the will of God to his people.

1) The judge is the deliverer and the prophet are the teacher to proclaim the will of God and explain it and defense it. This is the apologetic. To awaken the people and to clean up the confused heart come out of understanding the will of God. Verses say that when Israel was oppressed by the lots of Eastern pagans, Amalekite, the midianites and stern tribes, Israel cried out to God. Then God sent a prophet to them. Why did He send a prophet to Israel? Because God wanted to inform his will to his people obviously, he sent a prophet.

2) In the New Testament day God established the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists and the pastor and teacher in the church. The Scripture were made by apostles and prophets and evangelists, and the gifts were disappeared by providence of God. Now we have a pastor and a teacher in the church. Why did God permit the gift to the church? Because the gift is to proclaim the Word of God to the church, God bestowed it to the church. It is the role of the church. God appointed the pastor who executed the mission that establishes the church as the pillar of the truth through the pastor and teacher. So, we have to listen to his preaching carefully.

3) What is the will of God? In a short word, it is the Scripture. Only the will of God shall be established eternally in the world. So, we have to know the scripture. We receive to train to know the Scripture as the messages of the prophets and to proclaim the to the church. So, if we are ignoring the Scripture, we cannot serve the church as the faithful prophet.

Second, he makes the people to come back to the Lord by reminding their past salvation.

1) What did the prophet say? Verse s 8-9 says “the Lord sent a prophet to the people of Israel. And he said to them, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of slavery. **9**And I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. “He pointed the past event of salvation out of Egypt’s oppression.

We can find the same stream in the Ten Commandments. In the introduction of Ten Commandments, God stressed to remind the salvation of exodus as the short way of restoration of God’s grace.

Above of all, we have to listen to the small voice of our redemption out of the Scripture, our prophet faithfully.

2) Why does God want that his people remind the redemption? Because the main theme of the Scripture is the redemption first of all, God introduced the events. God made them reminded it. Their main problem is the forgetting the redemption in every area.

3) Now, Christian life is same case. We have to come back to the redemption of Christ. Then we can restore our Christian life.

Conclusion:

1) As we know the answer of Abraham to the rich man in the fire of hell was obvious. Listen to the prophet in the earth. Today who is the prophet? It is the Scripture. In our school life we have to

2) Look at the event of the transfiguration mount. Then only listen to his word to the three disciples. What is his voice? It is the Scripture.

3) My beloved brothers and sisters, please listen to the voice of our prophet, the Scripture in our areas. Our God is waiting to say the truth to you through the Scripture.

Calling of Gideon (Judges 6:11-24)

Now the angel of the Lord came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. **12**And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor.” **13**And Gideon said to him, “Please, sir,^a if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the Lord has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian.” **14**And the Lord^b turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?” **15**And he said to him, “Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.” **16**And the Lord said to him, “But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man.” **17**And he said to him, “If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me. **18**Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you.” And he said, “I will stay till you return.”

19So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah^c of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. **20**And the angel of God said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them.” And he did so. **21**Then the angel of the Lord reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the Lord vanished from his sight. **22**Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the Lord. And Gideon said, “Alas, O Lord God! For now I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face.” **23**But the Lord said to him, “Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die.” **24**Then Gideon built an altar there to the Lord and called it, The Lord Is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

Introduction:

The redemptive song reveals as the different mode in the Gideon's whole life. Although he was good channel that God used in his life to reveal the image of God, His children were the evil channel by failing the accomplishment the redemptive ethic. Who called for Gideon as a judge and how did his response to his calling?

First, the Lord God, the subject of the redemptive ethic called for him as a judge. The angel of the Lord who called for Gideon was the Lord in verse 12, who was the pre-incarnate Christ. When Jesus Christ called his apostles in giving their mission (Mt 4:19), the Lord permitted the mission on the foundation of his calling. Redemptive ethic should be depended on the foundation of God for it comes out of God's redemption. We have to make sure such two things, salvation calling and mission calling in the redemptive ethic.

Second, how did his response to the calling? First of all, he found a series of assurance. It means that he wanted to know the surer sign, not a doubt action. One who had not doubted some things truly cannot take real assurance. (Bavinck) As the result of his struggles, he got Jehovah Sarlom (peace of Jehovah) because he saw the presence of God on the altar.

The Condition of spiritual leadership (Judges 6:25-40)

That night the Lord said to him, “Take your father’s bull, and the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it [26](#)and build an altar to the Lord your God on the top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down.” [27](#)So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had told him. But because he was too afraid of his family and the men of the town to do it by day, he did it by night.

[28](#)When the men of the town rose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was broken down, and the Asherah beside it was cut down, and the second bull was offered on the altar that had been built. [29](#)And they said to one another, “Who has done this thing?” And after they had searched and inquired, they said, “Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing.” [30](#)Then the men of the town said to Joash, “Bring out your son, that he may die, for he has broken down the altar of Baal and cut down the Asherah beside it.” [31](#)But Joash said to all who stood against him, “Will you contend for Baal? Or will you save him? Whoever contends for him shall be put to death by morning. If he is a god, let him contend for himself, because his altar has been broken down.” [32](#)Therefore on that day Gideon^d was called Jerubbaal, that is to say, “Let Baal contend against him,” because he broke down his altar.

[33](#)Now all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East came together, and they crossed the Jordan and encamped in the Valley of Jezreel. [34](#)But the Spirit of the Lord clothed Gideon, and he sounded the trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called out to follow him. [35](#)And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh, and they too were called out to follow him. And he sent messengers to Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali, and they went up to meet them.

[36](#)Then Gideon said to God, “If you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said, [37](#)behold, I am laying a fleece of wool on the threshing floor. If there is

dew on the fleece alone, and it is dry on all the ground, then I shall know that you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said.” [38](#)And it was so. When he rose early next morning and squeezed the fleece, he wrung enough dew from the fleece to fill a bowl with water. [39](#)Then Gideon said to God, “Let not your anger burn against me; let me speak just once more. Please let me test just once more with the fleece. Please let it be dry on the fleece only, and on all the ground let there be dew.” [40](#)And God did so that night; and it was dry on the fleece only, and on all the ground there was dew.

Again, the Holy Spirit revealed the condition of spiritual leadership, the redemptive ethic. What conditions does the good leadership have?

First, his calling of God should be sure in his heart. Although Gideon himself was very weak, God appointed him as the great warrior. (12) When we assure God’s calling obviously we can execute the mission joyfully until the end, because we know that the authority that committed the position is the God, the Lord of all in all.

Second, he needed the obedience of the Word. Gideon obeyed to crush the wooded idol of Asherah, he experienced the grace of Immanuel of God. The obedience is better than the miracle. (Luther) The life of the leader must sustain the consistent obedience.

Third, he should receive the fullness of Holy Spirit. In verses 33-40 when the spirit of Jehovah come on Gideon, he could assure the salvation and the answer of God to his prayer, because the work of the Lord is not to follow by his own will, but by the will of Holy Spirit. (Act 1:8) The spiritual leadership establish on the foundation of redemptive ethic. The redemptive ethic of Gideon, righteousness, mercy and faithfulness was established in Israel in Canaan by following the lead of Holy Spirit, the Spirit of redemptive ethic.

Then Holy Spirit revealed the criteria of discernment to accomplish the redemptive ethic in the Israel church in Canaan.

The Criteria of Discernment (Judges 7:1-14)

Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with him rose early and encamped beside the spring of Harod. And the camp of Midian was north of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

2The Lord said to Gideon, “The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’ **3**Now therefore proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, ‘Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return home and hurry away from Mount Gilead.’” Then 22,000 of the people returned, and 10,000 remained.

4And the Lord said to Gideon, “The people are still too many. Take them down to the water, and I will test them for you there, and anyone of whom I say to you, ‘This one shall go with you,’ shall go with you, and anyone of whom I say to you, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ shall not go.” **5**So he brought the people down to the water. And the Lord said to Gideon, “Every one who laps the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set by himself. Likewise, every one who kneels down to drink.” **6**And the number of those who lapped, putting their hands to their mouths, was 300 men, but all the rest of the people knelt down to drink water. **7**And the Lord said to Gideon, “With the 300 men who lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hand, and let all the others go every man to his home.” **8**So the people took provisions in their hands, and their trumpets. And he sent all the rest of Israel every man to his tent, but retained the 300 men. And the camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

9That same night the Lord said to him, “Arise, go down against the camp, for I have given it into your hand. **10**But if you are afraid to go down, go down to the camp with Purah your servant. **11**And you shall hear what they say, and afterward your hands shall be strengthened to go down against the camp.” Then he went down with Purah his servant to the outposts of the armed men who were in the camp. **12**And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the people of the East lay along the valley like locusts in abundance, and their

camels were without number, as the sand that is on the seashore in abundance. **13**When Gideon came, behold, a man was telling a dream to his comrade. And he said, “Behold, I dreamed a dream, and behold, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the camp of Midian and came to the tent and struck it so that it fell and turned it upside down, so that the tent lay flat.” **14**And his comrade answered, “This is no other than the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel; God has given into his hand Midian and all the camp.”

Through the method of God that overcome against lots of 300 million united military as a certain seashore sand we learn the importance of the unique faith of Jesus. Then there are three elements of discerning criteria in the text.

First, God commanded that the coward should come back to their home. The Lord works through the men of the faith and makes the men of the faith. (Heb11:6)

Second, God removed the people who fall down into the easy-going attitude by bowing down on the ground and drank the water, just as the field that was picked by thorn, the man that failed into the temptation of money, worry of world and worldly pleasure cannot be used by God. In a word redemptive ethic is criteria of all discernment.

Third, only the awaking person as the persons who saw in the future in the text could be used in the spiritual warfare. Redemptive ethic needs the spiritual discerning function in the church. Only the people who have the redemptive ethic that they were prepared themselves as the faithful personality to living God and his word are able to serve the kingdom of God. And also, Gideon’s ministry revealed the method of redemptive ethic obviously.

The Method of God's Work (Judge 7:15-25)

As soon as Gideon heard the telling of the dream and its interpretation, he worshiped. And he returned to the camp of Israel and said, "Arise, for the Lord has given the host of Midian into your hand." **16**And he divided the 300 men into three companies and put trumpets into the hands of all of them and empty jars, with torches inside the jars. **17**And he said to them, "Look at me, and do likewise. When I come to the outskirts of the camp, do as I do. **18**When I blow the trumpet, I and all who are with me, then blow the trumpets also on every side of all the camp and shout, 'For the Lord and for Gideon.'"

19So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outskirts of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, when they had just set the watch. And they blew the trumpets and smashed the jars that were in their hands. **20**Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the jars. They held in their left hands the torches, and in their right hands the trumpets to blow. And they cried out, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" **21**Every man stood in his place around the camp, and all the army ran. They cried out and fled. **22**When they blew the 300 trumpets, the Lord set every man's sword against his comrade and against all the army. And the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah,^a as far as the border of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath. **23**And the men of Israel were called out from Naphtali and from Asher and from all Manasseh, and they pursued after Midian.

24Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of Ephraim, saying, "Come down against the Midianites and capture the waters against them, as far as Beth-barah, and also the Jordan." So all the men of Ephraim were called out, and they captured the waters as far as Beth-barah, and also the Jordan. **25**And they captured the two princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb. They killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb, and Zeeb they killed at the winepress of Zeeb. Then they pursued Midian, and they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon across the Jordan.

How did Gideon overcome his enemy?

First, he did not fight to his enemy according to the number. The purpose that God reduced 32000 to 300 was to make them learned the humble heart. This is the same method that happened in the miracle of five bread and two fish and in the movement of mustard and in the movement of Yeast to enlarge the kingdom of God. The small devoted persons can change the world.

Second, God worked through the obedience of spiritual leader. Gideon was the man of obedience. They could obey to the insufficient strategy that their leader commanded to them, because they knew that God Himself would fight against the enemy. And also, the destruction of Jericho the city was accomplished by the principles of obedience.

Third, we have to believe that all victory belongs to the hand of the Lord. In the verse 7-8 the word the Lord transferred they come repeatedly. As we are fear of God of the Lordship, we can overcome every enemy. Until now we observed that the positive points of redemptive ethic. Furthermore, we see the importance of redemptive ethic negatively in sustaining victory by observing the inner victory of Israel.

True Victory (Judges 8:1-17)

Then the men of Ephraim said to him, “What is this that you have done to us, not to call us when you went to fight against Midian?” And they accused him fiercely. **2**And he said to them, “What have I done now in comparison with you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the grape harvest of Abiezer? **3**God has given into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb. What have I been able to do in comparison with you?” Then their anger^a against him subsided when he said this.

4And Gideon came to the Jordan and crossed over, he and the 300 men who were with him, exhausted yet pursuing. **5**So he said to the men of Succoth, “Please give loaves of bread to the people who follow me, for they are exhausted, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian.” **6**And the officials of Succoth said, “Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna already in your hand, that we should give bread to your army?” **7**So Gideon said, “Well then, when the Lord has given Zebah and Zalmunna into my hand, I will flail your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.” **8**And from there he went up to Penuel, and spoke to them in the same way, and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered. **9**And he said to the men of Penuel, “When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.”

10Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor with their army, about 15,000 men, all who were left of all the army of the people of the East, for there had fallen 120,000 men who drew the sword. **11**And Gideon went up by the way of the tent dwellers east of Nobah and Jogbehah and attacked the army, for the army felt secure. **12**And Zebah and Zalmunna fled, and he pursued them and captured the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and he threw all the army into a panic.

13Then Gideon the son of Joash returned from the battle by the ascent of Heres. **14**And he captured a young man of Succoth and questioned him. And he wrote down for him the officials and elders of Succoth, seventy-seven men.

15And he came to the men of Succoth and said, “Behold Zebah and Zalmunna, about whom you taunted me, saying, ‘Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna already in your hand, that we should give bread to your men who are exhausted?’” **16**And he took the elders of the city, and he took thorns of the wilderness and briers and with them taught the men of Succoth a lesson. **17**And he broke down the tower of Penuel and killed the men of the city.

What is the true victory (Judges 8:1-17) in the spiritual life? Human ethic is most dangerous enemy that comes out of the sinful desire in Christian life. We find that although Gideon had the redemptive ethic in his life and his ministry but the human ethic was controlled in his family life. His external victory should bring the inner victory, the changing of his personality as the fruit of redemptive ethic.

First, the complains of Ephraim tribe (1-5), Succoth people (5-7) and Penuel (8-9) broke the harmony of Israel. The Christian should keep the oneness of Holy Spirit. This is the way to please God. (Eph4:3). We have to put more power in the inner victory than the external victory. One who controls his heart is the greater warrior than the one who occupies the seven towns.

Second, God solved the crisis through the wisdom of Gideon. He calmed down their fury with the meek word and rebuked Succoth and Penuel who refused the fighting. The man who was devoted himself to the Lord shall have a problem about the love. So, Paul declared that if anyone does not love the Lord wholeheartedly shall be cursed.

The human ethic is not the fruit of Holy Spirit but the fruit of our Saks (the sinful desire), confronting the kingdom of God and finally shall make us to fall down the death.

The Snare of Faith (Judges 8:18-28)

Then he said to Zebah and Zalmunna, “Where are the men whom you killed at Tabor?” They answered, “As you are, so were they. Every one of them resembled the son of a king.” [19](#)And he said, “They were my brothers, the sons of my mother. As the Lord lives, if you had saved them alive, I would not kill you.” [20](#)So he said to Jether his firstborn, “Rise and kill them!” But the young man did not draw his sword, for he was afraid, because he was still a young man. [21](#)Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, “Rise yourself and fall upon us, for as the man is, so is his strength.” And Gideon arose and killed Zebah and Zalmunna, and he took the crescent ornaments that were on the necks of their camels.

Introduction:

1. In comparing to the great victory of Gideon, he could not manage his successful life. He established the righteousness of God by slaying Sheba and Salmon. It was very good that he claimed the God’s dominion to the people who asked to rule over them. The important issue was what he did not live as faithful judge in Israel. It was a small snare to influence to all Israel. The people made a Abbot by offered gold pieces and set on the Borah that they may gathered the heart forth Israelites., but he made the people fallen down into the idol by leaving the faith of the fear of Jehovah. (27) Although they had the pure motive, to fall into a snare come out of despising how to serve the Lord. To believe in the Lord rightly was very important but more important was to live as such believing things. In order to harmonize two elements in Christ depends on the personal fellowship with God. So, the Lord teaches that we should take care yourself as well as we should take right relationship with God.

The family of Gideon (Judges 8:29-35)

29Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and lived in his own house. **30**Now Gideon had seventy sons, his own offspring,^c for he had many wives. **31**And his concubine who was in Shechem also bore him a son, and he called his name Abimelech. **32**And Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age and was buried in the tomb of Joash his father, at Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

33As soon as Gideon died, the people of Israel turned again and whored after the Baals and made Baal-berith their god. **34**And the people of Israel did not remember the Lord their God, who had delivered them from the hand of all their enemies on every side, **35**and they did not show steadfast love to the family of Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) in return for all the good that he had done to Israel.

The reason that God requires the sound family life is to accomplish the work of God completely. His family was failing in comparing to his victory. What points did he get such thing?

First, he failed at the family life. He had many wives because he did not follow the principle of creation. Although he lived in the ignoring time the essential will of God did not disappear. In the New Testament when we keep the principles of relationship of one husband and one wife, God can use us in his life.

Second, he failed the education of children. The bad relationship between his 70 sons and a son of his concubine was a clue to make big tragic event. (9:5)

The cruel action of Abimerek brought up the great issue in Israel.

Third, he failed his faithfulness. His promise that will not dominate the Israelite did not be kept and made them fallen into the idortery. (33-34) the example of a leadership was so important. Do not crisis our neighbors and let us to keep myself.

To keep the faith inheritance (Judges 9:1-6)

Now Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother's relatives and said to them and to the whole clan of his mother's family, **2**“Say in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, ‘Which is better for you, that all seventy of the sons of Jerubbaal rule over you, or that one rule over you?’ Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh.”

3And his mother's relatives spoke all these words on his behalf in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech, for they said, “He is our brother.” **4**And they gave him seventy pieces of silver out of the house of Baal-berith with which Abimelech hired worthless and reckless fellows, who followed him. **5**And he went to his father's house at Ophrah and killed his brothers the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men, on one stone. But Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself. **6**And all the leaders of Shechem came together, and all Beth-millo, and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar at Shechem.

7When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on top of Mount Gerizim and cried aloud and said to them, “Listen to me, you leaders of Shechem, that God may listen to you. **8**The trees once went out to anoint a king over them, and they said to the olive tree, ‘Reign over us.’ **9**But the olive tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my abundance, by which gods and men are honored, and go hold sway over the trees?’ **10**And the trees said to the fig tree, ‘You come and reign over us.’ **11**But the fig tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my sweetness and my good fruit and go hold sway over the trees?’ **12**And the trees said to the vine, ‘You come and reign over us.’ **13**But the vine said to them, ‘Shall I leave my wine that cheers God and men and go hold sway over the trees?’ **14**Then all the trees said to the bramble, ‘You come and reign over us.’ **15**And the bramble said to the trees, ‘If in good faith you are anointing me king over you, then come and take refuge in my shade, but if not, let fire come out of the bramble and devour the cedars of Lebanon.’”

16“Now therefore, if you acted in good faith and integrity when you made Abimelech king, and if you have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house and have done to him as his deeds deserved—

The devoted inheritance of Gideon was refused by Israel and the blooded event was happened. In the confusing time Abimelech stimulated the evil people of Sechem and came to throne by himself and dominated all Israel. (6) The man overcome the enemy but could not to control the management. How can do we keep the sound faith?

First, we have to respect the Word of God because it is only righteousness. (Judges 8:34, Mt6:33)

Second, we need the leader to be worthy to God heart. (3) The absence of the leadership that seeks first the will of God will bring up the confusion as a ship loses the compass.

Third, we have to throw away the greedy out of our heart. (4-5) He killed 70 his brothers on the Oprah rock. And the Sechem people met wicked king because they compromised with the covet of their king. The covet beget the sin beget the death. (James 1:15)

The Work of the Evil Spirit (Judges 9:7-21)

When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on top of Mount Gerizim and cried aloud and said to them, “Listen to me, you leaders of Shechem, that God may listen to you. **8**The trees once went out to anoint a king over them, and they said to the olive tree, ‘Reign over us.’ **9**But the olive tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my abundance, by which gods and men are honored, and go hold sway over the trees?’ **10**And the trees said to the fig tree, ‘You come and reign over us.’ **11**But the fig tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my sweetness and my good fruit and go hold sway over the trees?’ **12**And the trees said to the vine, ‘You come and reign over us.’ **13**But the vine said to them, ‘Shall I leave my wine that cheers God and men and go hold sway over the trees?’ **14**Then all the trees said to the bramble, ‘You come and reign over us.’ **15**And the bramble said to the trees, ‘If in good faith you are anointing me king over you, then come and take refuge in my shade, but if not, let fire come out of the bramble and devour the cedars of Lebanon.’

16“Now therefore, if you acted in good faith and integrity when you made Abimelech king, and if you have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house and have done to him as his deeds deserved— **17**for my father fought for you and risked his life and delivered you from the hand of Midian, **18**and you have risen up against my father’s house this day and have killed his sons, seventy men on one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his female servant, king over the leaders of Shechem, because he is your relative— **19**if you then have acted in good faith and integrity with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you. **20**But if not, let fire come out from Abimelech and devour the leaders of Shechem and Beth-millo; and let fire come out from the leaders of Shechem and from Beth-millo and devour Abimelech.” **21**And Jotham ran away and fled and went to Beer and lived there, because of Abimelech his brother.

The Scriptures said that God permits that the childish leader rules over the wicked people and when they love the greed, God permit that that the evil spirit work in them and also if they did not glorify Rod god permit to abandon

them in the miserable state. (Rom1:26-28) How does God demolish the work of the evil spirit?

First, God Himself establishes the righteousness. Because of the greedy rebellion of Abimelek the righteousness of God might be destroyed, rather the righteousness of God was shone in Israel as the stars in firmament because he and his people were received by God. (Judge 9:53).

Second, God prepared something to the good conscience. Jodan who was survived among the craft plan of great severe killing situation climbed to the top of mountain Grishim and declared his trouble situation and cursed them. (8-15) It was the entreat of his conscience before God (7) because God listened to the voice of God. Abimelek was a dictator to discipline temporary the Israelite who was controlled by the covet, not to become a judge of Israel. When he was removed by God the righteousness of God was established, and the grace of God descended on Israel. We have to confront the working devil in us with the power of discernment. (James 4:7)

The truth that God pays his deed (Judges 9:22-45)

Abimelech ruled over Israel three years. [23](#)And God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the leaders of Shechem, and the leaders of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech, [24](#)that the violence done to the seventy sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood be laid on Abimelech their brother, who killed them, and on the men of Shechem, who strengthened his hands to kill his brothers. [25](#)And the leaders of Shechem put men in ambush against him on the mountaintops, and they robbed all who passed by them along that way. And it was told to Abimelech.

[26](#)And Gaal the son of Ebed moved into Shechem with his relatives, and the leaders of Shechem put confidence in him. [27](#)And they went out into the field and gathered the grapes from their vineyards and trod them and held a festival; and they went into the house of their god and ate and drank and reviled Abimelech. [28](#)And Gaal the son of Ebed said, “Who is Abimelech, and who are we of Shechem, that we should serve him? Is he not the son of Jerubbaal, and is not Zebul his officer? Serve the men of Hamor the father of Shechem; but why should we serve him? [29](#)Would that this people were under my hand! Then I would remove Abimelech. I would say^a to Abimelech, ‘Increase your army, and come out.’”

[30](#)When Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed, his anger was kindled. [31](#)And he sent messengers to Abimelech secretly,^b saying, “Behold, Gaal the son of Ebed and his relatives have come to Shechem, and they are stirring up^c the city against you. [32](#)Now therefore, go by night, you and the people who are with you, and set an ambush in the field. [33](#)Then in the morning, as soon as the sun is up, rise early and rush upon the city. And when he and the people who are with him come out against you, you may do to them as your hand finds to do.”

[34](#)So Abimelech and all the men who were with him rose up by night and set an ambush against Shechem in four companies. [35](#)And Gaal the son of Ebed went out and stood in the entrance of the gate of the city, and Abimelech and

the people who were with him rose from the ambush. [36](#)And when Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, “Look, people are coming down from the mountaintops!” And Zebul said to him, “You mistake^d the shadow of the mountains for men.” [37](#)Gaal spoke again and said, “Look, people are coming down from the center of the land, and one company is coming from the direction of the Diviners’ Oak.” [38](#)Then Zebul said to him, “Where is your mouth now, you who said, ‘Who is Abimelech, that we should serve him?’ Are not these the people whom you despised? Go out now and fight with them.” [39](#)And Gaal went out at the head of the leaders of Shechem and fought with Abimelech. [40](#)And Abimelech chased him, and he fled before him. And many fell wounded, up to the entrance of the gate. [41](#)And Abimelech lived at Arumah, and Zebul drove out Gaal and his relatives, so that they could not dwell at Shechem.

[42](#)On the following day, the people went out into the field, and Abimelech was told. [43](#)He took his people and divided them into three companies and set an ambush in the fields. And he looked and saw the people coming out of the city. So he rose against them and killed them. [44](#)Abimelech and the company that was with him rushed forward and stood at the entrance of the gate of the city, while the two companies rushed upon all who were in the field and killed them. [45](#)And Abimelech fought against the city all that day. He captured the city and killed the people who were in it, and he razed the city and sowed it with salt.

The truth that get as we sow ia alive. (Gal6:7). Because God condemned the unrightous union of Abimelek and the shechemite. How did God judge them? First, Fod sent the evil spirit to them and made some trubules. (23) The evel spirit worked in them in order to rebell against Abimeleth who they followed for 3 years. Because of loving the evil if they did not love God, God abandoned them. This is the most horrible judgement.

Second, God condemned them by Gaal, more xicked leader. (26-33) Although he seemed to control the people, he was killed by Abimelek because of his morewicked action. (42-45) Although the repeated confusion that we can not

discern will be happened Absolutely God condemned according to their deed.
We have to accomplish our salvation with trembling and fear.

The Hand of detailed judgement (Judges 9:46-57)

When all the leaders of the Tower of Shechem heard of it, they entered the stronghold of the house of El-berith. [47](#)Abimelech was told that all the leaders of the Tower of Shechem were gathered together. [48](#)And Abimelech went up to Mount Zalmon, he and all the people who were with him. And Abimelech took an axe in his hand and cut down a bundle of brushwood and took it up and laid it on his shoulder. And he said to the men who were with him, “What you have seen me do, hurry and do as I have done.” [49](#)So every one of the people cut down his bundle and following Abimelech put it against the stronghold, and they set the stronghold on fire over them, so that all the people of the Tower of Shechem also died, about 1,000 men and women.

[50](#)Then Abimelech went to Thebez and encamped against Thebez and captured it. [51](#)But there was a strong tower within the city, and all the men and women and all the leaders of the city fled to it and shut themselves in, and they went up to the roof of the tower. [52](#)And Abimelech came to the tower and fought against it and drew near to the door of the tower to burn it with fire. [53](#)And a certain woman threw an upper millstone on Abimelech’s head and crushed his skull. [54](#)Then he called quickly to the young man his armor-bearer and said to him, “Draw your sword and kill me, lest they say of me, ‘A woman killed him.’” And his young man thrust him through, and he died. [55](#)And when the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, everyone departed to his home. [56](#)Thus God returned the evil of Abimelech, which he committed against his father in killing his seventy brothers. [57](#)And God also made all the evil of the men of Shechem return on their heads, and upon them came the curse of Jotham the son of Jerubbaal.

Finally, Abimelek was killed by a woman (53). When we observed that he was killed not by the warfare or, rebellion, but by the little method that we could not assume, we learn that God’s plan of judgement was very detailed. As such thing, the hand of God’s common grace is detaile, but his hand of special gracem redemption is more detailed for his own people’s complete salvation. An arrogant word that Nebcanazar had spoken comdenmed him,

(Dan4:30-31). A complaining word that the unbelieving Israel spoke after listening to their reports made them dead in the wilderness. (Number14:23-24) And Herod was dead by a worm because of his arrogant attitude as he heard of the exclamation of the people, “the voice of the god.” (Acts12:23) We have to repent immediately with the fear of judgement as we realized some little sins in our heart. (1 John1:9) Every thing we did in secret shall be appeared absolutely. Rather we should not do unfaithfully and complain to a little thing. Our concern should be the hand of God. The promise that the least become thousand and the weakest person become the strongest kingdom. (Isaiah 60:22)

Let's Leave out of the idols (Judges 10:1-18)

After Abimelech there arose to save Israel Tola the son of Puah, son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, and he lived at Shamir in the hill country of Ephraim. **2**And he judged Israel twenty-three years. Then he died and was buried at Shamir.

3After him arose Jair the Gileadite, who judged Israel twenty-two years. **4**And he had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkeys, and they had thirty cities, called Havvoth-jair to this day, which are in the land of Gilead. **5**And Jair died and was buried in Kamon.

Further Disobedience and Oppression

6The people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroath, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the Ammonites, and the gods of the Philistines. And they forsook the Lord and did not serve him. **7**So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the Ammonites, **8**and they crushed and oppressed the people of Israel that year. For eighteen years they oppressed all the people of Israel who were beyond the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead. **9**And the Ammonites crossed the Jordan to fight also against Judah and against Benjamin and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was severely distressed.

10And the people of Israel cried out to the Lord, saying, "We have sinned against you, because we have forsaken our God and have served the Baals." **11**And the Lord said to the people of Israel, "Did I not save you from the Egyptians and from the Amorites, from the Ammonites and from the Philistines? **12**The Sidonians also, and the Amalekites and the Maonites oppressed you, and you cried out to me, and I saved you out of their hand. **13**Yet you have forsaken me and served other gods; therefore, I will save you no more. **14**Go and cry out to the gods whom you have chosen; let them save you in the time of your distress." **15**And the people of Israel said to the Lord,

“We have sinned; do to us whatever seems good to you. Only please deliver us this day.” [16](#)So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the Lord, and he became impatient over the misery of Israel.

[17](#)Then the Ammonites were called to arms, and they encamped in Gilead. And the people of Israel came together, and they encamped at Mizpah. [18](#)And the people, the leaders of Gilead, said one to another, “Who is the man who will begin to fight against the Ammonites? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.”

God permitted that two judges dominated the space period of Abimelek. Although the wicked leaders were died, God’s leadership toward the purpose of God was continued. He overcome the crisis by establishing the new judges. Dols and Yael ruled over Israel for 23 years and 22 years each. (2-3)

What features do the days take? The day revealed the idol department that included Baal, Astaroth, the gods of Syria, Moab, Ammon and Palestine. (6-7) Most idols were the expression of prosperity, richness and the victory of warfare. Until now the work ia continouing. The modern materialism and humanism are the contemporary idol. Especially although we stay in the truth of gospel, prosperity thinking, blessed thinking and miricleous thinking is the craft idols that was located in the church. Let us to leave the idols. (IJn. 5:21)

The qualification of God's Workers (Judges 11:1-11)

Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty warrior, but he was the son of a prostitute. Gilead was the father of Jephthah. **2**And Gilead's wife also bore him sons. And when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out and said to him, "You shall not have an inheritance in our father's house, for you are the son of another woman." **3**Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob, and worthless fellows collected around Jephthah and went out with him.

4After a time the Ammonites made war against Israel. **5**And when the Ammonites made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to bring Jephthah from the land of Tob. **6**And they said to Jephthah, "Come and be our leader, that we may fight against the Ammonites." **7**But Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "Did you not hate me and drive me out of my father's house? Why have you come to me now when you are in distress?" **8**And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "That is why we have turned to you now, that you may go with us and fight against the Ammonites and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead." **9**Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "If you bring me home again to fight against the Ammonites, and the Lord gives them over to me, I will be your head." **10**And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "The Lord will be witness between us, if we do not do as you say." **11**So Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and leader over them. And Jephthah spoke all his words before the Lord at Mizpah.

In the past and the present God need the faithful workers in his works. What is the qualification of God's worker?

Frist. They should understand their weakness in their lives. Through the ministry of Jehedah who God called for among the trouble persons and some piglims, we can learn the necessity of humility in the work of God. Second, we should trust that our victory depends on the hand of God. He believed in that the victory belongs to the hand of God. (11) It means that he admitted the hand of God's sovereignty. Third, he should become a humble praying person. He was very faithful for he confessed his thinking to God. Jehedah had three

elements of God's calling in him.

Spiritule Leadership (Judges11:12-28)

12Then Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites and said, “What do you have against me, that you have come to me to fight against my land?” **13**And the king of the Ammonites answered the messengers of Jephthah, “Because Israel on coming up from Egypt took away my land, from the Arnon to the Jabbok and to the Jordan; now therefore restore it peaceably.” **14**Jephthah again sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites **15**and said to him, “Thus says Jephthah: Israel did not take away the land of Moab or the land of the Ammonites, **16**but when they came up from Egypt, Israel went through the wilderness to the Red Sea and came to Kadesh. **17**Israel then sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, ‘Please let us pass through your land,’ but the king of Edom would not listen. And they sent also to the king of Moab, but he would not consent. So, Israel remained at Kadesh.

18“Then they journeyed through the wilderness and went around the land of Edom and the land of Moab and arrived on the east side of the land of Moab and camped on the other side of the Arnon. But they did not enter the territory of Moab, for the Arnon was the boundary of Moab. **19**Israel then sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, king of Heshbon, and Israel said to him, ‘Please let us pass through your land to our country,’ **20**but Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory, so Sihon gathered all his people together and encamped at Jahaz and fought with Israel. **21**And the Lord, the God of Israel, gave Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them. So, Israel took possession of all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country. **22**And they took possession of all the territory of the Amorites from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan. **23**So then the Lord, the God of Israel, dispossessed the Amorites from before his people Israel; and are you to take possession of them? **24**Will you not possess what Chemosh your god gives you to possess? And all that the Lord our God has dispossessed before us, we will possess. **25**Now are you any better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever contend against Israel, or did he ever go to war with them? **26**While Israel lived in Heshbon and its villages, and in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities that

are on the banks of the Arnon, 300 years, why did you not deliver them within that time? [27](#)I therefore have not sinned against you, and you do me wrong by making war on me. The Lord, the Judge, decide this day between the people of Israel and the people of Ammon.” [28](#)But the king of the Ammonites did not listen to the words of Jephthah that he sent to him.

Intoduction:

1) The faith of the Lordship does not despise of the scientific activity. Rather he finds the work of God and apply it to the present. What is the spiritual leadership of Ibdah?

First. He has the power of deicerment to know God’s hand. (15) It means that he remembered te event of Exodus and understood rightly the meaning of tha things. This is the knowledge to get by taking the historical perspective in the center of God.

Second, He assured the Soverighnty thought of God. (21-24) He claimed that the land is our property that God drove out the ammonite and gave to us. (15)

The leader was the man who keep faithfully the word of God. nd as

Third, e lived before the seat of judgement. (27) He worked with the consciousness of presence of God as he was called by God as he fought against the Amonite. He treated to God by believing God. The leadership of Christian must be applying some truth to get out of the mirror of the past to the present situation.

The Devotion of Jephthah (Judges 11:29-40)

Then the Spirit of the Lord was upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh and passed on to Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed on to the Ammonites. [30](#)And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord and said, “If you will give the Ammonites into my hand, [31](#)then whatever^a comes out from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the Ammonites shall be the Lord’s, and I will offer it^b up for a burnt offering.” [32](#)So Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites to fight against them, and the Lord gave them into his hand. [33](#)And he struck them from Aroer to the neighborhood of Minnith, twenty cities, and as far as Abel-keramim, with a great blow. So, the Ammonites were subdued before the people of Israel.

[34](#)Then Jephthah came to his home at Mizpah. And behold, his daughter came out to meet him with tambourines and with dances. She was his only child; besides her he had neither son nor daughter. [35](#)And as soon as he saw her, he tore his clothes and said, “Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low, and you have become the cause of great trouble to me. For I have opened my mouth to the Lord, and I cannot take back my vow.” [36](#)And she said to him, “My father, you have opened your mouth to the Lord; do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, now that the Lord has avenged you on your enemies, on the Ammonites.” [37](#)So she said to her father, “Let this thing be done for me: leave me alone two months, that I may go up and down on the mountains and weep for my virginity, I and my companions.” [38](#)So he said, “Go.” Then he sent her away for two months, and she departed, she and her companions, and wept for her virginity on the mountains. [39](#)And at the end of two months, she returned to her father, who did with her according to his vow that he had made. She had never known a man, and it became a custom in Israel [40](#)that the daughters of Israel went year by year to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four days in the year.

Ibdahuh devoted himself to drive out the ammonite by occupying twenty cities. What do we learn out of this thing?

First, The Holy Spirit is the spirit who remakes us to devote to god. (29-30) as the evidence that God transfer them God outpoured the Spirit on him. Jehovah who received the power of Holy Spirit devoted himself to the Lord in the dangerous situation.

Second, he glorifies only God. (30-31) He offered his begotten daughter to God. As Jehedah took vows to God he kept the promise faithfully after his warfare as fulfilled by offering his only daughter to God in her whole life. He got the same faith of Abraham who offered Isaac, his begotten son to altar of Moriah. It was very wonderful event.

[The end of sermon vol. IV]

Goli Gloria Dei