HELEN SANDERS 11-4-2023 THE THREE HUNDRED

Israel was under the control of the enemy when Gideon was visited by an angel and told he would do great exploits for God. His reply was "what me?" You see, he didn't see in himself what God saw. He saw himself as the least of the least in his family. His thinking was limited while God's plan for him was huge.

God used Gideon in a miraculous way. His boldness caused over 32,000 people to follow him to defeat the enemy. He then heard God say in Judges 7:2, "and the LORD said unto Gideon, 'The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me."

God told Gideon to tell those that were fearful and afraid to return home. 22,000 of these 32,000 men returned home. That was a tremendous number of fearful men. Only 10,000 were left. Then the Lord did it again, and narrowed Gideon's army down to 300. That is less than 1% of the total that started with him that were left.

If we had been there, we might have said, "Forget it, Lord! We can't win. The numbers just aren't big enough." Yet, that wasn't their choice to have a large army. God wanted to get the victory and it wouldn't come through large numbers. It would come through those that were not afraid and would be faithful even in small numbers.

You can be sure if this is our example, that when the hard times come to you and the trials are stout against you, that the same principle will happen to you. There will be few if any with you to fight the battle. This is when God gets the glory and not you!

God got the glory with the battle that Gideon fought. God will not allow anyone to take his glory. It belongs to him. So, if you are going through a hard time and feel all alone, be ready for God to do a miraculous turn around for you just like he did Gideon. Don't stop believing. Give the battle up to God and let him win and get the glory!