

Gideon had a great battle ahead and he needed men who were ready for the battle. As a consequence, he only had 300 soldiers left in his army.

V. Capture of the Enemy. (Judges 7)

First of all is preparation for battle. As he makes plans to go down, he secures some strange implements for war - torches, pitchers and trumpets.

As he is making preparation, there comes to him another testimony of God's assurance concerning His call when they heard of the dream of one of the men of Midian. He dreamed that Jehovah with His sword and of Gideon had come into their camp and destroyed it. In verse 14, when Gideon heard of this dream in verse 15 it gave him great courage. Therefore he hastened in preparation.

We would have said, "Gideon, your weapons are weak. Your handful of men are too few." But when we think of the weapon used to kill Goliath, we know that Gideon had assurance that it would not be by the power of their armor.

He instructed his men to use one battle cry in verse 20. The sword of the Lord and of Gideon. There was only one

word among them. But it was enough. It was the sword of the Lord, and the hand of Gideon was upon it.

Gideon divided up these 300 men into groups of 100 each and instructed them to come in different directions to the camp of Midian. Each man is to hold a trumpet and a concealed burning torch in a pitcher. They come in from three directions. The guards have settled down by the watch fire, and suddenly a single trumpet is heard. Then 300 here, there, everywhere the sound of war is raised.

It filled the people with terror. Now with a loud crash 300 pitchers are broken and then 300 torches flash through the darkness. 300 voices shout "The sword of the Lord and Gideon" The enemy felt that the camp was surrounded.

Again and again rings the trumpet sound, and the bright shining torches light the sky. They are terror stricken in the dark night. No one knows but what the enemy is in the very midst of them. Each man's sword is turned against his neighbors, and there was a great slaughter. As the enemy fled in panic they slew one another with Gideon and his men in hot pursuit.

Victory does not always go to the largest armies. Sometimes were numbers may be in the way. Today we think in terms of